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PËR MIRATIMIN E “GUIDANCE ON VALIDATION OF THIRD COUNTRIES
PILOT LICENSES”

Në mbështetje të pikës ë, të nenit 14, të Ligjit Nr.53/2022 “Për organizimin dhe funksionimin e Autoritetit të Aviacionit Civil”:

V E N D O S A

1. Miratimin e procedurës ACAA-DTL-GM7-FCLV “Guidance on Validation of Third Countries Pilot Licenses”, Issue 01, Revision 00.
2. Ngarkohet Drejtoria e Trajnimit dhe Licencimit të sigurojë shpërndarjen dhe përdorimin e këtij materiali tek operatorët.
3. Ky vendim hyn në fuqi menjëherë.

DREJTOR EKZEKUTIV

Maksim Et'hemaj





REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA



ALBANIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

GUIDANCE ON VALIDATION OF THIRD COUNTRIES PILOT LICENSES

ACAA-DTL-GM7-FCLV

Issue: 01, Revision 0

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Approved by:

Maksim Et'hemaj

Executive Director of Albanian Civil Aviation Authority





GUIDANCE ON VALIDATION OF THIRD COUNTRIES PILOT LICENSES FOR COMMERCIAL AIR TRANSPORT AND OTHER COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

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0.1. Record of Amendments

The table below describes the dates and reason for the different amendments of the current guidance. A vertical black line on the left-hand side of the page identifies the changes with the previous version.

Issue No.	Revision No.	Date	Amended by	Reason
01	00	02.12.2024		Initial Issue

In case of major amendment, a new issue will be released to replace the existing guidance. In that case, all the pages will identify with a new issue and the revision will set back to zero. For a minor amendment to some provisions, when only a few pages are modified a vertical black line on the left-hand margin of the page identifying the change of the existing version. Users can focus their attention to the changes identified.

0.2. Approval List

Action	Name and position	Date	Signature
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	Mrs. Edlira Kraja, Director of DLS	26.11.2024	
Approved by:	Mr. Maksim Et'hemaj, Executive Director	02.12.2024	



0.3. Revision table

Page #	Issue No.	Revision No.	Date	Edited by

0.4. Distribution List

Control #	Responsible Person	Type of Document
Original	DTL SSS/DAM	Hard Copy
Original (Electronic)	DTL	Electronic copy at DRMS

Note: In case of interested party involved in ACAA activities, access rights shall be given on case-by-case basis by the concerned Directorate/ Sector (s).

0.5. Definitions

Term	Definition
Aeroplane	means an engine-driven fixed-wing aircraft heavier than air which is supported in flight by the dynamic reaction of the air against its wings.
Aircraft	means any machine which can derive support in the atmosphere from the reactions of the air other than the reactions of the air against the earth's surface.
Aircrew	means flight crew and cabin crew.
Assessment	means an evaluation of the practical skills leading to the issue of the license, rating and/or endorsement(s) and their revalidation and/or renewal.
Cross-country	means a flight between a point of departure and a point of arrival following a pre-planned route, using standard navigation procedures
Pilot-in-command	(PIC) means the pilot designated as being in command and charged with the safe conduct of the flight.
Private pilot	means a pilot who holds a licence which prohibits the piloting of aircraft in operations for which remuneration is given, with the exclusion of instruction or examination activities, as established in this Part.
Proficiency check	means the demonstration of skill to revalidate or renew ratings, and including

	such oral examination as may be required.
Renewal	means the administrative action taken after a rating or certificate has lapsed for the purpose of renewing the privileges of the rating or certificate for a further specified period consequent upon the fulfilment of specified requirements.
Revalidation	means the administrative action taken within the period of validity of a rating or certificate which allows the holder to continue to exercise the privileges of a rating or certificate for a further specified period consequent upon the fulfilment of specified requirements
Skill test	means the demonstration of skill for a license or rating issue, including such oral examination as may be required.
Type of aircraft	means a categorization of aircraft requiring a type rating as determined in the operational suitability data established in accordance with Part-21, and which include all aircraft of the same basic design including all modifications thereto except those which result in a change in handling or flight characteristics.

