

FAA Medical Certificate Comparison

BASIC MEDICAL

Alternative method for pilots to fly without holding an FAA medical certificate. Has limitations and you can not fly for compensation.



REQUIREMENTS

Possess a U.S. driver's license; have valid FAA medical after July 14, 2006; Complete the FAA online medical self-assessment course



SPECIAL ISSUANCE

Certain cardiovascular, neurological and mental health disorders require a special issuance certificate. Must certify every 2 years that you are under care for that issue.



LIMITATIONS

Cannot carry more than 5 passengers; Must operate less than 18,000 ft MSL, not exceeding 250 knots; No flying for compensation; Max aircraft certified takeoff weight of <6,000 pounds.



DURATION

State-licensed medical exam every 4 years; Medical self-Assessment Course every 2 years

RECREATIONAL PILOT

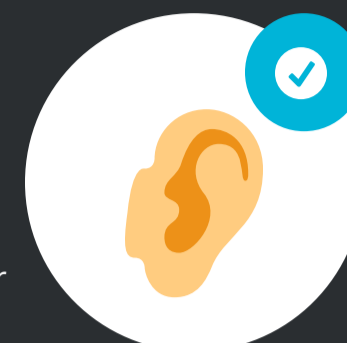
FIRST CLASS MEDICAL

Required for pilots who exercise airline transport pilot (ATP) privileges (those flying scheduled airliners) and other pilots whose employers require this level of medical certification.



VISION

Distant: 20/20 in each eye, with or without correction
Intermediate: 50 yrs and older 20/40 with or without correction
Near: 20/40 in each eye, with or without correction



HEARING

Conversational voice at 6 feet with both ears, or audiometry



HEALTH

Blood pressure guideline max 155/95. EKG required at 35. No diseases causing vertigo, speech or equilibrium issues.



DURATION

6 months if age 40 or older; 12 months if under age 40

AIRLINE PILOT

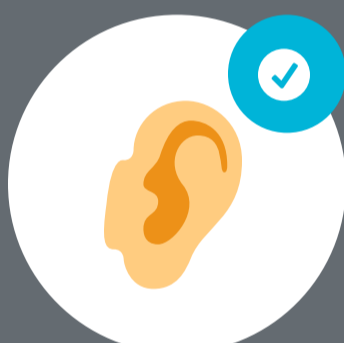
SECOND CLASS MEDICAL

Required for pilots who fly commercially (operations like crop dusting, delivering canceled checks, or carrying passengers or cargo for hire).



VISION

Distant: 20/20 in each eye, with or without correction
Intermediate: 50 yrs and older 20/40 with or without correction
Near: 20/40 in each eye, with or without correction



HEARING

Conversational voice at 6 feet with both ears, or audiometry



HEALTH

Blood pressure guideline max 155/95. No diseases causing vertigo, speech or equilibrium issues.



DURATION

12 months

COMMERCIAL PILOT

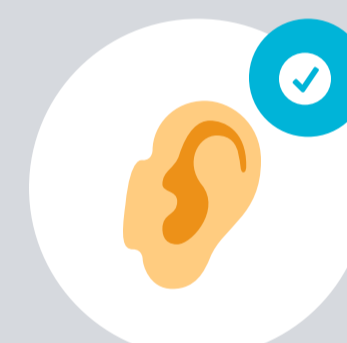
THIRD CLASS MEDICAL

Best for student pilots, recreational pilots and private pilots that fly for pleasure/personal business.



VISION

Distant: 20/40 in each eye, with or without correction
Intermediate: NA
Near: 20/40 in each eye, with or without correction



HEARING

Conversational voice at 6 feet with both ears, or audiometry



HEALTH

Blood pressure guideline max 155/95. No diseases causing vertigo, speech or equilibrium issues.



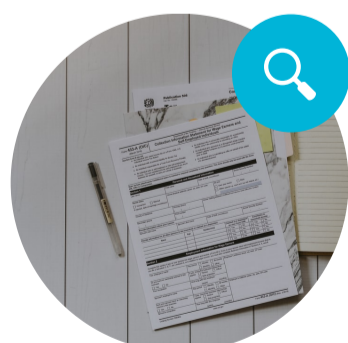
DURATION

2 years if age 40 or older; 5 years if less than 40 at exam

STUDENT/PRIVATE PILOT

GETTING YOUR BASIC MED

Please note these steps are only valid for Basic Medical. First, Second & Third Class Medical Certificates follow the process below.



1. GET THE FORM

Complete the individual section of the FAA Medical Exam Checklist



2. SEE YOUR DOCTOR

Take your BasicMed Exam Checklist to your doctor and get a physical exam.



3. TAKE THE COURSE

Complete the online medical self-assessment course and quiz.



4. FILE DOCUMENTS

Print the course completion certificate and keep it with your exam checklist and logbook.

GETTING YOUR MEDICAL

Please note these steps are valid for First, Second & Third Class Medical Certificates. Basic Medical follows a different process.



1. LOCATE AN FAA AME

Find and contact an FAA AME of your choosing. The FAA has an online directory.



2. SCHEDULE AN EXAM

Schedule an appointment with your selected AME.



3. MEDXPRESS FORM

Complete the online FAA application form via MedXpress.



4. COMPLETE EXAM

Undergo your exam by an AME. If you pass, the AME will issue you a certificate.