

Orlando Flight Standards District Office



Federal Aviation
Administration

FAA Order 8900.1 & 8900.2 Revisions for DPEs

Presented to: Orlando FSDO Pilot Examiners

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Date: January 22, 2015



FAA Order 8900.1 Changes

A DPE must be observed by a qualified FAA Inspector conducting a complete practical test within the preceding 12 calendar months

A “complete practical test” is a test that has advanced to the **flight portion** of the **test**

A test has **advanced** to the **flight portion** if the **aircraft engine** has been **started** and there is **intent to fly**

Tests terminated with a **Notice of Disapproval** during the **Oral** where no flight would be conducted **no longer qualifies** as a “complete practical test”

Tests terminated with a **Letter of Discontinuance** following the **Oral** but no flight can be conducted due to a valid reason for **discontinuance no longer qualifies** as a “complete practical test”



FAA Order 8900.1 Changes

Special provisions for 2 place aircraft or aircraft with limited weight and balance capability

Inspector observes oral and assumes role of applicant for flight portion of the DPE observation

Additional DPE inspections during 12 calendar month period can be accomplished in traditional manner

DPE demonstrates selected tasks during flight with Inspector

Inspector assumes role of applicant during flight with DPE

Inspector observes oral portion only of actual practical test *

*** Inspector does not have to be qualified in aircraft**



FAA Order 8900.1 Changes

12 calendar month observations required in **multiple aircraft categories** have been **eliminated** from Order 8900.1

One observation of a complete practical test in any aircraft category listed on COA meets the 12 month inspection requirement unless additional inspections are required due to high activity or other reasons deemed appropriate

Observations will include an **inspection** of the **examiner's plans of action** for each type of test that the examiner is authorized to conduct



FAA Order 8900.1 Changes

Applicant post-certification interviews

FSDO Inspectors now required to annually conduct post-certification interviews with a minimum of 5 applicants recently tested for each DPE in the district

Standard format for interview process

Advise applicants to expect interviews



FAA Order 8900.1 Changes

DPE “out of district” testing requests

Prior authorization must be obtained to conduct practical tests outside of the Orlando FSDO geographical area

Out of district testing will only be considered if the FSDO to be visited does not have a DPE available to conduct the specific testing requested

Intra-regional requests can be coordinated between FSDOs (Southern Region: AL, FL, GA, KY, NC, SC, TN, PR, VI)

Inter-regional requests require regional coordination



DESIGNEE HANDBOOK 8900.2

Number of Practical Tests in one day

An examiner ***must not*** conduct ***more*** than ***two practical tests*** within 1 calendar day (midnight to midnight)

A practical test means ***any*** certificate action that is completed by means of an 8060-4, 8060-5, or letter of discontinuance.

(Initial tests, re-tests, discontinuances, or continuations of tests)



INSPECTOR'S HANDBOOK 8900.1

Files Returned To Examiner For Correction

Errors in examiner's certification files that cause *more than 10%* of the total files submitted within a 12 calendar month period to be returned to the examiner for correction shall be considered excessive.

An excessive number of returned certification files may be considered as unsatisfactory performance of examiner duties, possibly resulting in termination of the examiner's designation.



INSPECTOR'S HANDBOOK 8900.1

IMPORTANT

A DPE must be observed conducting a complete practical test within the preceding 12 calendar months in one aircraft category listed on their COA Letter

Orlando FSDO DPE Certificate of Authority Letters are now valid for 36 calendar months (12 calendar months for new DPEs)

A DPE's 12 calendar month observation date is not associated with the their Certificate of Authority expiration date

A DPE's testing authorization can expire even though their Certificate of Authority Letter has not expired

DPEs are solely responsible for compliance with the 12 month cycle

