

IACRA Tips & Suggestions

To the applicant:

The information in this document is not meant to be a complete guide for using IACRA. Instead, this is supplemental information that I am providing to help you correctly complete your IACRA application before each practical test (AKA checkride). Your flight instructor should also use this document to carefully check your application before signing it. My hope is that this will save valuable time and reduce your stress at the beginning of each checkride.

There are several other important items that are not addressed in this document because I usually find those items to be completed correctly.

Links to official IACRA help documents are available at: <https://iacra.faa.gov/>

Please [contact me](#) if you have questions, corrections, or other comments related to this document.

Thank you!

Jim Pitman, DPE
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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration

Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application

I. APPLICATION INFORMATION (Mark 'X' in all the blocks applicable to the certificate or rating for which you are applying or for the information you submit to validate certain certification requirements):

Certificates		Ratings				Flight Instructor Recency/Other Information/Requests						
Pilot:	Instructor:	Category and/or Class:		Instrument:	Ground Instructor:							
☐ Student	☐ Recreational	☐ Flight	☐ ASE	☐ AME	☐ Land	☐ Sea	☐ Airplane	☐ Basic	☐ Initial	☐ Reexamination	☐ IPL	
☐ Private	☐ Commercial	☐ Ground	☐ Helicopter	☐ Balloon	☐ Glider	☐ Helicopter	☐ Helicopter	☐ Advanced	☐ Recency	☐ Reissuance	☐ Instrument Proficiency Check	
☐ ATP-Restricted	☐ ATP		☐ Gyroplane	☐ Airship	☐ Powered-Lift	☐ Powered-Lift	☐ Powered-Lift	☐ Instrument	☐ Reinstatement	☐ Flight Review	☐ Medical Flight Test	
		Type Rating:			☐ Added Rating				Specify Other:			☐ Limitation Removal
A. Name (Last, First, Middle)				B. SSN (US Only)		C. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)		D. Place of Birth (City and State) or (City and Country)				
E1. Residential Address (Including City, State, Zip Code, and Country)				E2. Mailing Address (This address will be printed on the permanent airman certificate, if different than block E1.)				F. Citizenship / Nationality ☐ USA ☐ Other Specify:		G. Do you read, speak, write, & understand the English language? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
								H. Height (inches)	I. Weight (pounds)	J. Hair Color	K. Eye Color	L. Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female
M. Do you hold, or have you ever held an FAA pilot certificate, including revoked certificates? ☐ Yes ☐ No (Note: A student pilot certificate is a pilot certificate.)				M1. Grade of Certificate		M2. Certificate Number		M3. Date Issued				
N. Do you hold, or have you ever held a Medical Certificate? ☐ Yes - FAA ☐ Yes - Foreign ☐ Yes - Military ☐ No				N1. Class of Certificate		N2. Name of Medical Examiner		N3. Date Issued				
O. Have you ever been convicted for violation of any Federal or State statutes relating to narcotic drugs, marijuana, or depressant or stimulant drugs or substances? Do not include alcohol offenses involving motor vehicle mode of transportation as those offenses are covered on the form FAA 8500-8, Airman Medical Application Form.				☐ Yes ☐ No		O1. Date of Final Conviction						

II. CERTIFICATE OR RATING APPLIED FOR ON BASIS OF:

☐ A Completion of Test or Activity	1. Aircraft to be used (if flight test required)	2. Total time in this aircraft and/or approved FFS or FTD (hours):	a. Flight Time	b. As Pilot-in-Command
☐ B U.S. Military Service	1. U.S. Military Service	2. Date Rated in U.S. Military	3. Rank or Grade	
☐ C Graduate of an Approved Course	1. Training Agency or Training Center:	1a. Name	1b. Location (City and State)	1c. Certification Number
	2. Curriculum From Which Graduated (Level, Category, and Class and/or Type Rating)	1d. Part 142? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
☐ D Holder of Foreign License	1. Country that Issued the Foreign Pilot License	2. Grade of Foreign Pilot License	3. Foreign Pilot License Number	
	4. Ratings Held on Foreign Pilot License (FAA equivalent only - e.g. ASE, AMEL, Type rating, etc.)			
☐ E Air Carrier Training Program	1. Name of Air Carrier	2. Date Training Began	3. Accomplished Training Program ☐ Initial ☐ Upgrade ☐ Transition ☐ Recurrent	

III. RECORD OF PILOT TIME (Do not write in the shaded areas)

Total	Instruction Received	Solo	PIC and SIC		Cross Country Instruction Received	Cross Country Solo	Cross Country PIC/SIC	Instrument	Night Instruction Received	Night Take-Off / Landing	Night PIC/SIC		Night Take-Off/Landing PIC/SIC		Number of															
			PIC	SIC							PIC	SIC	PIC	SIC	PIC	SIC	Flights	Aero-Tows	Ground Launches	Powered Launches										
Airplanes	K	L	M	N																										
Rotorcraft																														
Powered Lift																														
Glider																														
Lighter-Than-Air																														
FFS																														
FTD																														
ATD	R	S																												
															Class Totals															
															SEL				MEL				SES				MES			
															PIC				PIC				PIC				PIC			
															SIC				SIC				SIC				SIC			
															Instrument				Instrument				Instrument				Instrument			
															Rotorcraft				Helicopter				Gyroplane							
															Lighter-than-air				Balloon				Airship							
															FFS				SE				ME				Helicopter			
															FTD															
															ATD				U											

