

Types of Checks and Tests For Pilots

(December 2015)

| Check/Test Type | Who Needs One? | Who Can Conduct It? | FAR Regulatory Reference | GACAR Regulatory Reference | Remarks |
|--|-------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| To fly for an air operator certificated under Part 119 | | | | | |
| Instrument Proficiency Check (every 6 months) | Instrument rated pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot Examiner • Check Pilot • Authorized Instructor • Aviation Safety Inspector • Evaluator | § 61.57(d)(2) § 125.291 § 135.297 | § 61.17(a)(4) § 125.353 § 135.351 | Applies to all instrument rated pilots, not just those under Parts 121, 125, and 135. If flying multiple types, at least one IPC must be done in each type per year. |
| Proficiency Check | 121 pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check Pilot • Aviation Safety Inspector • Evaluator | § 121.441 | § 121.797 | Also satisfies the Instrument Proficiency Check requirements. Under earlier versions of the FARs this check could be used to satisfy the practical test for additional class and category ratings (Ref. FAR § 121.437). |
| Competency Check (every 12 months) | 125 and 135 pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check Pilot • Aviation Safety Inspector • Evaluator | § 125.287(b) § 135.293(b) | § 125.349(b) § 135.349(b) | Can be substituted with the Instrument Proficiency Check. |
| Line Check | 121 and 135 pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check Pilot • Aviation Safety Inspector | § 121.440 § 135.299 | § 121.793 § 135.353 | |
| Knowledge Test (every 12 months) | 125 and 135 pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check Pilot • Aviation Safety Inspector | § 125.287(a) § 135.293(a) | § 125.349(a) § 135.349(a) | |
| To get pilot certificates, ratings and authorizations under Part 61 | | | | | |
| Medical Examination (and ECG) | All Pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aviation Medical Examiner | § 61.23 | § 61.9 | Professional pilots require Class 1. All other pilots require Class 2. Validity period depends on age and the class of medical. |
| English Language Proficiency Test | All Pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language Testing Center | - | § 61.53 | Level 4, 5 or 6 required. ELP testing center must be acceptable to the GACA. |
| Knowledge Test | All Pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aviation Safety Inspector • Computer Testing Designee | 61 (various) | 61 (various) | |

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| Practical Test | All Pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aviation Safety Inspector Pilot Examiner | 61 (various) | 61 (various) | |
| High Performance Airplane Competency Evaluation/Endorsement | Pilots of high performance airplanes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorized Instructor | § 61.31(f) | § 61.85(f) | One-time requirement. |
| Pressurized Aircraft Competency Evaluation/Endorsement | Pilots of pressurized aircraft capable of operating at high altitudes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorized Instructor | § 61.31(g) | § 61.85(g) | One-time requirement. |
| Complex Airplane Competency Evaluation/Endorsement | Pilots of complex airplanes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorized Instructor | § 61.31(e) | § 61.85(e) | One-time requirement. |
| To maintain PIC privileges | | | | | |
| Medical Examination (and ECG) | All Pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aviation Medical Examiner | § 61.23 | § 61.9 | Validity period depends on age and the class of medical. |
| English Language Proficiency Test | Pilots assessed as Level 4 or 5. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Language Testing Center | - | § 61.53 | Level 4 every 3 years. Level 5 every 6 years. ELP testing center must be acceptable to the GACA. |
| Biennial Flight Review | All Pilots | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorized Instructor | § 61.56 | § 61.21 | |
| PIC Proficiency Check | PIC of aircraft type certificated for more than 1 pilot or turbojet | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot Examiner Aviation Safety Inspector | § 61.58 | § 61.17 | Does not apply to pilots serving under Parts 121, 125, 133 or 135. |
| Tests and checks conducted at Part 141 Pilot Schools | | | | | |
| Stage Checks | Students attending a 141 course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check instructor Inspector | §141.37(b) | § 141.59 | Inspectors normally only do this when Check Instructor is unavailable or when GACA wants surveillance of school/check instructor. |
| End of Course Test | Students attending a 141 course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check instructor | § 141.37(b) | § 141.59 | |

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| Instructor Proficiency Tests | Instructors at 141 school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief instructor Assistant chief instructor Check instructor | § 141.79 | § 141.143 | |
| Knowledge Test | Chief Instructor (CI) Assistant CI | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aviation Safety Inspector | § 141.35(a)(3) § 141.36(a)(3) | § 141.51 § 141.57 | Subjects include: (i) Teaching methods; (ii) Applicable provisions of Parts 61, 91 and 141; and (iii) The objectives and approved course completion standards of the course for which the person seeks to obtain designation. |
| Proficiency Test | Chief Instructor Assistant CI | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aviation Safety Inspector | § 141.35(a)(4) § 141.36(a)(4) | § 141.51 § 141.57 | Proficiency test on instructional skills and ability to train students on the flight procedures and maneuvers appropriate to the course. |
| Knowledge Test | Check Instructor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Instructor | § 141.37(a)(1) | § 141.59 | Subjects include: (i) Teaching methods; (ii) Applicable provisions of Parts 61, 91 and 141; and (iii) The objectives and approved course completion standards of the course for which the person seeks to obtain designation. |
| Proficiency Test | Check Instructor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Instructor | § 141.37(a)(2)(iv) | § 141.59 | Must also be approved by Aviation Safety Inspector |