Welcome to the AOPA Foundation
FLIGHT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP CLINIC
Welcome

• What?
  • A one-hour dive into the AOPA Foundation Flight Training Scholarships, funded by the James C. Ray Foundation, and preparation for the FAA private pilot written test

• Why?
  • To help you navigate the application process and to study for—and pass—the FAA written test

• Who?
  • High school students applying for one of 80, $10,000 scholarships
  • High school teachers applying for one of 20, $10,000 scholarships
  • Prior scholarship winners who are getting ready to take the FAA written test

• This presentation is being recorded!

• Please use the chat to send us your name, email address and if student or teacher, so we can send you the link to the recording and a PDF of this presentation:
  
  Steve Bateman, Teacher, steve.bateman@aopa.org
Your Presenters

TAZ THOMAS
Manager,
Scholarship Programs

THOMAS EATON
Coordinator,
High School Initiative
PPL-I, AGI

DREW MYERS
Manager,
Flying Clubs Initiative
PPL-I, AGI

STEVE BATEMAN
Director,
Flying Clubs Initiative
CFI, AGI, IGI, LSRM

DONNIE MACKAY
Senior Manager
Rusty Pilots Initiative
PPL
GtM Controls

• You can use the chat bubble to ask questions

• If you can’t hear us, check your audio settings

• Please MUTE unless you want to ask a question during Q&A
Overview

• So, why are we here?
  • Help you navigate the application process
  • Tips for studying for the FAA written test
  • Key points for scheduling and taking the test
  • You can do this...you are not alone...

• Scholarship Application Process
• Intro to the FAA Knowledge Test
• Study Methods
• Schedule the Test
• What to Expect on Test Day
• Taking the Test
• Ask Us Anything
• A Challenge
• Conclusion
AOPA Foundation Flight Training Program

Application Link:

https://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/students/flight-training-scholarships

• One general application—after you create a profile
• One scholarship application, based on your profile
  • You may be eligible to apply for more than one!
• Multiple scholarship eligibility! $$$

Application Deadline:
February 11th, 2022
AOPA Foundation Flight Training Program

Scholarship Application:

- Four Essay Questions
- High School Transcript
- Verification of Employment
  - For teacher applicants
- Two References
AOPA Foundation Flight Training Program

References

• References will be sent an email from the scholarship portal

• If applying for two scholarship categories, four recommendations must be submitted

• Recommendations will not be accepted via email
Introduction to the Knowledge Test

• The specs:
  • 60 questions
  • 2.5 hours
  • 70% to pass

• Now is the time to get serious!
  • Application deadline is 3 weeks away
  • Prepare now to reap the reward and then jump right into flight training

• What's the point of the written exam?
  • To give you confidence in the aeronautical knowledge needed for the flight training
  • By passing the written test, you are well on the way to becoming a pilot!
Study Tips

• Set aside some time every day to study for the knowledge test
  • Pick one topic, focus on it and repeat. Doing full 60 question practice tests over and over may become overwhelming

• Once you get through each subject, begin taking practice tests
  • Review missed answers and revisit subjects that need improvement

• The short term goal
  • Get the money!!!!

  • Get the test passed now to be eligible for a scholarship, then worry about filling in knowledge gaps later down the road

  • You'll have plenty of time to study and revisit missed questions before your practical test

  • Test performance is not a predictor of your piloting skills/checkride performance
Study Tips - Breakdown of the test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge Areas</th>
<th>Number of Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulations</td>
<td>3 – 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accident Reporting</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Charts</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio Communications</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe and Efficient Operations</td>
<td>3 – 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density Altitude Performance</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight and Balance</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerodynamics, Powerplants, and Aircraft Systems</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalls and Spins</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aeronautical Decision-Making (ADM)</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preflight actions</td>
<td>3 – 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Private Pilot Institute
Online Resources—FREE

- **Sporty's Study Buddy**
  - Lets you pick subjects to study
  - Flashcards + more features behind paywall
- **King Schools**
  - Lets you pick subjects to study
  - Flashcards + more features behind paywall

- Other... a quick Google search will turn up plenty of practice tests
  - Caution: May have outdated or erroneous questions

- You will need your own endorsement if using free resources
  - Print your results to show to a ground instructor or CFI for endorsement
Online Resources—PAID

• Don't purchase a full ground school course...
  • Instead, buy focused software to get ready for the test...Test Prep Software!

