



Greenwood Lake Airport  
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## **First Steps as a Student Pilot**

### **What are the requirements to become a private pilot?**

- Be 17 years of age, but training may start at any age (you can solo at 16).
- Pass an FAA Third Class Medical exam.
- Complete a minimum of 35 hours of flight time (national average is 60 to 70 hours).
- Complete the Jeppesen Private Pilot Curriculum.
- Pass the FAA Private Pilot Knowledge Test and the Practical (Flight) Test.

### **How and where can I get a Medical and Student Pilot Certificate?**

An aviation medical examiner (AME) typically gives you a student pilot certificate to fill out as part of the third class medical exam. We can refer you to a local AME, or you can find an examiner online at [faa.gov/licenses\\_certificates/medical\\_certification/](http://faa.gov/licenses_certificates/medical_certification/). A student pilot certificate is valid for the duration of your third class medical - 60 months for student pilots under age 40, and 24 months for student pilots age 40 or older. We recommend that students get the medical certificate early on in the training process. You will want to ensure that you meet the medical requirements before investing in flight training.

### **How much does it cost to learn to fly and get a pilot certificate?**

There are a lot of variables that affect the cost of learning to fly, including the frequency of flight lessons and each individual's aptitude. The good news is that you only pay as you go, there are no large lump sums required. If you do choose to put money on account at Sky Training LLC you will receive a discount on the aircraft rental!

### **How long does it take to learn to fly and get a pilot certificate?**

The same variables that affect the cost of learning to fly will affect the time it takes to earn your certificate. The FAA has established the minimum number of flight hours needed to obtain a certificate. Under Part 141 of the federal aviation regulations, the minimum is 35 hours for a private pilot certificate. The national average is about 60 hours. Some of that time will be spent with an instructor, but you will also be flying solo as you progress through the curriculum.

### **How old is too old to begin flying lessons?**

Say "student pilot," and most people think of a youngster chasing a dream. In reality, today's fledgling is likely a middle-aged adult who's not only chasing, but actually fulfilling, a lifelong ambition to be a pilot. The average student pilot today is in their 30s, and the typical average active pilot is a decade older. In addition, more than 25 percent of all U.S. pilots with current medical certificates are in their 50s. And some pilots learn to fly after they retire.

### **How often should I fly?**

The more often you fly, the faster you'll earn your license. Flying frequently avoids having to review previously learned skills that become "rusty" through lack of practice. We recommend taking lessons at least twice week until you solo and one lesson per week thereafter, but your training can be tailored to suit any budget or schedule.

## **What special skills are needed for all this?**

Learning to fly, while challenging, does not require any special skills or ability other than a strong desire to do it. If you have the motivation to learn, then you are ready to begin flying. Flying does not involve math skills beyond basic high school math.

## **What can I do as a private pilot?**

You may carry passengers (but not get paid for it) in a single engine airplane, day or night, in visual flying conditions. An airplane allows you to turn weekends into full, two-day vacations, eliminating long car rides and traffic jams.

Learning to fly will be one of the most enjoyable experiences of your life. Training to become a pilot is a challenging but realistic goal. People of all walks of life have become pilots, and their accomplishment sets them apart from others. Learning to fly can lead you to new social and career opportunities or even a new career path. But most importantly, flying is FUN! Find out for yourself!

## **Ok, I'm ready to get started! What's next?**

Schedule your first lesson with one of our instructors! Your first lesson will consist of learning more about the training process, the aircraft you will be flying, and of course getting in the air and taking the controls!

In order to get the most out of your training dollars you will want to purchase the **Jeppesen Private Pilot Kit**. This kit contains most everything you will need to complete your training, and comes from an industry leader in Pilot Training. The kit contains:

<b>Private Pilot Maneuvers Manual</b>	<b>Private Pilot FAA Exam Package</b>
<b>Private Pilot Syllabus</b>	<b>Metal Slide-Graphic Computer (E6B)</b>
<b>Private Pilot Stage Exam Booklet</b>	<b>PN-1 Navigation Plotter</b>
<b>Private Pilot Record Folder</b>	<b>Pilot Logbook</b>
<b>Private Pilot FAA Practical Test Guide</b>	<b>FAR/AIM Manual – Paper</b>
<b>Private Pilot Airmen Knowledge Guide</b>	<b>Student Kit Bag</b>
<b>Pre-Solo Written Exam</b>	

**Headsets** – Initially we will provide loaner headsets but you are expected within the first few lessons to purchase your own.

## **Scheduling**

We are open 7 days a week, so you can fly when the time is right for you! We encourage students to fly as often as possible, especially in the early stages. Of course weather is always a concern, but even if the weather is not favorable for a flight lesson you are encouraged to come in and do ground school sessions with your instructor. Besides the 35 hours of flight time, you are required to do 35 hours of ground school time as well. This ground school time is very beneficial, and is an important part of the training process.

We also have a set of DVDs that you can come and watch anytime free of charge, and the time spent watching these will go towards your ground school requirements. Many folks learn best visually, and the DVDs will work hand in hand with the textbook and associated materials to help you conquer the concepts of flight! Besides, you get to watch them while relaxing in the "Connie", what better place to learn about flight!

## **Cancellation Policy**

Sky Training LLC will work with you on scheduling issues, and we try to accommodate everyone's needs. We do ask that if you need to cancel a lesson that you give us 24 hours notice on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends.