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REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUE OF STUDENT PILOT AUTHORIZATIONS

PURPOSE

This Aeronautical Information Circular (AIC) gives you information and guidance on the process that all persons must follow when applying to the Belize Department of Civil Aviation (BDCA) Licensing Unit for a student pilot authorization or student pilot solo endorsement. Authorizations to act as student pilots will be issued on a temporary basis and will be replaced by the student pilot licenses when applicable legislation permits. Notwithstanding, authorizations issued in place of student pilot licenses will be valid for a period of 12 months unless previously revoked.

This AIC is mandatory and prescribes an acceptable means of compliance to the requirements for the issue of a Belize student pilot authorization, a student pilot solo endorsement or a solo cross country flight endorsement.

General Applicability

This AIC prescribes rules governing the application to obtain and the requirements for the issue of a Belize student pilot authorization.

Definitions

For the purposes of this AIC:

- A. A student pilot** is: an individual who is learning to fly under the tutelage of a certified, current and approved [flight instructor](#); and who is permitted to fly alone under specific, limited circumstances.
- B. A student pilot authorization** is the document issued by the BDCA which grants the holder the privilege to train both before and after the first solo flight in a powered aircraft under the direct supervision and tutelage of a certified and current flight instructor who is approved by the BDCA.

1. Student Pilot authorization requirements.

A person wishing to apply for a student pilot authorization shall:

- (a)** Apply to the Director in the prescribed form BDCA Form APL 001(b);
- (b)** Be at least 17 years of age;
- (d)** Be able to read, speak, write and understand the English Language
- (e)** Be the holder, at all times, of a valid Class 1 or 2 Belize Medical Certificate endorsed by a Belizean Authorized Medical Examiner (AME).
- (f)** Take a photo at the Licensing Unit.
- (g)** Be a Belizean and present a valid Belizean Passport or Social Security card.
- (h)** Pay the applicable fee for an authorization according to the scheme of charges.

2. Validity of a student pilot authorization and renewal of authorization.

A student pilot authorization is issued in accordance with this AIC, shall expire at the end of the last day of the 12th month from the date of the medical examination shown on the medical certificate or the last day of the 12th month from the date of issue of the authorization or whichever comes first, for operations requiring a student pilot authorization.

An applicant may apply for a renewal of his/ her authorization if it is realized that his/her training will not be completed before the expiry date. The applicant may apply for renewal of his/her authorization at the Licensing Unit by presenting his medical certificate, present his logbook with proof of training, filling out the application form and paying the applicable fee.

3. Aeronautical Knowledge Test requirements.

A student pilot shall, in order to operate an aircraft in solo flight, satisfactorily pass an aeronautical knowledge test administered by the BDCA in the following areas:

- (a)** Air law;
- (b)** Airspace rules and procedures for the aerodrome where the student pilot will perform solo flight; and
- (c)** Flight characteristics and operational limitations for the make and model of aircraft to be flown.
- (d)** Meteorology.

4. Solo and solo cross country requirements for student pilot.

A student pilot shall not operate an aircraft in solo flight nor cross country solo flight unless he/she has met all the requirements of paragraphs 5 and 7 respectively, of this AIC.

Authority to conduct solo flight.

5. Student pilot solo flight

Prior to conducting a solo flight, a student pilot shall:

Comply with all the requirements to carry out solo flights that are mentioned below:

Where the student pilot:

- (a) Passes the aeronautical knowledge test mentioned at # 3 of this circular; and
- (b) Receives and logs flight training, within 90 days preceding the date of the solo flight, for the maneuvers and procedures appropriate to the make and model of aircraft to be flown; and
- (c) Receives an endorsement in his logbook that he has demonstrated satisfactory proficiency and safety, as judged by a certified, current and approved flight instructor, on the maneuvers and procedures required in the make and model of aircraft or similar make and model of aircraft to be flown. This endorsement shall have been received within the preceding 6 months of the applicants intended date to conduct solo flight.
- (d) Meets the requirements of a student pilot authorization, the Director may endorse such student pilot to conduct a solo flight. This endorsement shall be placed on the applicant`s student pilot authorization.

Student pilot night solo

No student pilot shall operate an aircraft in solo flight at night unless the student pilot has received:

- (a) Flight training at night that includes takeoffs, approaches, landings, and go-arounds at night at the aerodrome where the student pilot intends to conduct the solo flight;
- (b) Navigation training at night in the vicinity of the aerodrome where the student pilot intends to conduct the solo flight; and
- (c) An endorsement in his/her logbook from a certified, current and approved [flight instructor](#) to conduct night solo flight.

6. General limitations of a student pilot authorization.

1. No student pilot shall act as pilot in command of an aircraft

(a) That is:

- (i) Carrying a passenger (s);
- (ii) Carrying property for compensation or hire;
- (iii) operated for compensation or hire;

(b) In furtherance of a business;

(c) On an international flight;

(d) With a flight visibility of less than 3 nautical miles during daylight hours or 5 nautical miles at night;

(e) When the flight cannot be made with visual reference to the surface; or

(f) In a manner contrary to any of the limitations placed in the logbook of the student pilot by a certified, current and approved flight instructor.

7. Requirements for student pilot performing solo cross country flight.

A student pilot who seeks solo cross-country flight privileges shall meet all the following requirements.

A student pilot may make solo flights to another aerodrome that is within 25 nautical miles from the aerodrome where he/she normally receives training only after:

- (a) The authorized flight instructor who makes the endorsement gives the student pilot flight training at the other aerodrome, and that training included flight in both directions

over the route, entering and exiting the traffic pattern, and takeoffs and landings at the other aerodrome;

(b) The student pilot has a current solo flight endorsement and a current cross country solo flight endorsement from a certified, current and approved flight instructor;

(c) The authorized flight instructor has determined that the student pilot is proficient to make the flight;

(d) The purpose of the flight is to practice takeoffs and landings at that other aerodrome.

(e) A student pilot, may make repeated specific solo cross-country flights to another aerodrome that is within 50 nautical miles of the aerodrome from which the flight originated, provided that:

(i) The flight instructor who gave the endorsement, gave the student pilot flight training in both directions over the route, including entering and exiting the traffic patterns, takeoffs and landings at the aerodrome to be used;

(ii) The student pilot has both a current solo flight endorsement and a current solo cross country endorsement from a certified, current and approved flight instructor; and

(f) A student pilot shall have for each make and model aircraft which he/she will fly on each cross-country flight, a solo cross-country endorsement placed in his logbook by the certified, current and approved flight instructor who conducted the training.

8. Waivers

No person may conduct operations that require a deviation from this AIC.

END