0.6. Abbreviations

ACAA	Albanian Civil Aviation Authority
AME	Aeromedical Examiner
ATO	Approved Training Organization
ATPL	Airline Transport Pilot License
CPL	Commercial Pilot License
FE	Flight Examiner
FI	Flight Instructor
DE	Executive Director
DTL	Directorate of Training and Licensing
PPL	Private Pilot License
TR	Type Rating
TRE	Type Rating Examiner
TRI	Type Rating Instructor
PPL	Private Pilot License
TR	Type Rating
LAB	Language Assessment Body

0.7. Purpose

This guidance material is intended to provide information on the validation of third country pilot licenses for commercial air transport activities and other commercial activities.

Certificates of validation are issued in accordance with Minister Order No .218, date 29.12.2023 transposing (EU) Regulation No 723/2020 "For the Approval of Regulation for Detailed Rules Regarding Acceptance of Pilot Certificates from other Places".

Note: The approval process typically takes 10 working days. It may be extended, delayed, or cancelled if there is a lack of required documentation, information, or confirmation from the applicant's Competent Authority.

1. VALIDATION OF FOREIGN LICENSE & QUALIFICATIONS

1.1 Introduction

A pilot License issued in Compliance with the requirements of Annex 1 to the Chicago Convention from those countries that are not EU or ECAA member according to the provisions of the Multilateral Agreement may be validated by Albanian Civil Aviation Authority.

Pilots shall apply to the competent authority of the Member State where they reside or are established. If they are not residing in the territory of the Member State, pilots shall apply to the competent authority of the Member State where the operator for which they are flying or intend to fly has its principal place of business, or where the aircraft on which they are flying or intend to fly is registered.

In cases where the operator's principal place of business is in Albania, or the aircraft is registered in Albania, pilots shall submit their application for validation to the Civil Aviation Authority of Albania.

The period of validation of a license shall not exceed 1 year, provided that the basic Pilot License remains valid.

This period may only be extended once by the competent authority that issued the validation when, during the validation period, the pilot has applied, or is undergoing training for the issuance of a license in accordance with Part-FCL.

The extension shall cover the period of time necessary for the license to be issued in accordance with Part-FCL.

The holders of a License accepted by ACAA shall exercise their privileges in accordance with the requirements stated in Part-FCL regulation.

1.2 Validation Process

For the validation of pilot licenses for commercial air transport and other commercial activities, the holders shall comply with the following requirements, as applicable, for the privileges sought:

- (a) complete, as a skill test, the type or class rating revalidation requirements of Annex I (Part-FCL) to Minister Order No. 178, date 20.12.2024, transposing Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011, as relevant to the privileges of the license held;

Note: the examiner for the skill test has to be designated by Albanian Civil Aviation Authority. ACAA may require that the skill test is observed by an ACAA inspector.

- (b) demonstrate knowledge of the relevant parts of the operational requirements and Annex I (Part-FCL) to Minister Order No. 178, date 20.12.2024, transposing Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011;

Note: Please contact Directorate of Training and Licensing for the accepted training organizations before conducting any course for this purpose.

- (c) demonstrate language proficiency in accordance with Point FCL.055 of Annex I (Part-FCL) to Minister Order No. 178, date 20.12.2024, transposing Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011;

Note: The English language proficiency assessment must be conducted by LABs/ assessors approved by the ACAA, EASA, or the competent authorities of any Member State.

- (d) hold a valid Class 1 medical certificate, issued in accordance with Annex IV (Part-MED) to Minister Order No. 178, date 20.12.2024, transposing Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011;

Note: A Class 1 Medical Certificate must be issued by an Albanian AeMC, AME, EASA, or the competent authorities of any Member State.

- (e) in the case of airplanes, in addition to the requirements in points (a) to (d), comply with the experience requirements set out in table 1 to this guidance;

- (f) in the case of helicopters, in addition to the requirements in points (a) to (d), comply with the experience requirements set out in table 2 to this guidance.

1.2.1 Verification of the foreign pilot's licenses and medical certificates

By completing the application form, the applicant authorizes the Civil Aviation Authorities that issued their foreign licenses and medical certificates to provide all relevant information necessary for their application to the Albanian Civil Aviation Authority (ACAA).

1.2.2 Validity of validation certificate

The validation certificate remains valid for the duration of the foreign pilot's license but cannot exceed 12 months from the date of the Part-FCL skill test.

