



Private Pilot Summary Syllabus

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This syllabus is not an exhaustive work, but instead provided to help you understand your journey in an efficient and logical manner with the end result meeting all requirements to scheduling your Private Pilot checkride. This syllabus used in conjunction with written materials such as “The Complete Private Pilot” and “The Airplane Flying Handbook” helps meet the knowledge and experience requirements of FAA Part 61 training. At the discretion of your instructor, all training will vary due to factors such as scheduling, weather, aircraft availability and the condition of the student. Depending on the student’s learning practices, the instructor may decide to rearrange objectives in an effort to maximize learning potential. Above all, safety will be accounted for in all training situations.

ENROLLMENT PREREQUISITES

The candidate student must be able to read, speak, write and understand the English language and meet the physical standards for a third-class medical certificate prior to beginning training. Upon the student’s first lesson, a driver’s license and birth certificate or passport must be presented. Once training has begun, the student must possess a valid student pilot certificate and a third-class medical certificate prior to the student’s first solo flight. Students must be 16 years old to solo and 17 years old to earn a private pilot certificate.

TIMELINE

The most frequently asked question in flight training is, “How long will this take”? Unfortunately that is the hardest question to answer. The FAA requires that the student have a minimum of 40 hours of flight training. The national average for receiving a private pilot license is 55 hours. All students learn at different paces, but it is noted that students training 4 or more times per week achieve their certificate much closer to 40 hours. The more time you dedicate to instruction and study, the faster you’re able to achieve your certificate. HOWEVER - this is not a requirement. You can always learn at your own pace and budget.

GOAL

The goal of Nashville Flight Training is to develop the student into a FAA Certified Private Pilot at the lowest reasonable cost with a focus on safety and Practical Test Standards Requirements while keeping the student focused on a lifetime goal of learning.

SEGMENT ONE: the Basics

Here, you'll learn what makes the airplane fly and how you control it. We'll explore the airplane controls and how they make things work. We'll also find out what it is about the shape and construction of airplanes that makes them fly.

Objective

Understanding how the airplane works and gaining basic flight control proficiency through positive aircraft control.

What you'll learn:

1. Lift: How the Wing Works
2. Pitch: How the Elevator changes the pitch Attitude and Angle of Attack
3. Roll: How the Ailerons roll the airplane to change the Direction of Lift
4. Yaw: How the Rudder keeps the Tail Behind the Nose (or not)
5. Thrust: How the Engine makes the airplane Go
6. Drag: How the Wing and Flaps Generate Lift and Drag
7. Using Pitch, Roll, Thrust and Drag
8. Preflight inspections - servicing procedures - fuel, oil, required documents (AROW), placards and limitations, Hobbs meter, stowage, tow bar, chocks, doors, locks, seatbelts

You'll spend time in the airplane learning to:

1. Fly Straight and Level
2. Turn Left and Right
3. Climb and Descend
4. Go Fast and Slow
5. Make Climbing and Descending Turns at different airspeeds

Standards you will learn to complete:

1. Maintain a heading within twenty degrees
2. Hold an altitude within 100 feet
3. Turn to a heading within twenty degrees
4. Make 360 degree turns while holding altitude within 200 feet (turns around a point)
5. Hold an airspeed within 10 knots (or mph) while climbing
6. Hold an airspeed within 10 knots (or mph) while descending

SEGMENT TWO: Slow Flight, Stalls, Ground Reference Maneuvers, Landings, Takeoffs and Gaining Proficiency

Now that you know what makes the airplane fly and how you control it, we'll concentrate on more maneuvers and making the airplane go where and how you want it to go

Objective:

Gaining greater proficiency during all maneuvers - Understanding, recognizing and recovering from stalls; Planning your first solo flight

What you'll learn:

1. Stalls: Recognizing stalls and how to recover from stalls
2. Flight by reference to instruments
3. Turns around a point
4. Rectangular patterns
5. "S" turns across a road
6. "Eights" along and across a road
7. Traffic patterns
8. Landing approaches
9. Using the flaps
10. Slips
11. The "Round-Out" and "Flare" for Landing
12. Landing touchdown, rollout and go-arounds
13. Spins

Standards you will learn to complete:

1. Hold airspeed with 5 knots (or mph) during all maneuvers
2. Maintain an altitude within 100 feet during all "Level" maneuvers
3. Prompt recognition and recovery from stalls
4. Prompt recognition and recovery from full stalls
5. Recognize and compensate for wind drift
6. Control the glide path on final approach to land on the desired spot
7. Control airspeed on final approach to within 5 knots (or mph)
8. Make smooth roundouts to the Landing Flare
9. Make smooth, controlled Go-arounds
10. Pass a "pre-solo" written quiz
11. First Solo

SEGMENT THREE: Cross-Country Flying

This is where the real fun begins - traveling long distances!

Objective:

Learn to Navigate the National Airspace System

What you'll learn:

1. The National Airspace System
2. Charts and Chart Reading
3. What's in The Aeronautical Information Manual (FAR/AIM)
4. Weather Theory, Reports and Forecasts
5. Weather Briefings
6. Cross-Country Flight Planning
7. Navigation by Pilotage, Dead Reckoning and Using Electronic Navigation Aids
8. Emergencies
9. Aeronautical Decision Making
10. Night Flying

Standards you will learn to complete:

1. Be Able to Obtain a Weather Briefing, read and evaluate weather data
2. Plan and Complete a Short Dual Cross-Country flight using Pilotage, Dead Reckoning and Electronic Navigation Aids
3. Pass a Quiz on All These Things with a Score of 80% or Better
4. Plan and Complete a Longer Dual Cross-Country flight using Pilotage, Dead Reckoning and Electronic Navigation Aids
5. Use Aeronautical Decision Making Procedures to Decide when it is Appropriate to Stay Home or Divert to an Alternate Destination
6. Pass the FAA Private Pilot Written Examination
7. Plan and Complete a Short Solo Cross-Country flight using Pilotage, Dead Reckoning and Electronic Navigation Aids
8. Plan and Complete a Long Solo Cross-Country flight using Pilotage, Dead Reckoning and Electronic Navigation Aids
9. Demonstrate Aircraft Control at Night
10. Plan and Complete a Night Dual Cross-Country flight using Pilotage, Dead Reckoning and Electronic Navigation Aids

SEGMENT FOUR: Preparing for the Private Pilot checkride

Get ready - you're about to become a licensed Private Pilot

Objective:

Polishing Your Performance to meet Practical Test Standards Requirements

What you'll learn:

1. What the PTS requires
2. How to Take a check ride

Standards you will learn to complete:

1. Perform all maneuvers to PTS standards
2. Pass Your Private Pilot check ride

Acknowledgements: This private pilot syllabus contains materials, concepts and verbiage adopted from ASA's "The Complete Private Pilot Syllabus" as well as "Wild Blue Aviation" of Arlington, WA. Copyright is acknowledged with the prospective authors.