What's New and Upcoming in Airman Testing

(New Edition: June 4, 2019)

- Airman Certification Standards (ACS) New Development Update
- Airman Certification Standards (ACS) Revision Update
- Knowledge Test Management Services
- Airman Knowledge Testing Supplements (CT-8080 series)
- Reference Handbooks

FAA Airman Knowledge Tests

- General Information Applicable to Pilot Knowledge Test Banks
- General Information Applicable to Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) Knowledge Test Banks
Airman Certification Standards (ACS) New Development Update

ACSs scheduled for release in June 2019:

- FAA-S-ACS-11, Airline Transport Pilot and Type Rating for Airplane ACS with Change 1
  - Change 1 published to FAA.gov on 5/28/2019 with an effective date of 6/28/2019. All previous editions of the FAA-S-8081-5, Airline Transport Pilot and Aircraft Type Rating Practical Test Standards for Airplane will be obsolete as of this date.

Upcoming ACS Webinars

The Airman Testing Branch will host a series of webinars in support of the new Airline Transport Pilot and Type Rating for Airplane Airman Certification Standards:

- June 14, 2019
- June 26, 2019
- July 10, 2019
- July 24, 2019

Go to the following link for more information about attending the webinars:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/4710280723835758349

ACSs under development:

- 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 Powered-Lift ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-5, Helicopter ATP and Type Rating ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-9, Instructor ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-14, Helicopter Instrument ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-15, Helicopter Private ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-16, Helicopter Commercial ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-17, Powered-Lift ATP and Type Rating ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-18, Balloon Private ACS

Airman Certification Standards (ACS) Revision Update

ACSs scheduled for release in June 2019:

The following ACSs are currently being updated to standardize terminology:

- FAA-S-ACS-6B, Private Pilot Airplane ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-7A, Commercial Pilot Airplane ACS
- FAA-S-ACS-8B, Instrument Rating ACS
Knowledge Test Management Services

For more information, click here.

For questions regarding the Airman Certificate Testing Service (ACTS), email airmanknowledgetesting@faa.gov.

Airman Knowledge Testing Supplements (CT-8080 series)

Airman Knowledge Test Supplement effective June 2019:

- FAA-CT-8080-7D, Airman Knowledge Test Supplement for Airline Transport Pilot and Aircraft Dispatcher
  - Published to FAA.gov on 3/5/2019, with an effective date of 6/28/2019

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 scheduled for release in September 2019:

- FAA-H-8083-9, Aviation Instructor Handbook

FAA Airman Knowledge Tests

General Information Applicable to Pilot Knowledge Test Banks

- 14 CFR part 48 updates have been made to the applicable airman knowledge tests and guidance.
- All questions referencing 121.5 MHz Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs) were removed from all airman knowledge tests.
- All questions referencing NOTAMs being available in Notice to Airmen Publication (NTAP) were removed from all airman knowledge tests. The Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge (PHAK) will reflect NOTAMs no longer being available in NTAP at its next publication.

Changes Applicable to the Airline Transport Pilot – Airplane Knowledge Tests

- Airline Transport Pilot Airplane knowledge test questions for Multiengine Airplane, Single-Engine Airplane, Multiengine Airplane Canadian Conversion, and Single-Engine Airplane Canadian Conversion, have been revised to align with the FAA-S-ACS-11, Airline Transport Pilot and Type Rating for Airplane Airman Certification Standards (ACS) (effective June 28, 2019) and FAA-CT-8080-7D, Airman Knowledge Testing Supplement for Airline Transport Pilot and Aircraft Dispatcher (effective June 28, 2019.)
• The Airline Transport Pilot Multiengine Airplane and Multiengine Canadian Conversion knowledge tests were updated to include 14 CFR part 61, section 61.156 aeronautical knowledge areas.

Changes Applicable to the Airline Transport Pilot – Helicopter Knowledge Tests

• The Airline Transport Pilot Helicopter knowledge test questions for Helicopter (135), Added Rating (135), and Canadian Conversion have been revised to align with the FAA-CT-8080-7D, Airman Knowledge Test Supplement for Airline Transport Pilot and Aircraft Dispatcher (effective June 28, 2019.)

Changes Applicable to the Aircraft Dispatcher Knowledge Tests

• Removed questions which are no longer supported by the knowledge testing supplement version FAA-CT-8080-7D.
• Removed questions regarding the following:
  o Calculating maximum allowable weight that may be carried on a pallet based on floor loading limitations.
  o Calculating minimum floor loading limits required to carry a pallet based on dimensions and weight.
  o Increased approach minimums for PICs with less than 100 hours PIC flight time.
  o Pilot reporting requirements to ATC for equipment failures in-flight.
  o Pilot proficiency check requirements.
  o CAT II approach limitations removal for pilots.
  o Pilot medical certificate requirements for taking practical tests.
  o 14 CFR part 91 requirement for turbine-powered and large airplanes to climb as rapidly as possible to 1,500 feet AGL.
  o HIWAS.
  o Aircraft instrument errors caused by a blocked static port or pitot tube.
  o Erroneous barometric altimeter indications due to incorrect pressure settings.
  o Calculating Weight and balance to determine percent MAC or weight shift CG change, and associated stab trim settings.
  o Collision avoidance responsibility in MOAs.
  o Determining in-flight airframe ice accretion by flight deck observation.
  o Pilot taxi procedures based on ATC instructions, and airport signs or markings.
  o Minimum glycol content required for type 2 deice/anti-icing fluid.
  o VASI indications a seen by pilots.
  o Hyperventilation.
  o Navigation indications as viewed by pilots during flight.
  o Visual Descent Point (VDP).
  o In-flight engine power settings (EPR, N1).
  o Off-route obstacle clearance altitude.
  o The determination of brake energy limits.
  o ETOPS.
General Information Applicable to Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) Knowledge Test Banks

- There have been no AMT question subject areas added or removed from the AMT item bank.
- All changes to date have been editorial for grammar and statistical performance.

Parachute Rigger Knowledge Test Banks

- All questions referencing the term “flight path angle” have been removed from all Parachute Riggers Test (RIG) test and replaced with like questions from the topic Parachute Operation/Care.

For previous versions of the What’s New and Upcoming in Airman Testing, visit the Archives page.