CHAPTER 6. ISSUE A STUDENT PILOT CERTIFICATE

SECTION 1. BACKGROUND

1. OBJECTIVE. The objective of this task is to determine an applicant’s eligibility for a student pilot certificate under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 61. Successful completion of this task results in the issuance of a student pilot certificate.

2. GENERAL. There are two types of student pilot certificates. An aviation medical examiner issues an Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Form 8420-2, “Medical Certificate ________ Class and Student Pilot Certificate” (see Figure 6-1), to an applicant who meets the requirements of 14 CFR part 61, subpart C, for a student pilot certificate. FAA Form 8420-2 (see Figure 6-2) serves as both a medical certificate and a student pilot certificate. Designated Pilot Examiners (DPE) issue FAA Form 8710-2, “Student Pilot Certificate” (see Figure 6-2), to qualified student pilot applicants. FAA Form 8710-2, “Student Pilot Certificate” serves only as a student pilot certificate.

A. Applicants with Medical Certificates. An applicant may hold FAA Form 8500-9, Medical Certificate _____ Class (white copy). This certificate does not impart student pilot privileges. The applicant must obtain a student pilot certificate from an examiner or the Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) in order to exercise privileges as a student pilot.

B. Applicants Who Need Medical Certificates. An applicant who intends to pilot aircraft, other than gliders or balloons, must hold at least a third-class medical certificate issued within the preceding 24 or 36 calendar-months, as appropriate. The medical certificate may be in the form of a Medical Certificate ________ Class and Student Pilot Certificate or a regular Medical Certificate _____ Class.

C. Gliders and Balloons. An applicant who intends to pilot only balloons or gliders, including self-launch gliders, need not have an airman medical certificate. The applicant is issued FAA Form 8710-2, Student Pilot Certificate.

D. Examiner Authorization. An examiner may issue a student pilot certificate to a qualified applicant without regard to the category or class of aircraft the applicant intends to pilot. Any examiner may issue an FAA Form 8710-2, “Student Pilot Certificate” (see Figure 6-2) regardless of the category and class of aircraft or grade of pilot certification authorized by the examiner’s certificate of authority. However, if the student pilot has medical limitations that need to be shown on the medical portion of the student pilot certificate then only a medical examiner or FSDO may issue the student pilot certificate.

3. NONRENEWABLE. Student pilot certificates are not renewable. Upon expiration of a student pilot certificate, the airman may apply for a new student pilot certificate, using the same process as for the original issuance.

A. Endorsements. The student pilot should keep the original certificate bearing all of the endorsements that remain valid. The holder of an expired student pilot certificate must meet the same requirements as for the original certificate.

B. Additional Aircraft Endorsements. If the space for instructor endorsements is full, and the student is seeking endorsements for additional types of aircraft, a DPE may issue a second student pilot certificate clearly marked “For Record Purposes Only.” The second student pilot certificate will have the same expiration date as the original. The original is issued to the student and the duplicate copy destroyed (see Figure 6-2). There is no requirement for FAA Form 8710-1, Airmen Certificate and/or Rating Application.
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SECTION 2. PROCEDURES

1. PREREQUISITES AND COORDINATION REQUIREMENTS.

A. Prerequisites. This task requires knowledge of 14 CFR part 61 and designation as a DPE.

B. Coordination. This task requires coordination with the designating FSDO.

2. REFERENCES, FORMS, AND JOB AIDS.

A. References.
   • Title 14 CFR part 61, subpart C

B. Forms.
   • FAA Form 8420-2, Medical Certificate ___ Class and Student Pilot Certificate
   • FAA Form 8500-9, Medical Certificate ___ Class
   • FAA Form 8710-1, Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application
   • FAA Form 8710-2, Student Pilot Certificate

C. Job Aids.
   • Sample figures

3. PROCEDURES.

A. Review Application. Verify that the information on the Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application (FAA Form 8710-1) is presented accurately and legibly and is complete.

   (1) In Section I, ensure that the applicant has checked the box labeled “Student.”

