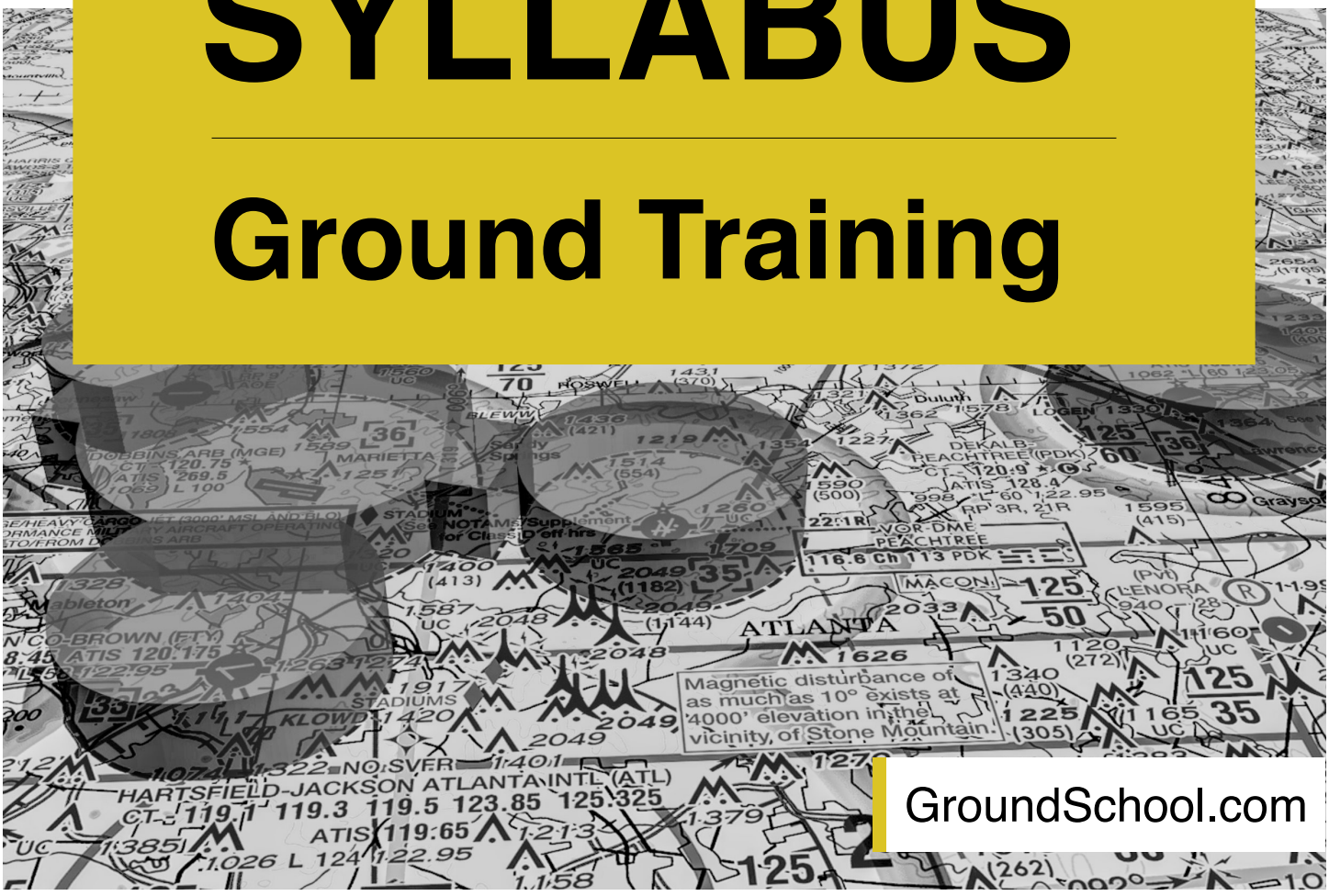
Gold Seal

PRIVATE PILOT SYLLABUS

Ground Training



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Gold Seal Ground School

Private Pilot Syllabus
Ground Training

Airplane Single-Engine Land

First Edition

Meets Part 61 and 141 Aeronautical Knowledge Requirements
14 CFR 141, Appendix L - Pilot Ground School Course

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Contents

Record of Revisions

Revision Procedures - Revisions will be made to the syllabus when Gold Seal Ground School determines that an amendment, an addition, or a deletion is necessary for clarity, currency, comprehensiveness, or compliance with FAA directives. These revisions will be denoted with a major numerical change (e.g. 1.0 to 2.0). Revisions to this commercially produced syllabus will be sent to AFS-810 for a revised acceptance letter.

All revised pages will include the revision number in the bottom right margin. The date of the revision will be recorded in the revision record, which serves as a chronological reference. The revision table will include a revision number, effective date, affected pages, and a brief description of the revision.

A written explanation or other guidance will accompany each revision submitted to the FAA for approval and subsequently disseminated back to the TCO holder. TCO holders utilizing this syllabus as part of an FAA approved training course must submit a request to their Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) and receive approval prior to using any revised material.

Minor updates or editorial changes (e.g. grammatical or supplemental amendments to the course) will be noted on the affected page with a minor numerical change (e.g. 1.0 to 1.1). These changes will not require FAA approval; however, Gold Seal will provide a description of these changes to TCO holders.

Revision Number	Effective Date	Affected Pages(s)	Description
1.0 (Original)	1 July 2024		

Welcome to the Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School

Welcome aboard! We are thrilled to have you join us on this exciting journey towards achieving your dream of becoming a Private Pilot. Embarking on this adventure is a significant step, and we are here to guide and support you every step of the way.

You're about to dive into a world of fascinating knowledge and skills that will transform your aspirations into reality. While the path to becoming a pilot is filled with learning and discovery, rest assured, our course is designed to make this process as seamless and enjoyable as possible. Our comprehensive and interactive lessons, combined with engaging resources, are tailored to enhance your learning experience, making complex concepts accessible and easy to grasp.

