

FAA Certification Regulations

INSTRUMENT RATING Aircraft

I. Eligibility

- A. Must hold at least a current private pilot certificate appropriate to instrument rating sought
- B. Fluent in English (read, speak, write and understand)
- C. Receive training and a log book endorsement from an authorized instructor or home-study for aeronautical knowledge
- D. Pass required knowledge tests on aeronautical knowledge areas 61.65(b)
- E. Receive flight training and logbook endorsement from an authorized instructor for practical test
- F. Meet aeronautical experience requirements before applying for practical test
- G. Pass practical test on areas 61.65(c)
- H. The following must apply to the aircraft category and rating sought

II. Aeronautical Knowledge (61.65 b)

A person applying for instrument rating must receive and log ground training from an authorized instructor or complete a home-study course on the aeronautical knowledge areas that apply to the aircraft category (ie: single-engine or multiengine aircraft) and class rating sought.

- A. Federal Aviation Regulations of Chapter 61.65 that apply to flight operations under IFR.
- B. Appropriate information that applies to flight operations under IFR in the "Aeronautical Information Manual."
- C. Air traffic control system and procedures for instrument flight operations
- D. IFR navigation and approaches by use of navigation systems
- E. Use of IFR en route and instrument approach procedure charts
- F. Procurement and use of aviation weather reports and forecasts and the elements of forecasting weather trends based on that information and personal observation of weather conditions
- G. Safe and efficient operation of aircraft under instrument flight rules and conditions
- H. Recognition of critical weather situations and wind shear avoidance
- I. Aeronautical decision making and judgment
- J. Crew resource management including crew communication and coordination.

III. Flight Proficiency (61.65 c)

- A. Preflight preparations
- B. Preflight procedures
- C. Air traffic control clearances and procedures
- D. Flight by reference to instruments
- E. Navigation systems
- F. Instrument approach procedures
- G. Emergency operations
- H. Post flight procedures

IV. Aeronautical Experience – 90 hours minimum (must be performed in the aircraft category for which rating is sought)

- A. At least 50 hours cross country
 - 1. 10 hours must be in airplanes for an instrument airplane rating
- B. A total of 40 hours of actual or simulated instrument time on the areas of operation to include:
 - 1. 15 hours from authorized instructor in the aircraft category for which the instrument rating is sought.
 - 2. 3 hours of instrument training in preparation for the practical test within the 60 days preceding the date of test.
 - 3. Instrument training on cross-country flight procedures specific to airplanes that includes at least one cross-country flight in IFR conditions and consists of
 - a. Distance of at least 250 nautical miles along airways or ATC-directed routing
 - b. An instrument approach at each airport
 - c. 3 different kinds of approaches with the use of navigation systems