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12901 W. 151st Street, Hanger #3
Olathe, KS 66062

1) What does it take for an individual to get a Commercial Pilot License?

To be eligible for a commercial pilot certificate, a person must:

- (a) Be at least 18 years of age at the time of flight testing
- (b) You must be trained by an FAA Certified Flight Instructor
- (c) You must pass an FAA written examination by taking ground school and or performing home study with respect to required **Aeronautical Knowledge**
- (d) You must pass an aeronautical flight test and meet certain **Aeronautical Experience Requirements**

2) What is meant by Aeronautical Knowledge?

The prospective commercial pilot must demonstrate knowledge of the following:

- (a) Applicable Federal Aviation Regulations that relate to commercial pilot privileges, limitations, and flight operations
- (b) Basic aerodynamics and the principles of flight
- (c) Meteorology to include recognition of critical weather situations, wind shear recognition and avoidance, and the use of aeronautical weather reports and forecasts
- (d) Safe and efficient operation of aircraft
- (e) Weight and balance computations
- (f) Use of performance charts
- (g) Significance and effects of exceeding aircraft performance limitations
- (h) Use of aeronautical charts and a magnetic compass for pilotage and deduced (ded) reckoning
- (i) Use of air navigation facilities
- (j) Aeronautical decision making and judgment
- (k) Principles and functions of aircraft systems
- (l) Maneuvers, procedures, and emergency operations appropriate to the aircraft
- (m) Night and high-altitude operations
- (n) Procedures for operating within the National Airspace System
- (o) Accident reporting requirements of the National Transportation Safety Board

3) What is meant by Aeronautical Experience Requirements?

For an airplane single-engine rating a person who applies for a commercial pilot certificate with an airplane category and single-engine class rating must log at least 250 hours of flight time as a pilot that consists of at least:

- (a) 100 hours in powered aircraft, of which 50 hours must be in airplanes
- (b) 100 hours of pilot-in-command flight time, which includes at least—
 - i. 50 hours in airplanes; and
 - ii. 50 hours in cross-country flight of which at least 10 hours must be in airplanes

- (c) 20 hours of training on the areas of operation that includes at least—
 - i. 10 hours of instrument training of which at least 5 hours must be in a single-engine airplane
 - ii. 10 hours of training in an airplane that has a retractable landing gear, flaps, and a controllable pitch propeller, (this is termed a “Complex Aircraft”)
 - iii. One cross-country flight of at least 2 hours in a single-engine airplane in day VFR conditions, consisting of a total straight-line distance of more than 100 nautical miles from the original point of departure
 - iv. One cross-country flight of at least 2 hours in a single-engine airplane in night VFR conditions, consisting of a total straight-line distance of more than 100 nautical miles from the original point of departure; and
- (d) 10 hours of solo flight in a single-engine airplane, which includes at least—
 - i. One cross-country flight of not less than 300 nautical miles total distance, with landings at a minimum of three points, one of which is a straight-line distance of at least 250 nautical miles from the original departure point
 - ii. 5 hours in night VFR conditions with 10 takeoffs and 10 landings (with each landing involving a flight in the traffic pattern) at an airport with an operating control tower

4) How long does it take to get a license & how frequent are the lessons?

Lesson time can be structured to meet any busy person’s requirements, however, we recommend flying at least twice per week. The average license can be obtained anywhere from 3 to 5 months. You should be aware that at times weather can interfere with a normal training schedule.

5) What are the costs?

Costs can vary depending upon the motivation of the student, study habits, flying ability and the frequency devoted to flight lessons. The following items are typically part of the normal costs:

- (a) 30 hours of “complex” aircraft rental
- (b) 20 hours of flight instruction in aircraft
- (c) CPC commercial pilot training materials
- (d) Flight Testing fee
- (e) FAA Written Examination Fee

Total estimated costs are approximately \$6,200

6) What kind of aircraft will I learn in?

Air Associates has a Cessna Cutlass 172RG just like the one pictured to the right. This aircraft has retractable gear, constant speed prop and flaps, and it meets the FAA requirements for use of a complex aircraft in obtaining the commercial license.