We understand that the journey to becoming a pilot is both exhilarating and demanding. But remember, you're not alone in this. Our dedicated team is here to assist you throughout your training, ensuring that you receive the guidance and support you need. With our course, you'll find that learning is not just about meeting requirements; it's about building confidence, competence, and a passion for flying.

You have the determination and capability to succeed, and we are excited to be a part of your aviation adventure. So, buckle up and get ready, your dream of flying is within reach, and we're excited to see you achieve it!

Course Objective

The objective of this Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School Training Syllabus is to equip learners with the comprehensive aeronautical knowledge essential for obtaining the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Private Pilot Certificate in the Airplane Category with a Single-Engine Land class rating. Our structured learning approach guarantees meeting the required aeronautical knowledge experience hours while emphasizing the practical application of these concepts in real-world instrument flying scenarios. The course is thoughtfully designed to not only meet the total aeronautical knowledge training hours required but also to foster real-world piloting skills. By the end of this course, learners will be prepared to excel in the **FAA Private Pilot Airplane (PAR) knowledge test** and more importantly, to become proficient, knowledgeable, confident, and safe pilots in the aviation community.

Enrollment Prerequisites

Ground Training Prerequisites: Enrolling in the Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School Training is an exciting first step on your path to becoming a pilot. While there are no strict prerequisites to begin this ground training, it is required that you are able to read, speak, and understand the English language. This competency is crucial as it forms the basis of all the learning materials, communication during training, and interaction with aviation resources such as Air Traffic Control and Flight Service.

Flight Training Prerequisites: While this syllabus covers ground school training, as you prepare for the practical aspect of becoming a pilot, there are a few key prerequisites for enrolling in a Private Pilot flight training certification course. Your flight school may have additional enrollment requirements.

1. **Citizenship Verification:** Before commencing flight training, you must verify your citizenship with your flight school or Certificated Flight Instructor (CFI), who will provide a citizenship verification endorsement. Non-USA citizens will need to undergo a security threat assessment through the Flight Training Security Program. This process is a standard security measure in aviation training required by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Your CFI or flight school can provide you with a list of documents accepted by the TSA for this purpose.
2. **Age Requirements and Certifications:**
    - For Solo Flight Training, you must be at least 16 years old to embark on the solo flight phase of your training (flying without a CFI). Additionally, you'll need to obtain a FAA Student Pilot Certificate.
    - **Medical Examination:** Prior to solo flight, you are required to pass a third-class medical exam conducted by an Aviation Medical Examiner (AME), or operate under BasicMed. This exam will provide you with the necessary medical certificate, confirming your fitness for solo flight.
    - **Overall Age Considerations:** There's no minimum age to begin flight training, and there's no maximum age for learning to fly. However, to fly solo, you must be at least 16 years old, and to obtain your Private Pilot Certificate, you must be at least 17 years old.

Remember, whether you're just starting out or picking up a lifelong dream, it's never too early or too late to start your training. Your passion for flying and commitment to the learning process are your most valuable assets in this exciting journey!

How to Complete the Course: A Guide to Your Success with Gold Seal Ground School

This syllabus is meticulously designed to guide you through your journey to becoming a Private Pilot. It is organized into six stages, where each stage is comprised of multiple modules that group individual lessons together. Within our Gold Seal Ground School Course, these ***stages*** are referred to as ***sections***. Each module within a stage covers a series of lessons that systematically address specific aeronautical knowledge topics, ensuring a comprehensive progression from foundational concepts to more complex aviation skills. This structured approach builds a solid foundation and steadily increases your expertise, ensuring readiness for each subsequent phase of your pilot training.

Interactive Learning Experience: Our course is hosted on the innovative Gold Seal Ground School online platform. Each lesson is a blend of engaging videos, some with unique interactive content, to promote active learning. This format ensures that you are not just a passive participant but an active learner, engaging with the material in a meaningful way. Our interactive features are unparalleled in quality, making our course stand out in terms of content delivery, ease of use, and effectiveness.

Description of the Checks and Tests to Measure Learner Accomplishments

Quizzes and Stage Checks: While not all lessons include a quiz, those that do are crucial in evaluating your knowledge and identifying areas that may require additional study. These quizzes are an integral part of the learning process, encompassing knowledge test questions modeled after the actual FAA test. Following each of the first five sections, you will encounter a stage check. These 30-question comprehensive quizzes are randomly generated to cover all topics presented in the section and must be passed with a minimum grade of 90%.

End-of-Course Test: Upon viewing all lessons and passing all stage checks, you will take the end-of-course test at the completion of the final section. This 60-question test is designed to simulate the FAA knowledge test and must be passed with a 90%. You can attempt this test multiple times, but only once every 24 hours, providing ample opportunity for review and preparation. To prepare for the end-of-course test, we provide you with practice exams that you can take as many times as you'd like.

Earning Your Certificate of Completion: Completing all lessons meets the aeronautical knowledge ground school requirements earning you a certificate of completion. This is a critical step towards eligibility for the private pilot-airplane practical certification test, also known as the "checkride." In addition, passing the end-of-course test, (which serves as the final exam) earns you the signed endorsement required to take the FAA Private Pilot Airplane (PAR) knowledge test. If you are completing this course under 14 CFR Part 61, the completion certificate also serves as an endorsement for completing a home course of study.

Our Commitment to Your Success: The Gold Seal course is designed to expedite your training with minimum effort, thanks to our easy-to-use platform, high-quality content, engaging videos, animations, and a constantly updated question database. We are confident that this course is the best available resource in your aviation training journey, guiding you smoothly from the basics to the complexities of pilot training.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from the course, learners are required to complete at least 35 hours* of aeronautical knowledge training, as prescribed in 14 CFR 141 Appendix B (3)(a)(1), and successfully pass all course tests, including lesson quizzes, where applicable, and comprehensive stage checks. Each module and lesson within every stage must be completed to ensure a thorough learning experience, culminating in the successful completion of the end-of-course test. This structured approach, completed via the Gold Seal Ground School, ensures that learners acquire a comprehensive understanding of aeronautical knowledge, essential for passing the FAA Private Pilot Airplane (PAR) knowledge test and for a safe, skilled piloting career.

* The minimum time requirement does not apply to learners training under Part 61.

Embark on this journey with us, where learning is not just about passing tests but becoming a skilled, knowledgeable, confident, and safe pilot ready to take on the skies!

Requirements to Become a Private Pilot

Embarking on the path to becoming a private pilot is an exciting and rewarding journey. To achieve this goal, there are specific requirements that you must meet, as outlined by the FAA. These requirements ensure that you possess the necessary knowledge, skills, and physical ability to safely operate an aircraft:

- **Age Requirement:** You must be at least 17 years of age to obtain a Private Pilot Certificate.
- **Language Proficiency:** You must be able to read, speak, and understand the English language. This proficiency is vital for effective communication and understanding of aviation regulations and procedures.
- **Flight Time Requirements:** Meet the flight time requirements specified under either Part 61 or Part 141. These requirements detail the minimum hours of flight training and experience you must have.
- **Medical Certificate:** Possess at least a third class medical certificate issued by an Aviation Medical Examiner (AME), or operate under BasicMed guidelines (required before flying solo).
- **Student Pilot Certificate:** Obtain a Student Pilot Certificate before embarking on solo flights as part of your training.
- **FAA Airman Knowledge Exam:** Successfully pass the FAA Airman Knowledge Exam for Private Pilot-Airplane (PAR) with a score of 70% or better.
- **CFI Endorsements:** Receive the necessary endorsements from your Certificated Flight Instructor (CFI). These endorsements confirm that you have met the training requirements and are prepared for the practical tests. The Gold Seal Ground School provides the endorsement attesting that your ground training has been completed.
- **Practical Test:** Pass a practical test, which includes both an oral examination and a flight evaluation. This test assesses your ability to apply your knowledge and demonstrate your flying skills.

Meeting these requirements is a significant accomplishment and brings you one step closer to the freedom and responsibility of being a Private Pilot. As you progress through your training, remember that each requirement is designed to build your competence and confidence in the flight deck, ensuring you are ready to take on the skies.

Required Materials

- Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School

Recommended Materials

While the resources below are not mandatory for course completion, we highly recommend a selection of supplementary materials to enrich your learning experience. Many of these resources are available at no cost from the FAA, offering an invaluable supplement to your studies. Within each module and lesson, you will find a curated list of additional resources that we recommend. These are free downloads and bolster your understanding of the various lesson topics.

- Navigational Plotter
- Flight Computer (Manual E6B or Electronic)
- Federal Aviation Regulations (officially, the Code of Federal Regulations, i.e. 14 CFRs)
- Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM)
- Aeronautical Chart Users' Guide
- Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge (PHAK). FAA-H-8083-25
- Airplane Flying Handbook (AFH), FAA-H-8083-3
- Aviation Weather Handbook (AWH), FAA-H-8083-28
- Weight & Balance Handbook (WB), FAA-H-8083-1
- Risk Management Handbook (RMH), FAA-H-8083-2
- Private Pilot - Airplane Airman Certification Standards (ACS), FAA-S-ACS-6
- Airman Knowledge Testing Supplement (AKTS) for Sport Pilot, Recreational Pilot, Remote Pilot, and Private Pilot, FAA-CT-8080-2

Current FAA documents and handbook versions should be used for the most up-to-date information.

Private Pilot Ground Training Modules

This Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School Course syllabus is aligned with the standards set forth in 14 CFR 141, Appendix L - Pilot Ground School Course. Presented below is a recommended timeline, detailing estimated completion times for each module, to meet the aeronautical knowledge requirements specified in 14 CFR 141 Appendix B - Private Pilot Certification Course. This schedule is provided as a guideline to assist both learners and instructors in planning and pacing the course effectively. Please note that these time estimates are not mandatory, but suggested durations. Ground instruction time encompasses active engagement with the Gold Seal Ground School course, including online study of the lessons, quiz participation and analysis, and review.

Module	Section 1	Time* (Hours)
1	Introduction to Becoming a Pilot	1.1
2	The Airport	2.1
3	The Airplane	2.8
4	Airplane Instruments	1.9
	Stage One Check	0.5
Module	**Section 2**	
5	Airspace	6.7
6	Pre-solo Flight Maneuvers	2.0
	Stage Two Check	0.5
Module	**Section 3**	
7	Engines and Systems	1.8
8	Performance Flight Maneuvers	1.3
9	Performance Takeoffs and Landings	0.9
10	Regulations	3.4
	Stage Three Check	0.5
Module	**Section 4**	
11	Weather Theory	3.2
12	Weather Charts and Services	3.3
	Stage Four Check	0.5
Module	**Section 5**	
13	Physiology, ADM, and Judgment	2.2
14	Performance and Weight & Balance	1.6
15	Flight Planning	3.5
	Stage Five Check	0.5
Module	**Section 6**	
16	Passing the Test	0.4
	End-of-Course Test	2.0
	Total Time (hours)	42.7

*Note: The total time indicated is an estimated duration based on the course content and assessments. While under Part 141, a minimum of 35.0 hours of ground training is mandated, training under Part 61 does not specify a minimum time requirement. Many learners may find that they require more time than the estimated duration to fully grasp the concepts and complete their training effectively.

Required Aeronautical Knowledge Training - Private Pilot

List of the aeronautical knowledge subjects required for ground training and where each is located within this syllabus. In accordance with the requirements of 14 CFR 141 Appendix B and Appendix L.

