

We have only listed the helicopter requirements on this page. These are for reference only and are not a substitute for or supplement to actual, published FARs.

* This is a summation of the additional requirements to add-on a rotorcraft rating. The specific requirements to be aware of are highlighted. The minimum number of hours required by the FAA, under Part 61, for an Add-On is 30 hours.

Federal Aviation Regulations Part 61

Subpart E—Private Pilots

§ 61.107 Flight proficiency.

(a) *General.* A person who applies for a private pilot certificate must receive and log ground and flight training from an authorized instructor on the areas of operation of this section that apply to the aircraft category and class rating sought.

(b) Areas of operation.

- (3) For a rotorcraft category rating with a helicopter class rating:
- (i) Preflight preparation;
 - (ii) Preflight procedures;
 - (iii) Airport and heliport operations;
 - (iv) Hovering maneuvers;
 - (v) Takeoffs, landings, and go-arounds;
 - (vi) Performance maneuvers;
 - (vii) Navigation;
 - (viii) Emergency operations;
 - (ix) Night operations, except as provided in Sec. 61.110 of this part; and
 - (x) Postflight procedures.

§ 61.109 Aeronautical experience.

(c) *For a helicopter rating.* Except as provided in paragraph (i) of this section, a person who applies for a private pilot certificate with a rotorcraft category rating must receive and log at least 40 hours of flight time that includes at least 20 hours of flight training from an authorized instructor and 10 hours of solo flight training in the areas of operation listed in Sec. 61.107 (b)(3) of this part, and the training must include at least—

- (1) 3 hours of cross-country flight training in a helicopter;
- (2) Except as provided in Sec. 61.110 of this part, 3 hours of night flight training in a helicopter that includes—
 - (i) One cross-country flight of over 50 nautical miles total distance; and
 - (ii) 10 takeoffs and 10 landings to a full stop (with each landing involving a flight in the traffic pattern) at an airport.
- (3) 3 hours of flight training in preparation for the practical test in a helicopter, which must have been performed within 60 days preceding the date of the test; and
- (4) 10 hours of solo flight time in a helicopter, consisting of at least—
 - (i) 3 hours cross-country flight time;
 - (ii) One solo cross-country flight of at least 75 nautical miles total distance, with landings at a minimum of three points, and one segment of the flight being a straight-line distance of at least 25 nautical miles between the takeoff and landing locations; and
 - (iii) Three takeoffs and three landings to a full stop (with each landing involving a flight in the traffic pattern) at an airport with an operating control tower.