

What's New and Upcoming in Airman Testing

(New Edition: October 5, 2018)

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Use of a Complex Airplane During a Commercial Pilot or Flight Instructor Practical Test

Effective April 24, 2018, the FAA made a change to the Commercial Pilot Airplane Airman Certification Standards (ACS) and the Flight Instructor Airplane Practical Test Standards (PTS) to reflect that the practical test for a single-engine rating no longer requires the applicant to supply a complex airplane. The airplane supplied by the applicant must be capable of accomplishing all areas of operation required for the practical test, meet the requirements specified in 14 CFR part 61, section 61.45, and must be the appropriate category and class for the rating sought.

Commercial Pilot-Airplane Airman Certification Standards (ACS):

https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/acs/.

Flight Instructor Practical Test Standards for Airplane (PTS), with Change 6:

https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_standards/#flightInstructors.

FAA Notice 8900.463, Use of a Complex Airplane During a Commercial Pilot or Flight Instructor Practical Test:

https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Notice/N_8900.463.pdf.

Airman Certification Standards (ACS) New Development Update

ACSs recently released and published to FAA.gov:

- FAA-S-ACS-12, Commercial Pilot Military Competence ACS
 - Posted to FAA.gov on 8/28/2018 with an effective date of 10/15/2018

ACSs scheduled for release in June 2019:

- FAA-S-ACS-1, Aviation Mechanic General, Airframe, and Powerplant ACS
 - Estimated publish date is 6/28/2019 with an effective date of 6/30/2020
- FAA-S-ACS-11, Airline Transport Pilot and Type Rating for Airplane ACS
 - Estimated publish date is 3/15/2019 with an effective date of 6/28/2019

ACSs scheduled for release in June 2020:

- FAA-S-ACS-9, Instructor ACS
 - Publish and effective dates TBD

[Airman Certification Standards \(ACS\) Revision Update](#)

ACSs scheduled for revision/release in June 2019:

- None

[Knowledge Test Management Services](#)

For more information, click [here](#).

For questions regarding the Airman Certificate Testing Service (ACTS), email airmanknowledgetesting@faa.gov.

[Airman Knowledge Testing Supplements \(CT-8080 series\)](#)

Airman Knowledge Test Supplement effective February 2019:

- FAA-CT-8080-7D, Airman Knowledge Test Supplement for Airline Transport Pilot and Aircraft Dispatcher
 - Estimated publish date is 12/15/2018 with an effective date of 2/8/2019

[Reference Handbooks](#)

With the assistance of aviation community members of the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) Airman Certification Standards (ACS) Working Group (WG), the FAA is reviewing and revising a number of its reference handbooks.

recently released and published to FAA.gov:

- FAA-H-8083-31A, Aviation Maintenance Technician Handbook – Airframe
 - Posted to FAA.gov on 9/7/2018
- FAA-H-8083-32A, Aviation Maintenance Technician Handbook – Powerplant
 - Posted to FAA.gov on 9/7/2018

Handbooks scheduled for release in 2019:

- FAA-H-8083-9, Aviation Instructor Handbook
 - Estimated publish date is February 2019
- FAA-H-8083-21B, Helicopter Flying Handbook
 - Estimated publish date is September 2019

[FAA Airman Knowledge Tests](#)

Test question and form test change dates for 2018:

- 10/15/2018

Test question and form test change dates for 2019:

- 2/9/2019
- 6/7/2019
- 10/19/2019

The [Knowledge Testing Authorization Requirements Matrix](#) has been updated.

Please discard the 6/11/18 version of the Matrix, once the new version becomes effective on 10/15/18.

General Information Applicable to Pilot Knowledge Test Banks

- The FAA has developed test questions on the new BasicMed regulation. Third-class medical questions will remain, since BasicMed is an addition to the medical certification structure, not a replacement of the third-class medical.
 - Because BasicMed will be an element in the updated ACS, applicants should be prepared to be tested on BasicMed.
- New questions based on FAA Form 7233-4, International Flight Plan (ICAO format)—release date is TBD.
- Student Pilot/Medical Certificate - New questions based on the Student Pilot Certificate rule that took effect on April 1, 2016 are being developed. Adding these questions to appropriate knowledge tests is TBD.

General Information Applicable to Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) Knowledge Test Banks

- New knowledge test questions based on new 14 CFR part 23 rule release date is TBD.
- 14 CFR part 23 questions that are not relevant or valid have been removed from the AMG, AMA, and AMP tests. Valid part 23 questions will remain on the 'live' knowledge tests. Some new part 23 questions have been added to the Sample Questions.
- AMT applicants should be prepared to be tested on Helicopter Aerodynamics on the AMT General Knowledge Exam.
- AMT applicants taking the AMT General Knowledge Exam should be prepared to be tested on the following topics: 14 CFR part 1, coil inductor construction, human errors, maintenance manual documentation, and special flight permits.
- AMT knowledge test applicants should be prepared for calculations that require interpolation.
- All AMG test questions were reviewed and aligned with the ACS.
- Some questions have been removed/archived and some new questions have been added to the AMG bank from the AMA bank (through the AEB question boarding process).

Changes Applicable to the Military Competence – Airplane (MCA) and Military Competence – Helicopter (MCH) Knowledge Tests

As of October 15, 2018, the FAA will discontinue the Military Competence-Airplane (MCA) and Military Competence-Helicopter (MCH) airman knowledge tests. In place of the MCA and MCH knowledge tests, military and former military pilots seeking a Commercial Pilot Certificate in accordance with 14 CFR part 61, section 61.73 will be required to take the Commercial Pilot – Military Competence Non-category (MCN) airman knowledge test.

Unexpired MCA and MCH Airman Knowledge Test Reports (AKTR) will continue to be accepted after October 15, 2018 to meet the requirements of 14 CFR part 61, section 61.73(b)(2).

Guidance for evaluators who issue Commercial Pilot Certificates based on 14 CFR part 61, section 61.73 will be available in October 2018.

Click the following links to view the items affected by this change:

- [Commercial Pilot – Military Competence Airman Certification Standards](#)
- [Knowledge Testing Authorization Requirements Matrix](#)
- [Commercial Pilot – Military Competence, Non-Category Sample Questions – MCN](#)

Changes Applicable to the Inspection Authorization (IA) Knowledge Test

- All IA form tests now include test questions on approved data for major alterations and repairs.
- Revalidating existing 14 CFR part 23 test questions on current IA form tests that are applicable to the part 23 revision.

Changes to Airman Knowledge Test Guides (KTG)

- FAA-G-8082-9, Flight Engineer KTG
 - Change Posted to FAA.gov on 8/2/2018
- FAA-G-8082-2, Pilot Knowledge Test guide for Converting Transport Canada Civil Aviation Pilot Licenses to Federal Aviation Administration Pilot
 - Update outdated information
 - Estimated publish date is 2/2019

For previous versions of the *What's New and Upcoming in Airman Testing*, visit the [Archives page](#).