IV. Have you previously received a Notice of Disapproval or been denied for any reason for the certificate AND/OR rating for which you are applying? ☐ Yes ☐ No

V. APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION: I certify that all statements and answers provided by me on this form are complete and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree that they are to be considered as part of the basis for issuance of any FAA certificate to me or to validate my recency. I have received the Pilot's Bill of Rights Written Notification of Investigation that accompanies this

A

The IACRA and 8710-1 instructions both clearly state that airmen are to enter their “Full Legal Name” on every application. This means abbreviations and initials are not acceptable. If one or more of your middle names is a letter (not an abbreviation), that is fine. Some DPEs are better at checking this than others. Just because something worked in the past does not necessarily mean it will be okay for future checkrides.

You must present a current, unexpired government-issued photo ID acceptable to the FAA. Make sure the full legal name used in IACRA is consistent with your FAA records, knowledge test report (if applicable), and identification. If your ID uses a nickname, abbreviation, or otherwise differs, contact your DPE before scheduling the checkride.

A change to your legal name must be [processed by your local FSDO](#) before your checkride.

Please contact your DPE as soon as possible if you have questions/concerns about your name and/or ID.

B

The SSN is not required. If you have one, I suggest checking the box in IACRA that says, “Do Not Use.”

C

Be sure to enter your place of birth, not your current place of residence.

D

Enter your current residential address. If your permanent mailing address has changed, [notify the FAA within 30 days](#) as required by 14 CFR 61.60. Updating it before submitting the application will help prevent an address mismatch.

E

Ensure these items are correct. Let your DPE know if any of the data on your current FAA certificate is incorrect. It’s okay for your weight to fluctuate, but your height, hair color, eye color, and sex should match.

F

Ensure the doctor’s name exactly matches your most recent medical certificate. If you are operating under BasicMed, enter ‘BASICMED’ for the class and leave the medical examiner and date-issued fields blank.

G

Items G, H, and I are about the aircraft being used for your checkride. This row corresponds to section 2 of the IACRA application. If using a Cessna 172 for the checkride, I recommend searching for “CE-172” and then selecting the first one on the list (CE-172-172). This is the selection I generally recommend for the Cessna 172 series.

H

This is your total flight time in the make/model of airplane entered for item G. If all of your flight experience is in this type of airplane, this number should be the same as item K.

I

This is your total PIC time in the make/model of airplane entered for item G. If all of your airplane PIC time is in that make/model and you have no SIC time, this number should be the same as item N.

J

If you graduated from a Part 141 course, ensure all of the information in this section (including the graduation date) matches your signed graduation certificate. Be sure to also bring that signed certificate to your checkride.

Note: Items K through U correspond to section 5 of the IACRA application. It’s a bit confusing, but basically each column in section 5 of IACRA corresponds to one of the rows shown on the printed application.

K

This is your total time in all types of airplanes. If you have flown more than one make/model, this number should be larger than the number entered for item H.

If you are a private pilot applicant on your first checkride: $K \text{ should} = L + M$

If you have flight time from one or more prior practical tests that was properly logged as PIC—but was neither instruction received nor solo—and you have no other non-training airplane time, K should equal $L + M +$ that properly logged practical-test flight time.

L

Enter total instruction received in all airplanes. This number cannot be greater than item K. Do not include device time in this airplane field; report it in the applicable FFS, FTD, or ATD fields.

M

Solo = Sole occupant of the aircraft. Only enter the time that you flew by yourself.

N

Enter your total airplane PIC and SIC time. For most private, instrument, and commercial airplane applicants, SIC will be zero. Include all time you are legally entitled to log as PIC under §61.51, plus any legitimate SIC time. Do not count the same flight twice merely because you both acted as and logged PIC. [Here's a good article](#) that explains what that means.

If you are a private pilot applicant on your first checkride, N will be the same as M.

O

This is all instrument time in airplanes—simulated plus actual. Do not include FFS, FTD, or ATD time here.

P

This is all PIC time in single-engine land airplanes. If all of your airplane PIC time is in single-engine land airplanes and you have no SIC time, this should be the same as item N.

Q

This is all instruction received in single-engine land airplanes. If all of your airplane instruction was received in single-engine land airplanes, this should be the same as item L.

R

Only enter time in an FAA-approved ATD or FAA-qualified FTD or FFS, supported by the appropriate records. An ATD should have a current FAA letter of authorization. An FTD or FFS is qualified under Part 60 and documented by a Statement of Qualification. Enter the time in the applicable device field. Leave blank if you have zero sim time.

S

This is total dual instruction received in the sim (FFS, FTD, and/or ATD). For most applicants, it will be the same as item R. Leave blank if you have zero sim time.

T

This is time in the sim (FFS, FTD, and/or ATD) when instrument conditions were being simulated. If your instructor always started the sim and put it right in instrument conditions, or only logged the time you were flying in instrument conditions, this number may be the same as R and S. Otherwise, this number should be something less than R and S. Leave blank if you have zero sim time.

U

Enter the total single-engine time in the sim (FFS, FTD, and/or ATD). For most applicants, this will be the same as items R and S. Leave blank if you have zero sim time.

This document is available at:

<https://flywithjim.com/a-z.php#iacra-tips-and-suggestions>