• ASA Prepware
  • $19.95 eBook includes 5 practice tests
  • Simulates testing software and includes test supplement
  • Two practice tests above 80% will earn an endorsement

• Gleim Online Test Prep
  • $59.95 for online/app-based test prep
  • Provides endorsement after completing every question correctly
FAA Resources

- Testing supplement
  - Contains the charts and figures you will reference while taking the test
  - Familiarize yourself, but be careful of scale if you print it out beforehand
  - **Hint:** The legends section contains a bunch of great info—open book test!

- FAR/AIM (Federal Aviation Regulations and Aeronautical Information Manual)
  - The "rulebook" (FAR) and “the aviators’ encyclopedia” (AIM)

- Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge
  - Abundant source of information, many study materials reference this publication. Good pictures, too!
The FAA Private Pilot Knowledge Test—Doing it!

• Scheduling the test
  • FTN number
  • Tests are booked using PSI
  • Pay when you schedule

• The test location

• What to take to the test (and what not to take to the test)

• Sitting the test—what to expect

• What’s next?

• Remember—a copy of these slides is available, as is a recording of this presentation
Schedule Your Test

- Schedule the test, now!
- Gives you a target date for studying
- Allows you to “peak” for the test
- Oh, right...doesn’t have to be on Feb 3rd!
How To Schedule Your Test

• Information about FAA testing can be found here:
  • https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/

• Lots of useful material to help you prepare for and schedule a test

• All FAA knowledge tests are scheduled using the PSI website
  • Click here to go to the website
  • https://faa.psiexams.com/FAA/login

• Or go directly to the FAA part of the website:
  • https://faa.psiexams.com/FAA/login
Navigating PSI

- FAA-specific page on PSI site
- Note the tabs...
  - Practice exams, Find Test Center, FAQ...
- Test Authorization Requirements Matrix
- You’ll need to set up an account...
- ...which needs an FAA Tracking Number (FTN)
• Read pages 1-4, 13 – we’ll refer to it again, later

• You need a Federal Tracking Number (FTN)
• This is used when scheduling a test
• Stays with you for all subsequent tests

• Click on the link…
  • https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/Default.aspx

• Create an IACRA* profile PRIOR to scheduling the first test!
• FTN number will be on the test report (results)
• You’ll also use IACRA for your flight test

* Integrated Airman Certification and Rating Application System
New IACRA Profile

- Click on Register

- You are applying as an Applicant
- Agree to the TOS and follow instructions
- Record your FTN and log-in info
Test Application

• Now go back to the PSI website
  • [https://faa.psiexams.com/FAA/login](https://faa.psiexams.com/FAA/login)

• Log-in and go to the SELECT tab

• Search for and select Private Pilot Airplane (PAR)

• On the ACTIVE tab, click on RECORD EXAM DATA

• Complete the form
  • Part 141 school vs. Other
  • Self study/online course
  • Print out practice exams and/or course completion certificate

• You need an endorsement from an instructor…
Endorsement

- The Testing Matrix page-13 tells all...

A written statement or logbook endorsement from an authorized ground or flight instructor certifying that the applicant completed an applicable ground training or home study course and is prepared for the knowledge test as per (14 CFR § 61.35,) and 61.103(d)(2)).

- Endorsement from an instructor...

