



GACA Regulation Circular No R-29-2015 23 March, 2015

To: Applicant for GACA Pilot License

SUBJECT: Pilot License Validation / Conversion

In accordance with the Civil Aviation Act of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), as approved by the Council of Ministers Resolution No. 185 dated 17/07/1426H and issued by the Royal Decree No. M/44 dated 18/07/1426H. (23/08/2005G), and based on the authority granted in Article 179 of the Act; the following Regulations are issued under the authority of the President of General Authority of Civil Aviation, as a duly delegated representative of the GACA Board of Directors, in accordance with Order No.T-41, dated 30/12/1429H (28/12/2008G).

The General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) is establishing validation and conversion regulations for Pilot licenses issued by other ICAO State members as follow:

Section A - GACA VALIDATION OF FOREIGN PILOT LICENSES.

GACA has established the following regulation for pilots licensed by ICAO contracting states and applying for GACA validations of their foreign license, after authentications from the issuing state.

1. Temporary Flight Authorization (TFA) Issued Based on a Foreign Pilot License.

The TFA will only be issued in the case where no type qualified Saudi citizen pilots are available.

- a. **General.** GACA will only issue Temporary Flight Authorization to holders of ICAO member state certificates, who meet the requirements of this Section for performing pilot duties in Saudi Arabian registered aircraft and or listed under the operations specification of GACA AOC holder.
- b. **Eligibility.** To be eligible for the issuance of a TFA, an applicant must present the following in the form and manner specified by GACA:
 - (1) An Authenticated, current and valid foreign pilot license and medical certificate issued by the same Civil Aviation Authority that contains the appropriate aircraft category, class, type rating, if appropriate, and instrument rating for the aircraft to be flown; (certified English translation approved by the issuing state embassy if required).
 - (2) A certification by the owner or operator of the aircraft—
 - (i) Stating that the applicant is employed or otherwise affiliated with the owner or operator and,



- (ii) Specifying the aircraft type and registration on which the applicant will perform pilot duties.
- (iii) Specifying in detail the pilot duties to be performed, including operations to be conducted and the flight deck crew member position in which the applicant is to serve.
- (iv) The pilot has received proper indoctrination training, SOPs and regulations applicable to the type of operations.

c. Privileges.

- (1) A person issued a TFA in accordance to this section —
 - i. May exercise the privileges prescribed on the TFA and
 - ii. Must comply with the limitations specified in this section and any additional limitations specified on the TFA.
- (2) A TFA issued under this section does not confer any privileges exceeding those conferred on the applicant by the foreign pilot license required by paragraph (b) (1) of this section.

d. General limitations. A TFA may be used only—

- (1) If the foreign license required by paragraph (b)(1) of this section remains valid and current;
- (2) The foreign pilot license required by paragraph (b) (1) of this section, the medical documentation required by paragraph (b) (3) of this section, and the TFA issued under this section must remain in the holder's physical possession while the holder is performing pilot duties, as described in the certification required by paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

e. Expiration. Unless otherwise specified by GACA, each TFA issued in accordance to this section expires on the earliest of the following dates —

- (1) Unless sooner suspended or revoked.
- (2) The date of expiration.
- (3) When the owner or operator of the aircraft terminates the employment of or affiliation with the crewmember holding the TFA;
- (4) Whenever the person's foreign pilot license has been suspended, revoked, or is no longer valid; or
- (5) When the person no longer meets the medical standards for the issuance of the foreign pilot license.
- (6) The pilot failed Any GACA certifications process.

f. Surrender. The holder of a TFA must surrender the authorization to GACA within 7 days after the date the authorization terminates.