3.(b)	Subject	Course		
		Section	Module	Lesson(s)
1	Applicable Federal Aviation Regulations for private pilot privileges, limitations, and flight operations;	3	10	Pilot Regulations - Misc. Pilot Regulations - Part 61 Pilot Regulations - Part 91
2	Accident reporting requirements of the National Transportation Safety Board;	3	10	Pilot Regulations - Misc.
3	Applicable subjects of the “Aeronautical Information Manual” and the appropriate FAA advisory circulars;	3	10	Aeronautical Information Manual
		1	3	Aircraft Basics
4	Aeronautical charts for VFR navigation, using pilotage, dead reckoning, and navigation systems;	2	5	Latitudes and Longitudes - Sectional Charts Understanding Sectional Charts The Chart Supplement Publication
		5	15	Cross-Country Flight Planning VOR Navigation GPS: What it is and How it works
5	Radio communication procedures;	1	2	Phonetic Alphabet Airport Operations
		2	5	Untowered Airport Operations Class D VFR Arrival Class D Airport Departure
		5	15	Mastering Flight Following
6	Recognition of critical weather situations from the ground and in flight, windshear avoidance, and the procurement and use of aeronautical weather reports and forecasts;	4	11 12	Critical Weather Situations Weather Theory Part 1 Weather Theory Part 2 Atmospheric Instability Windshear Recognition and Avoidance Weather Charts for Pilots METARs, TAFs, & PIREPs
7	Safe and efficient operation of aircraft, including collision avoidance, and recognition and avoidance of wake turbulence;	2	6	Safe and Efficient Operation of Aircraft Collision Avoidance and Right of Way Rules Wake Turbulence Recognition and Avoidance
8		4	12	Density Altitude and Flying

	Effects of density altitude on takeoff and climb performance;	5	14	Performance Charts
9	Weight and balance computations;	5	14	Weight and Balance - Part 1 Weight and Balance - Part 2
10	Principles of aerodynamics, powerplants, and aircraft systems;	1	3 4	Aerodynamics 101 Aerodynamics 102 Aircraft Basics Conventional Airplane Instruments
		3	7	Engines and Systems
11	If the course of training is for an airplane category or glider category rating, stall awareness, spin entry, spins, and spin recovery techniques;	2	6	Stalls, Spins, and Spirals Stall Awareness and Recovery Spin Entry, Spins, and Spin Recovery Techniques
12	Aeronautical decision making and judgment;	5	13	Aeronautical Decision Making (ADM) and Judgment
13	Preflight action that includes - (i) How to obtain information on runway lengths at airports of intended use, data on takeoff and landing distances, weather reports and forecasts, and fuel requirements; and (ii) How to plan for alternatives if the planned flight cannot be completed or delays are encountered.	4	12	Weather Charts for Pilots METARs, TAFs, & PIREPs
		5	14 15	Performance Charts Flight Planning Calculations Planning for Alternatives

Stage 1 - Getting Started

Objective

In stage one, learners will embark on their aviation journey, gaining essential foundational knowledge and skills. They will explore what it means to become a pilot, familiarize themselves with the airport environment, understand the fundamental aspects of the airplane, and become adept at interpreting airplane instruments. This stage is designed to build a solid base from which the learner can develop into a proficient and knowledgeable aviator.

Module	Title
1	Introduction to Becoming a Pilot
2	The Airport
3	The Airplane
4	Airplane Instruments
	Stage One Check

Completion Standards

Stage completion is achieved when the learner fulfills the objectives of each module, exhibiting proficiency in understanding and applying the associated processes, exercises, and activities. Successful completion of the stage is demonstrated by the learner's ability to achieve a minimum score of 90% on the stage check assessment and complete a comprehensive review of any topics where deficiencies are noted.

Module 1 - Introduction to Becoming a Pilot

Objective

The objective of this module is to provide a foundational understanding of the journey to becoming a pilot, covering essential topics such as an introduction to aviation, methods for obtaining help and support during training, the steps involved in becoming a pilot, a detailed overview of the Airman Certification Standards (ACS), the qualifications necessary for becoming a certificated pilot, and preparing for the first flight lesson. This module is designed to equip learners with a broad understanding of the training process, set clear expectations for their learning and certification path, and ensure they are well-prepared and confident as they commence their flight training journey.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 1 - Getting Started

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Introduction - Watch this first!	☐ FAASafety.gov ☐ Learn to Fly eBook
☐ How To Get Help	☐ Support: 888-514-1945
☐ Becoming a Pilot	☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 1 - Introduction ☐ Online Form for FAA Medical Certificate ☐ Student Pilot Certificate and Endorsements
☐ ACS and Syllabus	☐ FAA Airman Certification Standards (ACS) ☐ Private Pilot Syllabus
☐ Pilot Qualifications	☐ ACS - Pilot Qualifications
☐ Your First Flight Lesson	

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 2 - The Airport

Objective

The objective of this module is to familiarize learners with the airport environment and essential aviation communication tools. This includes a comprehensive introduction to airport operations, understanding and interpreting airport signs and runway markings, mastering the phonetic alphabet for effective radio communication, and gaining proficiency in using Universal Coordinated Time (Zulu Time) for global time coordination. The module aims to ensure that learners are comfortable with the physical and communication requirements of the airport, enabling them to navigate and communicate within this space confidently and effectively.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 1 - Getting Started

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Welcome to the Airport	☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 14 - Airport Operations
☐ Airport Operations	☐ FAA PHAK Runway Incursion Avoidance ☐ FAA AFH Chapter 8 - Traffic Patterns ☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 14 - Airport Operations ☐ Radio Phraseology
☐ Airport Signs & Runway Markings	☐ FAA PHAK 14 - Airport Operations (Signs & Markings) ☐ Signs and Markings Quick Ref.
☐ Phonetic Alphabet	
☐ Zulu Time	

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 3 - The Airplane

Objective

The objective of this module is to provide learners with a thorough grounding in aircraft fundamentals and aerodynamics. The module will cover the basics of aircraft design and the key requirements for airworthiness, ensuring learners understand the essential components of an aircraft, aircraft controls, stability, V-speeds, operating limitations, and required inspections. Additionally, the learner will be introduced to basic and advanced concepts in aerodynamics, exploring the principles that enable flight. This comprehensive approach aims to equip learners with a solid understanding of how aircraft operate and the physical principles that govern their performance, laying a strong foundation for more advanced flight training.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 1 - Getting Started

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Aircraft Basics	☐ Test Topics (for lesson review) ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 3 - Aircraft Construction ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 4 - Principles of Flight ☐ Aviation Glossary ☐ Longitudinal Stability Demonstration (video) ☐ FAA Advisory Circulars Online ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 6 - Flight Controls
☐ Aircraft Requirements	☐ § 91.203 Civil aircraft: Certifications required. ☐ § 91.413 ATC transponder tests and inspections. ☐ § 91.409 Required Aircraft Inspections.
☐ Aerodynamics 101	☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 4 - Principles of Flight ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 5 - Aerodynamics ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 6 - Flight Controls
☐ Aerodynamics 102	☐ Gyroscopic Precession - Kitchen Table Science! ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 5 - Aerodynamics