I certify that [First name, MI, Last name] has received the required training in accordance with § 61.105. I have determined [he or she] is prepared for the knowledge test.
Schedule the Test

• Enter location information (zip and distance)

• Select a date range

• Select your choice of test station location
  • Note just the closest...selection of convenient appointments

• Pay the fee ($175)

• Print out the instructions to take to the test station
What to Take to the Test Station...

• Reread the Test Authorization Matrix, page-1

• You’ll need to show:
  • Test booking confirmation
  • Photo ID with name, address, DoB, signature
  • Instructor’s endorsement
  • Suggest you take two forms of ID...

• You’ll be taking test PAR...
  • 60 questions, multiple choice
  • At least age 15 years old
  • 2.5 hours
  • Passing score = 70%

• Arrive 15-minutes earlier than the test time
  • Paperwork to get done before the starting the test
What You Can Take In

- Calculator
  - Non-storage
- E6B
  - Mechanical
  - Electronic
- Plotter
What You Can’t Take In

- Electronic devices other than calculator
  - Note that the test computer system does incorporate a “calculator” which can be quite useful

- Books, notes, maps...

- Your own test supplement
  - One will be provided
  - The test system will be able to show all required figures and legends

- Study hint: Study all the legends in the supplement...contains many answers if you know where to look!
  - https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/supplements/
What You Can’t Take In

- **Scratch paper**—ask up front for at least 5 sheets
  - You’ll be required to return all sheets at the end of the test

- **Pens, pencils, erasers**
  - You will need/want to scribble/calculate so ask for these

\[
\text{Fuel burn} = 10 \text{ GPH} \\
\text{Ground speed} = 90 \text{kts} \approx 1 \frac{1}{8} \text{ nm per min} \\
\text{Distance} = 60 \text{ nm} \\
\text{Time} = \frac{60}{1.125} = 40 \text{ min} \\
\text{Fuel used} = 10 \times \frac{40}{60} = 6.7 \text{ gallons}
\]
What To Expect…

- A typical screened computer cubicle farm
- Proctor will explain what to do...
- Cameras are watching you...
- You’ll need to confirm your details and the test code (PAR)
- An online “tutorial” that explains the computer system—do it!
  - The clock hasn’t yet started ticking!
- Understand how to access the figures and calculator—part of the tutorial
- Understand how to “flag” and skip a question for later
- Understand how to end and submit the test
- It is not a competition
  - Use the whole 2.5 hours
  - There will always be something you want to revisit or check
What To Do On Test Day

- Get there early—at least 15-minutes
- Leave personal stuff in the car (there may be a locker)
- No phones (I know, right?)
- Be polite and courteous
- Obey the proctors (smile and wave, as necessary)

1. Read the question
2. Formulate an answer before looking at the options
3. Beware of distractors
4. Don’t be not watching for double negatives
5. False positives...uses the right words but wrong context/order
6. Read each choice—match to your formulation
7. Decide on the best match, but review the other choices to understand elimination
8. Skip over (“flag”) questions that will eat time
9. You will finish with time in hand—so go back and review
10. You’ll get a test report, with codes for any incorrect answers
What’s next...?

• Once you’ve passed your knowledge test, update your application
• Review your application...........several times!
• Scholarship decisions will be sent by email in late May
"Study Session"
Ask Us Anything
The Challenge

• Your mission...should you choose to accept it, is...
  • Schedule your written exam, tonight
  • Let us know...so we can cheer you on!

• Don't forget
  • Once you pass the exam, add your results to your application
  • Could open-up additional scholarship opportunities

• Reminder: Please use the chat to send us your name, email address and if student or teacher, so we can send you the link to the recording and a PDF of this presentation:
  Steve Bateman, Teacher, steve.bateman@aopa.org
Don’t Be Shy...

• Taz Thomas: taz.thomas@aopa.org
• Steve Bateman: steve.bateman@aopa.org
• Thomas Eaton: thomas.eaton@aopa.org
• Drew Myers: drew.myers@aopa.org