

# FAA Private Pilots Flight Training Requirements

## ■ For an airplane single-engine rating.

**Must log at least 40 hours of flight time that includes at least 20 hours of flight training from an authorized instructor and 10 hours of solo flight training .**

The training must include at least—

- (1) 3 hours of cross-country flight training in a single-engine airplane;
- (2) 3 hours of night flight training in a single-engine airplane that includes—
  - (i) One cross-country flight of over 100 nautical miles total distance; and
  - (ii) 10 takeoffs and 10 landings to a full stop (with each landing involving a flight in the traffic pattern) at an airport.
- (3) 3 hours of flight training in a single-engine airplane on the control and maneuvering of an airplane solely by reference to instruments, including straight and level flight, constant airspeed climbs and descents, turns to a heading, recovery from unusual flight attitudes, radio communications, and the use of navigation systems/facilities and radar services appropriate to instrument flight;
- (4) 3 hours of flight training with an authorized instructor in a single-engine airplane in preparation for the practical test, which must have been performed within the preceding 2 calendar months from the month of the test; and
- (5) 10 hours of solo flight time in a single-engine airplane, consisting of at least—
  - (i) 5 hours of solo cross-country time;
  - (ii) One solo cross country flight of 150 nautical miles total distance, with full-stop landings at three points, and one segment of the flight consisting of a straight-line distance of more than 50 nautical miles between the takeoff and landing locations; and
  - (iii) Three takeoffs and three landings to a full stop (with each landing involving a flight in the traffic pattern) at an airport with an operating control tower.

## ■ For a helicopter rating.

**Must log at least 40 hours of flight time that includes at least 20 hours of flight training from an authorized instructor and 10 hours of solo flight training.**

The training must include at least—

- (1) 3 hours of cross-country flight training in a helicopter;
- (2) 3 hours of night flight training in a helicopter that includes—
  - (i) One cross-country flight of over 50 nautical miles total distance; and
  - (ii) 10 takeoffs and 10 landings to a full stop (with each landing involving a flight in the traffic pattern) at an airport.
- (3) 3 hours of flight training with an authorized instructor in a helicopter in preparation for the practical test, which must have been performed within the preceding 2 calendar months from the month of the test; and
- (4) 10 hours of solo flight time in a helicopter, consisting of at least—
  - (i) 3 hours cross-country time;
  - (ii) One solo cross country flight of 100 nautical miles total distance, with landings at three points, and one segment of the flight being a straight-line distance of more than 25 nautical miles between the takeoff and landing locations; and
  - (iii) Three takeoffs and three landings to a full stop (with each landing involving a flight in the traffic pattern) at an airport with an operating control tower.

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Email: [info@universalairacademy.com](mailto:info@universalairacademy.com)  
WEBSITE: <http://www.universalairacademy.com>  
ADDRESS: 4233 Santa Anita Ave., #13 El Monte, CA 91731  
TEL: 626-454-5254 FAX: 626-454-5258