



October 2023 Edition

The Airman Testing Community Advisory is produced by the Airman Testing Standards Branch, the FAA office responsible for practical test and airman certification standards, certification testing programs, and supporting reference materials. The intent of this advisory is to provide an additional method of change management communication to our stakeholders and support efforts to ensure training and testing remain correlated for an effective certification process.

Stakeholder Communications

We have an established process for providing timely responses to stakeholder inquiries and feedback. You are encouraged to submit questions and comments, regarding any of our products and services, to afs630comments@faa.gov.

Mechanic Standards and Testing Update

Knowledge Testing

Effective August 1, 2023:

14 CFR part 65 requires [FAA-S-ACS-1, Aviation Mechanic General, Airframe, and Powerplant Airman Standards](#), to be used as the standard for testing mechanic applicants. [FAA-S-8081-26B, Aviation Mechanic General, Airframe, and Powerplant Practical Test Standards](#), are no longer used as the standard for testing mechanic applicants.

ACS Codes are now the basis for providing feedback, on Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) Airman Knowledge Test Reports (AKTRs), for missed knowledge test questions. However, Aviation Mechanic Learning Statement Codes (LSCs) may still be utilized as feedback for questions missed on AMT-General, Airframe, and Powerplant knowledge tests administered **prior to** August 1, 2023.

An updated [Learning Statement Reference Guide](#) is available on the [Airman Testing Website](#).

Oral and Practical (O&P) Testing

As the new part 65 and 147 rules went into effect on August 1, 2023, the [Airman Testing Website](#) is updated with information and resources for Designated Mechanic Examiners (DMEs), mechanic applicants, and managing specialists, including links for DME training, a sample test, and frequently asked questions (FAQs).

As a reminder, effective August 1, 2023:

- Tests previously downloaded from the Designee Registration System (DRS) are no longer valid.
- DMEs are no longer able to download tests from the DRS.
- DMEs must use the new Mechanic Test Generator (MTG) application to access test resources and should continue to post-test results for mechanic applicants.

You are encouraged to submit questions and comments regarding the new MTG to 9-AVS-Mechanic-Test-Generator@faa.gov.

Test Question Changes

We have made the following term changes:

- Changed *cockpit* to *flight deck* (pilot tests).
- Changed *disk* to *disc* (pilot and mechanic tests).
- Change *fuel/air* to *air-fuel* (pilot and mechanic tests).

Learning Statement Codes

An updated version of the Learning Statement Reference Guide for Airman Knowledge Testing, effective 8/1/23, is available at this link [Learning Statement Codes](#).

Airman Knowledge Testing Matrix

The current version of the Matrix is available at this link [Knowledge Testing Authorization Requirements Matrix \(faa.gov\)](#).

Airman Knowledge Test Statistics

- The 2023 1st Quarter Statistics for School Norms vs. National Norms are available at this link [1 Qtr 8080-08 School Norms vs National Passing Norms.xlsx \(faa.gov\)](#).
- The 2022 4th Quarter Statistics for School Norms vs. National Norms are available at this link [4-qtr-8080-08-school-norms-vs-national-passing](#).
- The CY 2022 Airman Knowledge Test statistics are available at this link [Airmen Knowledge Test Statistics](#).

Incorporation by Reference (IBR) and Ex Parte

We are now publishing updates for the PTS and ACS through a rulemaking process called Incorporation by Reference (IBR). You can learn more about this by visiting this link [Office of the Federal Regulations \(OFR\), Incorporation by Reference in the CFR](#). As a result, some communications and information are restricted, once this rulemaking process begins; this is called Ex Parte.

Visit the Department of Transportation's (DOT) [Guidance on Ex Parte Communications](#) webpage for additional information.

Handbooks Update

AFS-630 is revisiting our internal processes for development and maintenance of handbooks. The primary driver for this assessment is the need to seek programmatic efficiencies and gain agility in keeping pace with advancements in aviation safety and technologies. Regarding handbook content, we absolutely value and will continue to rely upon our established partnerships with the aviation community. As our processes evolve, we will ensure we communicate effectively with our FAA and community partners.

With that said, following, and subject to change, are our planned priorities for publication in 2024:

- FAA-H-8083-13A, Glider Flying Handbook
- FAA-H-8083-15B, Instrument Flying Handbook
- FAA-H-8083-25C, Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge (Major revision)
- FAA-H-8083-30B, Aviation Maintenance Technician Handbook – General (Major revision)

Airman Knowledge Testing Supplements

There will be no [supplement](#) revisions in 2023.