

What's New and Upcoming in Airman Testing

(New Edition: February 11, 2021)

Airman Knowledge Testing Changes

- Airman Certification Standards (ACS) codes will be printed on the Airman Knowledge Test Report (AKTR) for ACS-based exams. Currently, the following exams are based on published ACS documents: ACM, ASC, ATM, ATS, CAX, CCP, ICP, IFP, IRA, MCN, PAR, PCP, and UAG.

Airman Certification Standards (ACS) New Development/Revision Update

ACs under revision/development (release dates TBD):

- FAA-S-ACS-1, Aviation Mechanic General, Airframe, and Powerplant ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-2, Commercial Pilot Powered-Lift ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-3, Instrument Rating Powered-Lift ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-5, Airline Transport Pilot and Type Rating for Helicopter ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-9, Aviation Instructor ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-10A, Remote Pilot – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-14, Instrument Rating – Helicopter ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-15, Private Pilot – Helicopter ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-16, Commercial Pilot – Helicopter ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-17, Airline Transport Pilot and Type Rating for Powered-Lift ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-18, Private Pilot Lighter-Than-Air ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-19, Commercial Pilot Lighter-Than-Air ACS

Testing Standard (TS)

TS under development (release date TBD):

- FAA-S-TS-25, Inspection Authorization (IA) TS

Reference Handbooks

With the assistance of aviation community members of the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) Airman Certification Standards (ACS) Working Group (WG), the FAA is reviewing and revising a number of its reference handbooks.

Handbooks currently under revision with an estimated release date of June 2021:

- FAA-H-8083-3, Airplane Flying Handbook
 - FAA-H-8083-29, Powered Parachute Flying Handbook
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Handbooks currently under revision with an estimated release date of September 2021:

- FAA-H-8083-2, Risk Management Handbook

Handbooks currently under revision with an estimated release date of September 2022:

- FAA-H-8083-25, Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge

Handbooks currently under revision with release dates TBD:

- FAA-H-8083-5, Weight-Shift Control Aircraft Flying Handbook
- FAA-H-8083-11, Balloon Flying Handbook
- FAA-H-8083-15, Instrument Flying Handbook
- FAA-H-8083-24, Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operating Handbook
- FAA-H-8083-33, Powered-Lift Flying Handbook

Handbook Addendum(s) released February 10, 2021:

- FAA-H-8083-25, Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge
 - This Addendum A addresses the National Transportation Safety Board’s (NTSB) Safety Recommendation (SR) A-20-12. “Revise the Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge, FAA-H-8083-25B, to explicitly state marijuana’s classification as an illicit drug per federal law and, thus, its prohibited use by airmen. (A-20-12) (Section 4.2).”
 - The current edition of the Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge and Addendum A is available [here](#).

Airman Knowledge Testing Supplements

We anticipate revising the following Airman Knowledge Testing Supplement(s) with an effective date of June 2021:

- FAA-CT-8080-4, Airman Knowledge Testing Supplement for Aviation Maintenance Technician – General, Airframe, and Powerplant; and Parachute Rigger
- The current editions of the Airman Knowledge Testing Supplements are available [here](#).

FAA Airman Knowledge Tests

New/Revised Test Question Activation Dates for 2021/2022

- March 29, 2021
- June 28, 2021
- September 27, 2021
- January 31, 2022
- April 25, 2022
- July 25, 2022
- October 31, 2022

Note: Changes to live airman knowledge tests noted in this document will be reflected in future practice exams. Improvement to practice exams is a continuous and ongoing process. Practice exams are available via the [PSI True Talent Website](#).

Guides

- FAA-H-8083-27A, Student Pilot Guide with Change 1 was removed from FAA.gov. The content is no longer relevant to the aviation community. There are numerous guides available with current information for the student pilot. At the time this guide was developed (many years ago), these types of guides were not available to the community and there was a need to publish something to help the beginning pilot.

For previous versions of the *What's New and Upcoming in Airman Testing*, visit the [Archives page](#).