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 4 - Airplane Instruments

Objective

The goal of this module is to provide learners with an in-depth understanding of the aircraft's instrument panel and the various instruments and avionics used in flight. The module will begin with an introduction to the layout and functionality of the instrument panel, followed by detailed explanations of conventional airplane instruments, including their purposes and how to read them accurately. It will also cover the operation and interpretation of gyroscopic instruments in a three-dimensional flight context, then conclude with a comprehensive overview of the magnetic compass, its importance in navigation, and how to compensate for its limitations. By the end of the module, learners will be equipped with the knowledge to effectively interpret and utilize these essential tools for safe and efficient flight operations.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 1 - Getting Started

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Meet Your Instrument Panel	
☐ Conventional Airplane Instruments	☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 8 - Flight Instruments ☐ Slipping vs. Skidding Turns (Video)
☐ Gyroscopic Instruments in 3D	
☐ The Magnetic Compass	

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage One Check

Objective

The objective of the Stage One Check is to thoroughly assess the learner's understanding and proficiency in the foundational aspects of aviation covered in this initial phase of training. The comprehensive stage check will encompass topics from each of the modules in this stage. Prior to undertaking the stage check, the learner must have completed all associated quizzes within the stage. Successful completion of this stage check is crucial in demonstrating the learner's grasp of essential aeronautical knowledge for this stage of their training.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Stage One Check

Completion Standards

The stage check is successfully completed when the learner demonstrates an understanding of all material covered in stage one by achieving a minimum passing score of 90% on the comprehensive assessment. Any areas of deficiency identified in the stage check must be thoroughly reviewed and understood by the learner to ensure a solid foundation of knowledge for this stage of training.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage 2 - Your First Few Hours

Objective

Stage Two is structured to advance the learner's comprehension of controlled and uncontrolled airspace structures, special use airspace, and operational procedures. Concurrently, the learner will prepare for their flight training to master pre-solo maneuvers, ensuring a strong practical skill set that is essential for solo flight readiness. This stage is pivotal in transitioning the learner from theoretical knowledge to applied skills in the flight deck.

Module	Title
5	Airspace
6	Pre-solo Flight Maneuvers
	Stage Two Check

Completion Standards

Stage completion is achieved when the learner fulfills the objectives of each module, exhibiting proficiency in understanding and applying the associated processes, exercises, and activities. Successful completion of the stage is demonstrated by the learner's ability to achieve a minimum score of 90% on the stage check assessment and complete a comprehensive review of any topics where deficiencies are noted.

Module 5 - Airspace

Objective

The objective of this module is to develop learner proficiency in aerial navigation and understanding of the national airspace system (NAS). Learners will learn to interpret latitudes and longitudes on sectional charts, gain a detailed understanding of how to read sectional charts effectively, and familiarize themselves with the Chart Supplement Publication for additional navigational insights. The module will further explain the intricacies of the NAS, covering the characteristics and requirements of Class A, B, C, D, E, and G airspace, and special use airspace. Additionally, practical aspects of aviation such as operations in and around non-towered airports, procedures for VFR (visual flight rules) arrivals and departures in Class D airspace, and the use and significance of transponders in aviation will be thoroughly covered. This module aims to ensure learners are well-equipped to navigate diverse airspace environments and understand the operational procedures pertinent to different types of airspaces and airports.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 2 - Your First Few Hours

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Latitudes and Longitudes - Sectional Charts	
☐ Understanding Sectional Charts	☐ FAA Aeronautical Chart User's Guide - 2020 ☐ Knowledge Testing Supplement ☐ Bonus Video: AGL vs. MSL ☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 15 - Airspaces
☐ The Chart Supplement Publication	☐ Figures (including Legends) for the quiz ☐ FAA Chart Supplement Lookup
☐ NAS Part 1 - Class A, E, and G	☐ FAA Airspace Chart
☐ NAS Part 2 - Class B, C, and D	☐ FAA Airspace Chart ☐ Knowledge Testing Supplement ☐ Airspace Review ☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 15 - Airspaces
☐ NAS Part 3 - Special Use Airspaces	
☐ Untowered Airport Operations	☐ Untowered Airport Communications ☐ AC 90-66C - Non-Towered Airport Operations
☐ Class D VFR Arrival	
☐ Class D Airport Departure	
☐ Transponders	

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 6 - Pre-solo Flight Maneuvers

Objective

This module equips learners with advanced skills in handling critical flight situations and understanding key safety procedures. The module will cover the dynamics of stalls, spins, and spirals, emphasizing the importance of stall awareness and effective recovery techniques. Learners will learn about spin entry, the nature of spins, and spin recovery methods. Additionally, the module will address wake turbulence, teaching learners how to recognize and avoid it. The concept of a stabilized approach will be introduced, alongside techniques for executing slips to a landing. The module will also cover the procedures for a go-around or rejected landing, emphasizing the importance of safe and efficient operations of aircraft. Learners will also be taught collision avoidance strategies and the right of way rules to ensure safe flight operations. The culmination of this module will prepare learners for their first solo flight, ensuring they have the knowledge and skills to perform it safely and confidently.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 2 - Your First Few Hours