1.2.3 Validity

In accordance with of Minister Order No. 218, date 29.12.2023, transposing (EU) Regulation No 723/2020 "Laying down detailed rules with regard to the acceptance of third-country certification of pilots", Article, 4, point 3.

1.2.4 Extension of Validation

In accordance with Minister order No. 218, date 29.12.2023 Article, 4 point 3, the Civil Aviation Authority may extend the validity only once and only by a maximum of one year, if during the validity period the pilot has applied for a license in accordance with Annex I (Part-FCL) to Minister Order No. 178, date 20.12.2023, transposing Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011 or is undergoing training for the issuance of such a license. In that last case, the extension shall cover the period of time necessary for the license to be issued in accordance with Annex I (Part-FCL) to Minister Order No. 178, date 20.12.2023, transposing Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011.

Note: This guidance does not apply in the case of manufacturer flights and specific tasks of limited duration, provided the applicant is employed directly or indirectly, by an airplane manufacturer and where the privileges are limited to performing flight instruction and testing for initial issue of type ratings, the supervision of initial line flying by the operators' pilots, delivery or ferry flights, initial line flying, flight demonstrations or test flights.

Table 1. Experience requirements for Airplanes

License held	Total flying hours experience	Privileges	
(1)	(2)	(3)	
ATPL(A)	> 1 500 hours as PIC on multi-pilot aeroplanes	Commercial air transport in multi-pilot aeroplanes as PIC	(a)
ATPL(A) or CPL(A)/IR (*)	> 1 500 hours as PIC or co-pilot on multi-pilot aeroplanes according to operational requirements	Commercial air transport in multi-pilot aeroplanes as co-pilot	(b)
MPL	> 1 500 hours as co-pilot on multi-pilot aeroplanes according to operational requirements	Commercial air transport in multi-pilot aeroplanes as co-pilot	(c)
CPL(A)/IR	> 1 000 hours as PIC in commercial air transport since gaining an IR	Commercial air transport in single-pilot aeroplanes as PIC	(d)
CPL(A)/IR	> 1 000 hours as PIC or as co-pilot in single-pilot aeroplanes according to operational requirements	Commercial air transport in single-pilot aeroplanes as co-pilot according to operational requirements	(e)
ATPL(A), CPL(A)/IR, CPL(A)	> 700 hours in aeroplanes, including 200 hours in the activity role for which acceptance is sought, and 50 hours in that role in the last 12 months	Exercise of privileges in aeroplanes in operations other than commercial air transport	(f)
CPL(A)	> 1 500 hours as PIC in commercial air transport including 500 hours on seaplane operations	Commercial air transport in single-pilot aeroplanes as PIC	(g)

(*CPL(A)/IR holders on multi-pilot aeroplanes shall have demonstrated ICAO ATPL(A) level knowledge before acceptance.

Table 2

License held	Total flying hours experience	Privileges	
(1)	(2)	(3)	
ATPL(H) IR valid	> 1 000 hours as PIC on multi-pilot helicopters	Commercial air transport in multi-pilot helicopters as PIC in VFR and IFR operations	(a)
ATPL(H) no IR privileges	> 1 000 hours as PIC on multi-pilot helicopters	Commercial air transport in multi-pilot helicopters as PIC in VFR operations	(b)
ATPL(H) IR valid	> 1 000 hours as PIC on multi-pilot helicopters	Commercial air transport in multi-pilot helicopters as co-pilot in VFR and IFR operations	(c)
ATPL(H) no IR privileges	> 1 000 hours as PIC on multi-pilot helicopters	Commercial air transport in multi-pilot helicopters as co-pilot in VFR operations	(d)
CPL(H)/IR (*)	> 1 000 hours as PIC on multi-pilot helicopters	Commercial air transport in helicopters with multiple pilots as co-pilot	(e)
CPL(H)/IR	> 1 000 hours as PIC in air transport since obtaining IR	Commercial air transport in single-pilot helicopters as PIC	(f)
ATPL(H) with or without IR privileges, CPL(H)/IR, CPL(H)	> 700 hours in helicopters other than those certified to CS-27/29 or equivalent, including 200 hours in the role of the activity for which acceptance is sought, and 50 hours in that role in the last 12 months	Exercise of privileges on helicopters in operations other than commercial air transport	(g)

(*) CPL(H)/IR holders in multi-pilot helicopters must have demonstrated ICAO ATPL(H) level knowledge prior to acceptance.

