

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N JO 7210.976

Air Traffic Organization Policy

Effective Date:
September 2, 2026

Cancellation Date:
December 24, 2026

SUBJ: FAA Contract Tower (FCT) Air Traffic Controller Eligibility

- 1. Purpose of this Notice.** This notice transmits interim policy concerning FAA Order JO 7210.3, Facility Operation and Administration, paragraph 11-2-6, FAA Contract Tower (FCT) Air Traffic Controller Eligibility, enlarging the pool of candidates eligible for hire into an FCT.
- 2. Audience.** All users of FAA Order JO 7210.3.
- 3. Where can I Find This Notice?** This notice is available on the MyFAA employee website at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the Air Traffic Plans and Publications website at https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/.
- 4. Background.** Responsive to a request from the FCT Program Office, AJM-3, this action assists FCT vendors by enlarging the pool of candidates eligible for hire as an air traffic controller in FCTs.
- 5. Action.** Amend FAA Order JO 7210.3, paragraph 11-2-6 to read as follows:

11-2-6. FAA CONTRACT TOWER (FCT) AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to be employed as an air traffic controller at an FAA Contract Tower, a person must meet the requirements of 14 CFR part 65 and part 67, and

- a.** Have held a previous Control Tower Operator (CTO) certificate or FAA Air Traffic Safety Oversight (AOV) credential with a tower rating, or
- b.** Have a valid Enhanced Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative (E-CTI) tower endorsement letter or graduated from an FAA-approved Control Tower Operator Partnership (CTO-P) school, or
- c.** Have been a DOD radar-certified controller or an FAA radar-certified controller. In such cases, the FCT vendor must ensure the employee satisfies CTO requirements.

NOTE-

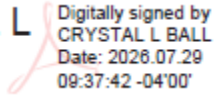
There is no maximum age restriction for FCT air traffic controllers.

09/02/26

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Distribution. This notice is distributed to: Air Traffic Services, Mission Support Services, System Operations, ATO Safety, Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center for Advanced Aerospace, and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

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For Jon M. Stowe
Director, Policy, AJV-P
Mission Support Services
Air Traffic Organization (ATO)