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Stalls, Spins, and Spirals	☐ FAA AC 61-67C Stall and Spin Awareness Training ☐ FAA ACS - Slow Flight and Stalls ☐ FAA ACS - Spin Awareness ☐ FAA AFH Chap. 5 - Maintaining Aircraft Control
☐ Stall Awareness and Recovery	☐ Stalls - Performance Summary in Plain English ☐ FAA ACS - Slow Flight and Stalls
☐ Spin Awareness, Entry, and Recovery	☐ 12 Myths About Spins
☐ Wake Turbulence Recognition and Avoidance	☐ FAA PHAK 14 - Airport Operations (Wake Turbulence)
☐ The Stabilized Approach	☐ The Stabilized Approach (FAA)
☐ Slips to a Landing	☐ Slipping vs. Skidding Turns (Video)
☐ Go-Around: The Rejected Landing	☐ FAA AFH Chap. 9 - Go-Around (Excerpt)
☐ Safe and Efficient Operation of Aircraft	☐ Single Pilot Resource Management (PDF)
☐ Collision Avoidance and Right of Way Rules	
☐ Your First Solo Flight	☐ FAA Guide to Preflight Briefing ☐ FAA AFH Chapter 8 - Traffic Patterns ☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 9 - Manuals & Documents ☐ How Many Hours to Solo? ☐ FAA AFH Chapter 9 - Approaches and Landings

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage Two Check

Objective

The objective of the Stage Two Check is to evaluate the learner's comprehensive understanding and practical application of the concepts and skills introduced in this stage. Prior to undertaking the stage check, the learner must have completed all associated quizzes within the stage. Successful completion of this stage check ensures the learner is well-prepared and competent in both theoretical knowledge of airspace and the practical aspects of basic flight maneuvers, marking their readiness to progress to more advanced stages of training.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Stage Two Check

Completion Standards

The stage check is successfully completed when the learner demonstrates an understanding of all material covered in stage two by achieving a minimum passing score of 90% on the comprehensive assessment. Any areas of deficiency identified in the stage check must be thoroughly reviewed and understood by the learner to ensure a solid foundation of knowledge for this stage of training.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage 3 - Skill Building

Objective

Stage Three aims to deepen the learner's technical knowledge and hands-on proficiency. Learners will gain knowledge about the intricacies of aircraft engines and systems, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the aircraft they pilot. They will refine their skills by discovering the theory behind advanced performance flight maneuvers and discover the advanced procedures required to master precision in takeoffs and landings under varying conditions. Additionally, learners will become well-versed in aviation regulations, an essential component of safe and responsible flying. This stage equips learners with the critical skills and knowledge required for complex flight operations.

Module	Title
7	Engines and Systems
8	Performance Flight Maneuvers
9	Performance Takeoffs and Landings
10	Regulations
	Stage Three Check

Completion Standards

Stage completion is achieved when the learner fulfills the objectives of each module, exhibiting proficiency in understanding and applying the associated processes, exercises, and activities. Successful completion of the stage is demonstrated by the learner's ability to achieve a minimum score of 90% on the stage check assessment and complete a comprehensive review of any topics where deficiencies are noted.

Module 7 - Engines and Systems

Objective

The objective of this module is to provide learners with a comprehensive understanding of aircraft engines and various systems essential for flight. The module will cover different types of aircraft engines, including their design, function, and operating principles. Learners will also learn about key aircraft systems, including the powerplant, propeller, landing gear, fuel, oil, electrical, environmental, deicing and anti-icing, and oxygen systems gaining knowledge on how these systems interact and contribute to the overall operation and safety of the aircraft. The aim is to equip learners with the technical knowledge required to understand, monitor, and manage aircraft engines and systems effectively, which is crucial for safe and efficient piloting.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 3 - Skill Building

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Engines and Systems	☐ Test Topics ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 7 - Aircraft Systems ☐ Aviation Weather Handbook Chap. 20 - Icing

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 8 - Performance Flight Maneuvers

Objective

The goal of this module is to develop learner's skills in executing various flight maneuvers and managing unusual attitudes. The module will begin with clearing turns, teaching learners how to ensure a safe area around the aircraft before performing maneuvers. Learners will then learn about ground reference maneuvers, focusing on mastering turns around a point, s-turns, and flying a rectangular course, all of which are essential for improving piloting precision and understanding of wind effects. The module will also cover steep turns, emphasizing the importance of maintaining control and orientation during high bank angle maneuvers. Finally, learners will be trained in unusual attitude recoveries, equipping them with the skills to recognize and correct unusual flight attitudes, thereby enhancing their overall airmanship and safety awareness in various flight conditions.

Gold Seal Ground School: Section 3 - Skill Building

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Clearing Turns	
☐ Ground Reference Maneuvers	☐ Ground Reference Maneuvers Summary ☐ Flight Maneuvers (All) Performance Requirements ☐ FAA ACS - Ground Reference Maneuvers ☐ FAA AFH Chap. 7 - Ground Reference Maneuvers
☐ Ground Ref. - Turns Around a Point	☐ FAA AFH Chap. 7 - Turns Around a Point p.7
☐ Ground Ref. - S-Turns	☐ FAA AFH Chap. 7 - S-Turns p.8
☐ Ground Ref. - Rectangular Course	☐ FAA AFH Chap. 7 - Rectangular Course p.5
☐ Steep Turns	☐ ACS - Steep Turns ☐ FAA AFH Chap. 10 - Performance Maneuvers
☐ Unusual Attitude Recoveries	☐ ACS - Unusual Attitude Recoveries

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 9 - Performance Takeoffs and Landings

Objective

This module is designed to teach learners the specialized techniques and skills required for short-field and soft-field operations, as well as how to handle emergencies during takeoff and landing. The module will begin with short-field operations, focusing on both takeoff and landing procedures that enable safe and efficient operation in confined spaces, emphasizing the importance of precise speed and flight path control. This will be followed by soft-field operations, where learners will develop the techniques for takeoff on unimproved or soft surfaces, addressing challenges like reduced tire traction and increased drag. The module will also cover takeoff emergencies, equipping learners with the knowledge and skills to quickly and effectively respond to various scenarios that may occur during and shortly after takeoff. Additionally, learners will be trained in emergency approach and landing procedures, ensuring they are prepared to handle situations where an immediate landing is necessary due to aircraft malfunction or other in-flight emergencies. This comprehensive training aims to enhance learner's confidence and competence in handling complex and challenging flight operations.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 3 - Skill Building