   (2) Ensure that the remainder of the application is filled out according to the guidance in chapter 5, section 1, paragraph 22.

   NOTE: Sections II and III of FAA Form 8710-1 do not have to be completed for issuance of an original student pilot certificate.

B. Verify Applicant’s Identity. Ensure acceptable forms of identification establish the applicant’s identity in accordance with the procedures described in chapter 5, section 1, paragraph 20.

   (1) Compare the forms of identification with the personal information provided by the applicant on FAA Form 8710-1.

   (2) When the applicant’s identity is verified, continue.

   (3) If the applicant’s identity cannot be verified because of lack of identification or inadequate identification, explain what types of identification are acceptable. Instruct the applicant to return with appropriate identification.

   (4) If the applicant’s identity appears to be different from the information supplied on the application, or it appears that an attempt at falsification has been made, immediately report the matter to the supervising FSDO and discontinue the task.

C. Establish Eligibility. Determine that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements for a student pilot certificate (see § 61.83).

   (1) Determine which category of aircraft the applicant intends to fly.

      (a) If the applicant intends to fly gliders or balloons, the applicant must be at least 14 years of age and complete Section I.

      (b) If the applicant intends to fly airplanes or rotorcraft, the applicant must be at least 16 years of age and hold a current medical certificate and complete Section I.

   (2) If a medical certificate is required and the applicant does not have one, advise the applicant to obtain an airman medical certificate or a student medical certificate from an aviation medical examiner.

   (3) The applicant must be able to read, speak, write, and understand the English language. If there is any doubt that the applicant meets this requirement, refer the applicant to the FSDO.

   (4) If the applicant is ineligible, inform the applicant how the discrepancies may be corrected. An FAA Form 8060-5, Notice of Disapproval of Application, is not required and need not be issued.

D. Applicant Meets Requirements. If the applicant meets all of the requirements for a student pilot certificate, prepare an FAA Form 8710-2, sign, and have the applicant sign, in ink, both the original and the copy.

   (1) FAA Form 8710-2 must be typewritten.

NOTE: The DPE should advise the applicant...
that a medical certificate is required to solo airplanes, airships, powered-lift, and/or rotorcraft.

(2) Issue the original to the applicant and inform the applicant that the certificate expires 24 or 36 calendar-months after the date it was issued, as appropriate.

E. Complete Certification File. Complete and sign the Designated Examiner’s Report section of FAA Form 8710-1. Attach the duplicate copy of the student pilot certificate to the form and forward the certification file to the supervising FSDO within 5 days. Unless otherwise directed by the FSDO, Airman Certification and/or Rating Application (ACRA) certification files may be sent directly to AFS-760.

F. Subsequent Issuance. If a student pilot certificate has expired, issue a new certificate, following the same procedures as for an original issuance. The flight instructor’s endorsements on the expired certificate may not be transferred to the new certificate. The student pilot retains the expired certificate as a record of the endorsements.

G. Second Certificate. If there is insufficient space for instructor endorsements for additional types of aircraft on a valid student pilot certificate, issue a second student pilot certificate and clearly mark on the front of the second certificate “For Record Purposes Only.”

1. Enter the same expiration date on the second certificate as that shown on the original certificate.

2. Line out the certificate number on the second certificate.

3. Issue the original of the second certificate to the student and destroy the duplicate copy.

4. An FAA Form 8710-1 is NOT required for a second certificate, and a certification file is not sent forward to the FSDO.

4. TASK OUTCOMES. Successful completion of this task results in the issuance of a student pilot certificate.

5. FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

A. The examiner may issue a new student pilot certificate to the holder of an expired student pilot certificate.

B. The examiner may issue the airman a second student pilot certificate for record purposes only.

C. The applicant may return to the examiner for a recreational pilot or private pilot certification practical test.
FIGURE 6-1. FAA FORM 8420-2, MEDICAL CERTIFICATE ___ CLASS AND STUDENT PILOT CERTIFICATE
FIGURE 6-2. ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATE FOR RECORD PURPOSES ONLY