

## OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE OF FLIGHT TRAINING FOR THE PRIVATE PILOT CERTIFICATE

The first several lessons deal with getting to know the airplane:

- Ground – Pre-flight, Instruments & Controls, Engine Operation, Taxiing.

- Basic In-air Maneuvers – Straight & Level, Climbs, Descents, Turns.

- Exploring the Limits of Normal Operations – Steep Turns, Minimum Controllable Airspeed, Wing Stalls (loss of lift) Recognition & Recovery.

- Ground Reference Maneuvers – Low level, high workload flying that requires the pilot to compensate for constantly changing wind conditions to produce a stable, defined ground track.

The next several lessons are learning to land:

- Flying the airport traffic pattern.

- Radio use.

- Airspeed & altitude control.

- The landing flare.

- Cross-wind landings.

- Solo flight!!

At this point the student pilot is allowed to make local solo flights to practice the above maneuvers.

Dual instruction continues:

- Short field take-off & landings.

- Soft field take-off & landings.

- Flight by reference to instruments only.

- Unusual attitudes & recovery.

- Cross country flights – flight planning, weather analysis, deduced reckoning, pilotage, radio aid navigation, towered & non-towered airports, paved & unpaved runways.

- Night flying and night cross country.

Once the dual cross country flights have been completed, the student pilot will make a couple of solo cross country flights after the flight instructor has approved the student's flight planning and authorized the flight under the weather conditions existing.

The final training required is 3 hours of dual instruction specifically in preparation for the check ride. This must be done within the 90 days preceding the check ride.

Task specific tolerances and specifications are defined in the FAA's **Airman Certification Standards** publication for the check ride with a Designated Examiner.

NOTE: Before student pilots may fly solo, they must have passed a flight physical given by an FAA designated Aviation Medical Examiner (AME). AME's are located throughout the country.

NOTE: This is an overview of the flight portion of training only. There is also a requirement for passage of a knowledge test after some course of ground schooling. There are several options for completing this ground school thru both formal courses and self study. This test must have been passed within the 2 years preceding the check ride.

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[aopa.org/learntofly/index.html](http://aopa.org/learntofly/index.html)

[eaa.org/learntofly/](http://eaa.org/learntofly/)

[gleim.com/aviation/learn-to-fly/#avTab%3Dmain](http://gleim.com/aviation/learn-to-fly/#avTab%3Dmain)