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Short-Field Operations - Takeoff	☐ FAA ACS - Short Field Operations
☐ Short-Field Operations - Landing	☐ FAA ACS - Short Field Operations
☐ Soft-Field Operations: Takeoff	☐ FAA ACS - Soft Field Operations
☐ Takeoff Emergencies	☐ Flying Magazine - Russ Still - Engine Failures After Takeoff ☐ Takeoff Emergency - Engine Failure with Runway Remaining
☐ Emergency Approach and Landing	☐ ACS Emergency Approach and Landing (PAR 2024) ☐ Flying Magazine - Russ Still - Engine Failures After Takeoff ☐ Takeoff Emergency - Engine Failure with Runway Remaining ☐ Emergency Descents ☐ ACS Emergency Descents (PAR 2024)

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 10 - Regulations

Objective

The objective of this module is to provide learners with a thorough understanding of the applicable regulations for private pilot privileges, limitations, and flight operations. The module begins with an introduction to the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM), which provides comprehensive information on standard flight procedures and ATC services in the United States. The module then covers miscellaneous pilot regulations, offering insights into general rules and requirements that pilots must adhere to, including the NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board) accident reporting requirements. It will then cover the specifics of 14 CFR Part 61, which deals with certification of pilots, flight instructors, and ground instructors, ensuring learners are well-versed in the requirements for obtaining and maintaining pilot certifications. Following this, the module will cover 14 CFR Part 91, focusing on general operating and flight rules, to equip learners with a deep understanding of the regulations that govern the operation of aircraft. By the end of this module, learners will have a solid grasp of the regulatory framework within which they must operate as pilots, ensuring safe and compliant flight practices.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 3 - Skill Building

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Regulations and Aeronautical Information Manual	☐ FAA Aeronautical Information Manual ☐ FAA Regulations (ecfr.gov)
☐ Pilot Regulations - Misc.	☐ Misc. VFR Pilot Regulations
☐ Pilot Regulations - Part 61	☐ Part 61 VFR Pilot Training Regulations
☐ Pilot Regulations - Part 91	☐ Part 91 VFR Pilot Regulations ☐ FAA Regulations Online

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage Three Check

Objective

The objective of the Stage Three Check is to evaluate the learner's comprehensive understanding and practical application of the concepts and skills introduced in this stage. The comprehensive stage check will encompass topics from each of the modules in this stage. Prior to undertaking the stage check, the learner must have completed all associated quizzes within the stage. Successful completion of this stage check indicates the learner's proficiency in these technical and practical domains, signifying their readiness for more complex aspects of pilot training.

Gold Seal Ground School: Stage Three Check

Completion Standards

The stage check is successfully completed when the learner demonstrates an understanding of all material covered in stage three by achieving a minimum passing score of 90% on the comprehensive assessment. Any areas of deficiency identified in the stage check must be thoroughly reviewed and understood by the learner to ensure a solid foundation of knowledge for this stage of training.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage 4 - Aviation Weather

Objective

Stage Four is dedicated to the comprehensive study of meteorology as it applies to aviation. Learners will discover insight into weather theory, gaining an understanding of the atmospheric forces that affect flight. They will become proficient in interpreting weather charts and utilizing weather services, crucial skills for preflight planning and in-flight decision-making. This stage empowers learners to anticipate and respond to meteorological conditions, enhancing safety and efficiency in their future flights.

Module	Title
11	Weather Theory
12	Weather Charts and Services
	Stage Four Check

Completion Standards

Stage completion is achieved when the learner fulfills the objectives of each module, exhibiting proficiency in understanding and applying the associated processes, exercises, and activities. Successful completion of the stage is demonstrated by the learner's ability to achieve a minimum score of 90% on the stage check assessment and complete a comprehensive review of any topics where deficiencies are noted.

Module 11 - Weather Theory

Objective

The objective of this module is to provide learners with a comprehensive understanding of critical weather phenomena and their impact on aviation from the ground and in flight. This includes an in-depth exploration into weather theory in two parts, where learners will first grasp the fundamental concepts of meteorology and then delve into more complex atmospheric dynamics. The module also focuses on atmospheric instability, educating learners on how it can affect flight conditions and aircraft performance. Additionally, the module equips learners with the skills to recognize and avoid windshear, a potentially hazardous weather situation. By the end of this module, learners will have gained crucial knowledge and skills to make informed decisions in the presence of challenging weather conditions, enhancing their overall flight safety and proficiency.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 4 - Aviation Weather

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Critical Weather Situations	
☐ Weather Theory Part 1	☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 12 - Weather Theory
☐ Weather Theory Part 2	☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 12 - Weather Theory
☐ Atmospheric Instability	
☐ Windshear Recognition and Avoidance	

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 12 - Weather Charts and Services

Objective

The aim of this module is to equip learners with the knowledge and skills necessary to understand and respond to weather-related challenges in aviation. The module will begin with an exploration of density altitude and its impact on aircraft performance (i.e. takeoff and climb performance), teaching learners how to adjust their flying techniques in varying atmospheric conditions. Learners will then learn about the procurement and use of aeronautical weather reports and forecasts, and how to interpret and use weather charts, an essential skill for flight planning and in-flight decision-making. The module will also cover METARs (Meteorological Terminal Aviation Routine Weather Reports), TAFs (Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts), and PIREPs (Pilot Reports), ensuring learners can accurately read and understand these critical weather reporting tools. Additionally, the module will include practical training in calculating crosswind components, a vital skill for safe takeoffs and landings in windy conditions. Finally, the module will cover VFR minimums, teaching learners the minimum visibility and distance from clouds required for safe VFR flight. This comprehensive approach will enable learners to confidently manage weather-related variables and maintain safety in various flight conditions.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 4 - Aviation Weather

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Density Altitude and Flying	☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 12 - Weather Theory ☐ Density Altitude Charts
☐ Weather Charts for Pilots	☐ Weather Charts Used in Quiz ☐ Weather Chart Summary ☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 13 - Aviation Weather Services ☐ Aviation Weather Handbook FAA-H-8083-28
☐ METARs, TAFs, & PIREPs	☐ Deciphering METARs ☐ NOAA METARs & TAFs - Online Lookup ☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 13 - Aviation Weather Services
☐ Calculating Crosswind Components	☐ Crosswind Components Chart
☐ VFR Minimums	☐ VFR Weather Minimums Chart

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage Four Check

Objective

The objective of the Stage Four Check is to evaluate the learner's comprehensive understanding and practical application of the concepts and skills introduced in this stage. The comprehensive stage check will encompass topics from each of the modules in this stage. Prior to undertaking the stage check, the learner must have completed all associated quizzes within the stage. Successful completion of this stage check signifies the learner's proficiency in interpreting and applying weather-related information, a critical skill for safe and effective pilot decision-making, and prepares them for advanced stages of pilot training.

