

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.347

National Policy

Effective Date:
3/2/16

Cancellation Date:
3/2/17

SUBJ: OpSpec A319, Fatigue Education and Awareness Training (FEAT) Program
Initial Approval and Updates

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice provides guidance on the issuance of Operations Specification (OpSpec) A319, Fatigue Education and Awareness Training (FEAT) Program Initial Approval and Updates, to Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 121 certificate holders.
- 2. Audience.** The primary audience for this notice is Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certificate-holding district offices (CHDO) and principal operations inspectors (POI) assigned to oversight of part 121 certificate holders. The secondary audience includes Flight Standards divisions and branches in the regions and in headquarters (HQ).
- 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. Applicability.** This notice applies to POIs of part 121 certificate holders conducting passenger-carrying operations, and any part 121 certificate holder that applies the limits of 14 CFR part 117 to its all-cargo operations.
- 5. Background.** Part 117 requires that each part 121 certificate holder conducting passenger-carrying operations, and any part 121 certificate holder that applies the limits of part 117 to its all-cargo operations, must have an FAA-approved FEAT program. In addition, the certificate holder must update its FEAT program at least once every 24 calendar-months. Public Law (PL) 111-216, Sec. 212(b), effective August 1, 2010, mandates that all part 121 certificate holders, regardless of whether it conducts passenger-carrying or all-cargo operations, develop, implement, and update its Fatigue Risk Management Plan (FRMP). The statute also mandates that each certificate holder's FRMP contain a FEAT component.

6. Discussion.

a. Review and Approval Process. The Air Transportation Division (AFS-200) is responsible for reviewing and approving a certificate holder's new FEAT program and major updates to an FAA-approved FEAT program. The certificate holder's POI is responsible for reviewing and accepting all minor updates to the certificate holder's FEAT.

b. OpSpec Issuance. The FAA will issue OpSpec A319 to each part 121 certificate holder having an FAA-approved FEAT program for part 117 operations. The issuance of and revisions to OpSpec A319 require HQ approval. The POI will be responsible for issuing OpSpec A319 upon receipt of the approval memo issued by AFS-200. This memo authorizes the POI to issue OpSpec A319 in accordance with the conditions and limitations outlined in the approval memo.

7. Action. POIs should review the new guidance in FAA Order 8900.1, Flight Standards Information Management System, Volume 3, Chapter 18, Section 3, OpSpec A319, and Volume 3, Chapter 58, Section 4.

8. Disposition. We will incorporate the information in this notice into Order 8900.1 before this notice expires. Direct questions concerning the information in this notice to the Part 121 Air Carrier Operations Branch (AFS-220) at 202-267-8166.



John Barbagallo
Deputy Director, Flight Standards Service

Appendix A. Sample OpSpec A319, Fatigue Education and Awareness Training (FEAT) Program Initial Approval and Updates

- a. In accordance with 14 CFR part 117, each 14 CFR part 121 certificate holder conducting passenger-carrying operations, and any part 121 certificate holder that applies the limits of part 117 to its all-cargo operations, must have an FAA-approved Fatigue Education and Awareness Training (FEAT) program.
- b. The issuance of this operations specification requires the Air Transportation Division’s (AFS-200) approval. Issuance of this operations specification signifies FAA approval of the certificate holder’s FEAT program, as prescribed in part 117, § 117.9(a).
- c. The following elements must be included into the certificate holder’s FEAT program:
 - (1) Review of FAA flight, duty, and rest regulatory requirements.
 - (2) Awareness of the Fatigue Risk Management Plan (FRMP) program itself, including fatigue-related policies and procedures, and the responsibilities of management and employees to mitigate or manage the effects of fatigue and improve flightcrew member flight deck alertness.
 - (3) The basics of fatigue, including sleep fundamentals and circadian rhythms.
 - (4) The causes and awareness of fatigue.
 - (5) The effects of operating through multiple time zones.
 - (6) The effects of fatigue relative to pilot performance.
 - (7) Fatigue countermeasures, prevention, and mitigation.
 - (8) The influence of lifestyle, including nutrition, exercise, and family life, on fatigue.
 - (9) Familiarity with sleep disorders.
 - (10) The effects of fatigue as a result of commuting.
 - (11) Pilot responsibility for ensuring adequate rest and fitness for duty.
 - (12) Operational procedures to follow when one identifies, or suspects, fatigue risk in oneself or others.
 - (13) Incorporate lessons learned regarding the effects of fatigue and fatigue mitigation initiatives relative to the certificate holder’s operations.

Table 1 – Current Revision

Revision No.	Date of Approval
Enter the new revision number, e.g., Revision number 1	XX/XX/XXXX

d. The certificate holder is authorized to conduct training in accordance with its FAA-approved FEAT program based upon the current revision number and date listed in Table 1 above, and under the following conditions and limitations:

(1) The certificate holder’s FAA-approved FEAT program must be updated at least once every 24 calendar-months, as prescribed in § 117.9(c)(1). The certificate holder must update its training program no later than XX/XX/XXXX.

(2) The certificate holder must provide FEAT in accordance with its FAA-approved FEAT program to all of its covered employees every 12 calendar-months.

(3) Covered employees are considered employees of the certificate holder responsible for administering the provisions of part 117, including flightcrew members, dispatchers, individuals directly involved in the scheduling of flightcrew members, individuals directly involved in operational control, and any employee providing direct management oversight of those areas.

(4) The certificate holder must retain training records for each employee required to complete the certificate holder’s FEAT program. Each training record must be retained for a minimum of 12 calendar-months.

Entering text in the nonstandard text box requires approval from the appropriate AFS HQ policy division.

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1. Issued by the FAA.
 2. These operations specifications are approved by direction of the Administrator.
 3. I hereby accept and receive the operations specifications in this paragraph.

_____ Date