2. Issuance of GACA Private Pilot Certificate Based on a Foreign Pilot License.

- a. **General.** A person who holds a foreign pilot license at the private pilot level or higher that was issued by an ICAO member state may apply for and be issued a Saudi Arabian private pilot certificate after authentications from the issuing state with the appropriate ratings if the foreign pilot license meets the requirements of this section.
- b. **Certificate issued.** A Saudi Arabian private pilot certificate issued under this section must specify the person's foreign license number and country of issuance. A person who holds a foreign pilot license issued by a an ICAO member state may be issued a Saudi Arabian private pilot certificate based on the foreign pilot license without any further showing of proficiency, provided the applicant—
 - (1) Meets the requirements of this section,
 - (2) Holds a foreign pilot license at the private pilot license level or higher that does not contain a limitation stating he has not met all of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards for that license,
 - (3) Does not hold a Saudi Arabian pilot certificate other than a Saudi Arabian student pilot certificate, and
 - (4) Holds a medical certificate issued under GACA/FAR 67.
- c. **Operating privileges and limitations.** A person who receives a Saudi Arabian private pilot certificate that has been issued under the provisions of this section—
 - (1) May act as PIC of a Saudi Arabian-registered civil aircraft in accordance with the pilot privileges authorized under GACA/FAR part 61 and the limitations placed on that Saudi Arabian pilot certificate;
- d. **Limitation on licenses used as the basis for a Saudi Arabian certificate.** A person may use only one foreign pilot license as a basis for the issuance of a Saudi Arabian pilot certificate. The foreign pilot license and medical certification used as a basis for issuing a Saudi Arabian pilot certificate under this section must be written in English or accompanied by an English transcription that has been signed by an official or representative of the foreign Civil Aviation Authority that issued the foreign pilot license.
- e. **Instrument ratings issued.** A person who holds an instrument rating on the foreign pilot license issued by an ICAO member state be issued an instrument rating on a Saudi Arabian pilot certificate, provided—
 - (1) The person's foreign pilot license authorizes instrument privileges and
 - (2) Within 24 months preceding the month in which the person applies for the instrument rating, the person passed the appropriate knowledge and practical test.

Section B - GACA CONVERSION OF ADVANCED FOREIGN PILOT LICENSES.

GACA have established the following regulations for all pilots holding advanced pilot licenses from other ICAO member states and applying for conversion of these licenses to equivalent advanced GACA pilot certificates.



1. **A person who holds a foreign pilot license at a level higher than the private pilot level that was issued from other ICAO member states may apply for license conversion and issuance of an equivalent level of airman certificate or rating issued by GACA provided that the applicant;**
 - a. Pass the required knowledge test on the aeronautical knowledge areas listed in GACA/FAR §61.125 or 61.155 (c) if the applicant has less than 2000 hours in commercial operations as appropriate; and
 - b. Pass the practical test on the areas of operation listed in § GACA/FAR §61.127(b) or 61.157(e) or 61.55 that apply to the aircraft category and class rating sought as appropriate.
2. **The practical test provided in paragraph (a) (2) Part B, may only be conducted after meeting one of the following;**
 - a. Receiving endorsement from an appropriately certificated and rated instructor employed by GACA certificated 141 school (not valid for an aircraft type rating) or,
 - b. May be conducted after completing approved training program for an operator certificated under GACA/FAR 121,125, and/ or 135 or,
 - c. For operators under part 91 where the applicant for an initial second-in-command qualification based on a foreign license for a particular type of aircraft receives all the training in a flight simulator under GACA/FAR 142 applicable to the aircraft rating sought, that applicant must satisfactorily complete one takeoff and one landing in an aircraft of the same type for which the qualification is sought. This requirement does not apply to an applicant who completes a proficiency check under part 121 or competency check under part 125, or part 135 for the particular type of aircraft. (61.55(J)).

This Circular is published in GACA official website: <http://www.gaca.gov.sa>

Any inquiries or feedback concerning GACA Regulations shall be addressed to AVP GACA-Safety & Air Transport, Fax No. +966-12-6855284.

Sulaiman Al-Hamdan
President of General Authority of Civil Aviation
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

7
few