

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.299

National Policy

Effective Date:
5/15/15

Cancellation Date:
5/15/16

SUBJ: Updated Conversion Process for Pilot Certificates in Accordance with the Implementation Procedures for Licensing as Part of the Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement Between the Federal Aviation Administration and Transport Canada Civil Aviation Authority for Pilot Licensing

1. Purpose of This Notice. This notice updates Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidance pertaining to the Implementation Procedures for Licensing (IPL) as part of the Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement (BASA) between the FAA and Transport Canada Civil Aviation Authority (TCCA) for pilot certification and licensing.

2. Audience. The primary audience for this notice includes all aviation safety inspectors (ASI) and aviation safety technicians (AST) who conduct certification functions for pilots and/or have oversight of a designee with a foreign pilot certification authorization. The secondary audience is personnel working in the Regulatory Support Division (AFS-600) and the Civil Aviation Registry (AFS-700).

3. Where You Can Find This Notice. You can find this notice on the MyFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices. Inspectors can access this notice through the Flight Standards Information Management System (FSIMS) at <http://fsims.avs.faa.gov>. Operators can find this notice on the FAA's Web site at <http://fsims.faa.gov>. This notice is available to the public at http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices.

4. Background. The United States of America and Canada established a BASA that was intended to facilitate the acceptance of various aspects of each country's aviation safety oversight systems. The Agreement provides, in part, that the FAA and TCCA will pursue mutual cooperation in the evaluation and acceptance of one another's system and standards for the issuance of certificates and licenses. The previous IPL was signed into effect on August 31, 2006 and was limited to Airplane Single-Engine Land (ASEL) and Airplane Multiengine Land (AMEL), to include night qualification, an Instrument Airplane rating, and certain airplane type ratings. These certificates could be issued at the private, commercial, and airline transport pilot (ATP) level, corresponding to the license level held in the TCCA system. The FAA and TCCA have recently expanded the terms of the IPL as described below:

a. Expanded Terms of the IPL. The expansion of the terms of the IPL have added the following ratings that can be issued at the private, commercial, and ATP level, corresponding to the license level held in the TCCA system:

- Airplane Single-Engine Sea (ASES),
- Airplane Multiengine Sea (AMES),
- Rotorcraft-Helicopter,
- Instrument Helicopter rating, and
- Helicopter pilot type ratings for which the same type is recognized by the FAA and TCCA.

b. New Provisions for Conversion. The IPL amendments also incorporate provisions of the Pilot Certification and Qualification Requirements for Air Carrier Operations Final Rule (78 FR 42324) for the conversion of a TCCA ATP license to an FAA ATP Certificate. A person who applies for an FAA ATP Certificate with an airplane category and either an AMEL or AMES class rating, based on his or her TCCA ATP license, must present a graduation certificate from an authorized training provider for the ATP Certification Training Program (CTP). The graduation certificate must be presented to a Knowledge Testing Center prior to being administered a knowledge test that will lead to an Airplane Multiengine rating at the ATP Certificate level (refer to Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 61, § 61.156).

Note: Both the BASA and the IPL are located at the following Web site:
https://www.faa.gov/aircraft/air_cert/international/bilateral_agreements/baa_basa_listing/.

c. Updated Knowledge Test for Multiengine Class Ratings. As of the effective date of this notice, with the exception of a valid ACP knowledge test as mentioned in subparagraph 5b, the required knowledge test for a TCCA ATP license holder seeking to obtain an FAA ATP Certificate with an airplane category and a multiengine class rating is the ACM knowledge test. However, due to the requirements of § 61.156, the Flight Standards Service (AFS) has discontinued use of the previous ACP knowledge test. Airman Knowledge Testing Centers will offer a revised Airline Transport Pilot Canadian Conversion – Airplane Multiengine knowledge test (test code “ACM”) for TCCA ATP license holders.

