



It's Time, Go Ahead,
Live YOUR Dream

Most every general aviation pilot begins with either the Sport Pilot or the Private Pilot license, so let's take a look at the differences between the two to help you decide which path is right for you.

What is the difference and which one should you get? The answer comes from what you plan to use your pilot's license for. The Sport license is a great way to get started in aviation and get your feet wet. You can get your pilot's license sooner and cheaper, then easily turn that into a Private Pilot's license. Every hour you fly working towards your Sport license counts for your Private Pilot's license requirements.

The Private Pilot's license gives you more options. It allows you to fly a bigger variety of aircraft, carry as many people as your aircraft can carry, fly anywhere and anytime you want. There's absolutely nothing wrong with obtaining your Sport Pilot's license as an intermediate step in preparation for the Private Pilot's license.

One of the advantages of the Sport license is that you do not need to get a medical exam as you do for your Private. An aviation medical is a basic physical that proves you are "fit" for flight. Certain medications or medical conditions can sometimes make it difficult to get approved for an aviation medical certificate. On your Sport license, your driver's license proves you are "fit" for flight. If you can drive a car, you can fly a light sport aircraft!!

Most people who get their Sport Pilot Certificate will eventually go on to get their Private. That's the beauty of it. Once you've done your 20 or so hours, you can enjoy a lot of flying. Then when you're ready, you can move up. You'll already have a lot of air time under your belt.

REQUIREMENTS

| | SPORT License | PRIVATE License |
|--|---|---|
| Age to Solo | 16 | 16 |
| Age to License | 17 | 17 |
| Minimum Total Flight Time | 20 hours | 40 hours |
| Typical Total Flight Time | 27 hours | 66 hours |
| Flight Time w/ an Instructor "Dual" | 15 hours | 20 hours |
| Solo Flight Time | 5 hours | 10 hours |
| Cross-country Flight Time "Dual" | 2 hours | 3 hours |
| Cross-country Flight Time "Solo" | 1 flight over 75 miles to 2 different airports | 5 hours & 1 flight over 150 miles to 3 different airports |
| Night Flight Time | Cannot fly at Night without additional training | 3 hours |
| Written Exam | Yes | Yes |

PRIVILEGES

| | SPORT License | PRIVATE License |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Requires FAA Medical Certificate | No—U.S. Drivers license and self-certification | Yes |
| Aircraft | Light Sport Aircraft only - 1,320 lb. max with only 2 seats | Almost Any Single Engine Aircraft |
| Number of Passengers you can carry | 1 - Light Sport aircraft only have 2 seats | No Limit |
| Flying at Night | No | Yes |