

SECTION 6. RENEWAL OF FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATES

765. GENERAL. This section contains guidance and information for inspectors concerning the renewal of current flight instructor certificates for pilots conducting operations under Part 121 and Part 135. These flight instructors may be pilots-in-command (PIC's), air transportation flight instructors, check airmen, or other airmen who are regularly involved in evaluating airmen operating under these parts. This section applies only to the renewal of current flight instructor certificates and is not applicable to the reinstatement of expired certificates or the addition of new ratings to a flight instructor certificate. Details on conducting these tests can be found in volume 2, chapter 11 of FAA Order 8700.1, General Aviation Operations Inspector's Handbook.

NOTE: The inspector should first ask the applicant to state the basis on which the renewal application is made. The applicant's answer should indicate the level of the applicant's familiarity with the FAR's (particularly FAR 61.197) and guide the inspector to the appropriate reference.

767. CRITERIA FOR RENEWAL. According to FAR 61.197(b) and the guidance contained in volume 2, chapter 11 of FAA Order 8700.1, there are criteria that should be used to renew a flight instructor certificate. These criteria include a satisfactory record as a PIC of an aircraft operated under Part 121, or as a company check pilot under Part 121 or Part 135, or other activity involving the regular evaluation of pilots.

A. Record as PIC under Part 121. An inspector may renew the flight instructor certificate of a pilot based on his satisfactory record as PIC of an aircraft operated under Part 121, provided the pilot passes any oral test that may be deemed necessary to determine that the applicant has knowledge of current pilot training and certification requirements and standards.

B. Company Flight Instructor or Check Pilot. An inspector may renew a flight instructor certificate if the applicant is assigned duties as a flight instructor or check pilot with an air carrier operating under either Part 121 or Part 135. In some cases, it may be deemed necessary that these applicants demonstrate knowledge of current pilot

training and certification requirements and standards by passing an oral test administered by the inspector.

C. Other Activities Regularly Involving the Evaluation of Pilots. An inspector may renew the flight instructor certificate of an airman involved in any activities regularly involving the evaluation of pilots; such activities might include simulator-only instruction. In some cases, it may be necessary for the applicants to demonstrate knowledge of current pilot training and certification requirements and standards by passing an oral test administered by the inspector.

769. INSPECTOR QUALIFICATIONS. Generally, flight instructor renewals should be administered by an inspector who has completed general aviation indoctrination. Air carrier inspectors may, however, renew a flight instructor certificate provided the inspector holds a current flight instructor certificate and follows the guidance in this section and the guidance in volume 2, chapter 11 of FAA Order 8700.1.

771. PROCESSING RENEWALS. Inspectors should complete the following procedures when processing renewals for flight instructor certificates:

- Review the completed application
- Obtain the applicant's proof of employment and position
- Review applicant's record and determine if an oral examination is necessary to determine current knowledge
- Limit the oral examination, if one is necessary, to the applicant's knowledge of the following general areas: recordkeeping, National Airspace System, endorsements, certification requirements, practical test standards, and training requirements

NOTE: Inspector renewals should be based on acquaintance when following the preceding criteria.

773. EXPIRED CERTIFICATES. The procedures described in this section shall not be used to reinstate an

expired flight instructor certificate. An applicant for reinstatement of an expired flight instructor certificate may exchange that certificate for a new certificate by passing the practical test prescribed in FAR 61.187. That practical

test shall be administered by either an appropriately rated operations inspector or an appropriately designated pilot examiner.

774. - 784. RESERVED.

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