5. Guidance. The audience of this notice must be familiar with the following information:

a. Conversion Eligibility. Pilot certificates/licenses and ratings that have been issued on the basis of a foreign pilot license are not eligible for conversion under the IPL conversion procedures.

b. ACP Knowledge Test. All ACP knowledge tests that were successfully passed prior to August 1, 2014 and are valid (i.e., have not expired) can be used by a TCCA ATP license holder applying for an FAA ATP Certificate with an airplane category and a multiengine class rating. ACP Knowledge Test Reports are valid for 24 calendar-months from the date of the successful completion of the knowledge test (refer to § 61.39(a)(1)(i)). The applicant need not obtain an ATP CTP graduation certificate if the applicant passed the ACP knowledge test prior to August 1, 2014 and the Knowledge Test Report is still valid (i.e., has not expired).

c. ACM Knowledge Test. As of the effective date of this notice, with the exception of a valid ACP knowledge test as mentioned in subparagraph 5b, the required knowledge test for a TCCA ATP license holder seeking to obtain an FAA ATP Certificate with an airplane category and a multiengine class rating is the ACM knowledge test. The applicant must obtain an ATP CTP graduation certificate from an authorized training provider, as outlined in § 61.156, prior to being administered the ACM knowledge test. Successful ACM Knowledge Test Reports are valid for 60 calendar-months from the date of the test (refer to § 61.39(a)(1)(ii)).

d. TCCA ATP License Holders Not Desiring an FAA ATP Certificate. A TCCA ATP license holder with an airplane category and Multiengine Land (MEL) class rating who has not received a graduation certificate from an authorized training provider for the ATP CTP (and who does not hold a valid ACP Knowledge Test Report) may apply for and be issued an FAA Commercial Pilot Certificate with an airplane category and MEL class rating and/or an instrument rating (airplane). Except as noted below, the applicant must have successfully passed the Commercial Pilot Airplane Canadian Conversion knowledge test (test code “CCP”) and the Instrument Rating Airplane Canadian Conversion knowledge test (test code “ICP”), and must present both valid (i.e., unexpired) Knowledge Test Reports to the ASI, AST, or Designated Pilot Examiner (DPE) processing the application.

Note: The ICP knowledge test is only required if the applicant seeks to add an instrument rating. If the applicant is not seeking an instrument rating, the commercial certificate may be issued without an Instrument Airplane rating with the appropriate limitation annotated on FAA Form 8060-4, Temporary Airman Certificate.

Note: This does not affect current guidance for those holding a TCCA commercial pilot license seeking to obtain an FAA Commercial Pilot Certificate.

e. Appropriate Knowledge Tests. Only the knowledge tests that are named specifically as Canadian Conversion are authorized to be utilized for the conversion of a TCCA license to an FAA certificate. These tests have been specifically designed to test the differences between the TCCA and FAA rules pertaining to air law, communications, and air carrier operations (as appropriate). Other versions of knowledge tests for the certificate or rating sought are not authorized for use by an airman converting a TCCA license to an FAA certificate. ASIs, ASTs, or DPEs processing the conversion application must refer to the testing matrix referenced in the Note below to determine which test code corresponds to a Canadian Conversion knowledge test.

Note: The FAA Airman Knowledge Testing matrix is located at the following Web site: http://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/media/testing_matrix.pdf. This matrix can be utilized to determine which knowledge test and corresponding test code is acceptable for the conversion process being applied for.

f. Additional Conversions. Specific requirements for converting ASES, AMES, Rotorcraft-Helicopter, and Instrument Helicopter categories and/or class ratings are listed in Appendix A of the IPL.

g. Applicable Guidance. The procedures found in the current edition of FAA Order 8900.1, Volume 5, Chapter 2, Section 14, Issue a Part 61 U.S. Pilot Certificate on the Basis of a Foreign Pilot License, are still applicable for the issuance of a pilot certificate based on a conversion from a TCCA-issued license. ASIs, ASTs, DPEs, and AFS-700 should process all TCCA pilot license conversion applications in accordance with that guidance, except for the considerations of the ATP CTP and the expanded terms of the IPL described in this notice.

h. DPE Notification. ASIs with oversight of DPEs who have a Foreign Pilot Examiner (FPE) designation on their letter of authorization (LOA) must make those DPEs aware of the information contained in this notice. The ASI should provide a physical or electronic copy of this notice to the affected DPEs.

6. Disposition. We will incorporate the information in this notice into FAA Order 8900.1 before this notice expires. Any questions pertaining to the information in this notice should be directed to the Airmen Certification and Training Branch (AFS-810) at (202) 267-1100.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Barbagallo". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and "B".

John Barbagallo
Deputy Director, Flight Standards Service