

Title 14—AERONAUTICS AND SPACE

Chapter I—Federal Aviation Agency

SUBCHAPTER D—AIRMEN [NEW]

[Reg. Docket No. 6294; Amdt. 61-11]

PART 61—CERTIFICATION: PILOTS AND FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS [NEW]

Written Test Passing Grades for Pilot Certification

The purpose of this amendment to Part 61 [New] of the Federal Aviation Regulations is to state in the regulations the Agency practice of requiring 70 percent as the passing grade for written tests given for pilot certification.

Parts 63 and 65 [New] of the Federal Aviation Regulations prescribe 70 percent as the minimum passing grade for a written test for other airman certification. However, Part 61—"Certification: Pilots and Flight Instructors [New]," does not have a minimum passing grade for written tests specifically stated, except in § 61.143 for the airline transport pilot written test.

The free balloon pilot written test, referred to in § 61.181(a) (5), requires the applicant to answer 45 out of 50 questions within 1 hour. That test is the only true-false test used for airman testing. The validity and reliability of true-false testing are less than the multiple-choice type of testing. Therefore, the Agency has revised the free balloon pilot written test into a multiple-choice test so that it will be like the other airman written tests.

The Agency has long accepted the practice of requiring 70 percent as the minimum passing grade for pilot written tests. This amendment, therefore, merely states in the pilot regulations an accepted standard that has been in effect for many years. The amendment does not impose any additional burden on any person, and the Agency for good cause has found that compliance with the notice and public procedure provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act is unnecessary and impractical.

This amendment to § 61.19 states definitely that the minimum passing grade is 70 percent for all written tests for pilot certification. To avoid repetition, the lead-in clause to § 61.143 is amended to delete the reference to 70 percent, and § 61.181(a) (5) is amended to delete the reference to the true-false free balloon pilot test.

In consideration of the foregoing, Part 61 [New] of the Federal Aviation Regulations is amended, effective December 4, 1964, as follows:

1. By amending § 61.19 to read as follows:

§ 61.19 Tests: general procedure.

(a) Tests prescribed by or under this part are given at times and places, and by persons, designated by the Administrator.

(b) The minimum passing grade for each written test is 70 percent.

2. By amending the introductory paragraph of § 61.143 to read as follows:

§ 61.143 Airplane rating: aeronautical knowledge.

An applicant for an airline transport pilot certificate with an airplane rating must, after meeting the requirements of §§ 61.141 (except paragraph (a) thereof) and 61.145, pass a written test on—

3. By amending the introductory paragraph of paragraph (a) (5) of § 61.181 to read as follows:

§ 61.181 General requirements.

(a) * * *

(5) Within 24 months before his certificate is issued, pass a written test on the following:

(Secs. 313(a), 601, 602, Federal Aviation Act of 1958; 49 U.S.C. 1354, 1421, 1422)

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 28, 1964.

N. E. HALABY,
Administrator.

[F.R. Doc. 64-11205; Filed, Nov. 3, 1964;
8:45 a.m.]

(As published in the Federal Register /29 F.R. 14915/ on November 4, 1964)