

Change Proposal

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Order/Publication: FAA Order 8900.1

Petition for Rulemaking: Volume 5 AIRMAN CERTIFICATION

Chapter 2 TITLE 14 CFR PART 61 CERTIFICATION OF PILOTS AND FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS

Section 13 Issue a Gold Seal Flight Instructor Certificate

Change: 279

1. Paragraph Number and Title:

5-571 PROCEDURES, E Required Criteria

2. Background:

This request is to add an equivalency for military instructors who meet the standards and intent of the Gold Seal Flight Instructor recognition.

The intent of the Gold Seal Flight Instructor certificate as stated in 8900.1, Vol. 5, Ch. 2, Sec. 13 5-568 (A) is to “identify those instructors who have high personal qualifications and good records as active flight instructors.”

There is currently no means of identifying military flight instructors who are actively meeting the standards of a Gold Seal Flight instructor. This proposal would identify and make eligible a select few military flight instructors for this recognition on their FAA airman certificate.

3. Change Proposal:

In order to recognize military instructors who meet the current criteria of the Gold Seal Flight instructor is would be necessary for the individual to prove that they are they are;

- 1) A Stan/Eval Instructor (USAF); or
- 2) A NATOPS Instructor (USN/USMC/USCG); and
- 3) Within the past 24 months, have conducted at least 20 evaluations.

These evaluations would be either Form 8 (USAF) or NATOPS checks (USN/USMC/USCG). The burden of proof would be on the applicant to show the ASI or AST supporting documentation that these evaluations have been conducted.

OLD

3) Within the past 24 months, has accomplished one of the following:

- Trained and recommended at least 10 applicants for certificates or ratings, and at least 80 percent of these applicants must have passed the flight test on their first attempt;
- Conducted at least 20 practical tests as a Designated Pilot Examiner (DPE) or 20 graduation tests as chief flight instructor for an approved pilot school course; or
- A combination of the above two (two practical tests equal one trained and recommended applicant).

NEW

3) Within the past 24 months, has accomplished one of the following:

- Trained and recommended at least 10 applicants for certificates or ratings, and at least 80 percent of these applicants must have passed the flight test on their first attempt;
- Conducted at least 20 practical tests as a Designated Pilot Examiner (DPE) or 20 graduation tests as chief flight instructor for an approved pilot school course; or
- Conducted at least 20 Form 8 or NATOPS evaluations as a military flight instructor.
- A combination of the above three (two practical tests equal one trained and recommended applicant).

Thank you to the board for consideration of this change proposal. I anticipate that this would be a good and achievable goal for select military flight instructors to attain FAA recognition on their CFI certificates. The high Gold Seal bar holds true within the military instructor ranks as there are not many that would qualify. This recognition could also have a secondary positive effect of pushing military instructors to use their flight instructing skills in the civilian sector, thus increasing the number of active CFIs in general aviation.

Very Respectfully,
John K. Caldwell