Gold Seal Ground School: Stage Four Check

Completion Standards

The stage check is successfully completed when the learner demonstrates an understanding of all material covered in stage four by achieving a minimum passing score of 90% on the comprehensive assessment. Any areas of deficiency identified in the stage check must be thoroughly reviewed and understood by the learner to ensure a solid foundation of knowledge for this stage of training.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage 5 - Real-World Flying

Objective

In Stage Five, learners will integrate the human factor into aviation, exploring the physiological aspects that impact pilot performance, and developing their aeronautical decision-making (ADM) and judgment skills. They will also learn to calculate and assess aircraft performance and weight & balance to ensure optimal aircraft handling and compliance with flight regulations. Furthermore, learners will apply this knowledge to comprehensive flight planning, synthesizing technical data and human elements into safe and efficient flight plans.

Module	Title
13	Physiology, ADM, and Judgment
14	Performance and Weight & Balance
15	Flight Planning
	Stage Five Check

Completion Standards

Stage completion is achieved when the learner fulfills the objectives of each module, exhibiting proficiency in understanding and applying the associated processes, exercises, and activities. Successful completion of the stage is demonstrated by the learner's ability to achieve a minimum score of 90% on the stage check assessment and complete a comprehensive review of any topics where deficiencies are noted.

Module 13 - Physiology, ADM, and Judgment

Objective

This module aims to deepen learner's understanding of the physiological and psychological aspects of flying, enhance their decision-making skills, and prepare them for the unique challenges of night flight. The module will start with aeromedical factors, educating learners about the effects of altitude, spatial disorientation, hypoxia, and other physiological considerations that can impact pilot performance. It will then focus on aeronautical decision making (ADM) and judgment, emphasizing the importance of critical thinking, situational awareness, and risk management in various flight scenarios. This includes training in identifying and addressing potential hazards, making informed decisions, and managing stress effectively. The final part of the module will cover night flight operations, instructing learners on the specific skills and knowledge required for flying after dark, such as navigation, aircraft lighting systems, and adaptation to night vision. This comprehensive approach is designed to ensure that learners are well-equipped to maintain safety and make sound decisions in all aspects of flight, including during the more challenging conditions of night flying.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 5 - Real-World Flying

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Aeromedical Factors	☐ FAA PHAK Chapter 17 - Aeromedical Factors
☐ Aeronautical Decision Making (ADM) & Judgment	☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 2 - Aeronautical Decision Making ☐ AC 61-134: Controlled Flight into Terrain ☐ AC 60-22: Aeronautical Decision Making ☐ Test Topics
☐ Night Flight	☐ ACS - Night Flight

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 14 - Performance and Weight & Balance

Objective

The goal of this module is to provide learners with a thorough understanding of how to utilize performance charts and conduct accurate weight and balance computations for safe aircraft operation. The module will introduce learners to various types of performance charts, teaching them how to read and interpret data such as the effect of density altitude on takeoff distance, rate of climb, and fuel consumption under different conditions. This knowledge is crucial for planning and executing flights safely and efficiently. The module will then progress to the fundamentals of weight and balance, with Part 1 covering the importance of calculating the correct center of gravity (CG) and understanding its impact on aircraft handling and performance. In Part 2, learners will delve into the practical application of these principles, learning how to calculate and adjust weight and balance for different flight scenarios. By mastering these skills, learners will be able to ensure their aircraft is loaded within its operational limits, enhancing flight safety and performance.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 5 - Real-World Flying

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Performance Charts	☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 11 - Aircraft Performance ☐ Test Topics ☐ Airplane Performance Charts
☐ Weight and Balance - Part 1	☐ PHAK Chap. 10 - Weight & Balance
☐ Weight and Balance - Part 2	☐ Weight & Balance Charts ☐ FAA Weight & Balance Summary ☐ Test Topics ☐ PHAK Chap. 10 - Weight & Balance

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Module 15 - Flight Planning

Objective

The objective of this extensive module is to develop learner's proficiency in various navigation methods and comprehensive cross-country flight planning. The module will begin with VOR (VHF Omnidirectional Range) navigation, teaching learners how to use this traditional form of navigation effectively. It will then move on to GPS (Global Positioning System) navigation, explaining what GPS is, how it works, and its applications in modern aviation. Following this, learners will learn the intricacies of flight following, a service provided by air traffic control to enhance flight safety. The module will then teach flight planning calculations, where learners will learn to compute key parameters like fuel requirements, time en-route, and wind corrections. Cross-country flight planning will be a major focus, encompassing both theoretical and practical aspects, including how to obtain information on runway lengths at airports of intended use, route selection, weather considerations, and navigation. Learners will explore cross-country considerations in two parts, covering various scenarios and challenges they might encounter during long-distance flights. Finally, the module will address planning for alternatives, teaching learners how to prepare for contingencies such as changing weather conditions, airspace restrictions, and potential emergencies. Additionally, learners will understand the importance of briefing passengers on safety protocols and equipping the aircraft with essential survival gear for emergency situations. The comprehensive coverage of these topics aims to equip learners with the skills and knowledge necessary for safe, efficient, and independent navigation over long distances.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 5 - Real-World Flying

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ VOR Navigation	☐ Test Topics ☐ FAA Figures Used in Quiz ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 16 - Navigation
☐ GPS: What it is and How it works	☐ FAA PHAK Chao. 16 - GPS p.30
☐ Mastering Flight Following	☐ Flight Following - How it Works and How to Get It ☐ ACS - Navigation Systems and Radar Services
☐ Cross-Country Flight Planning	☐ Flight Planning - Step-by-step ☐ Checkride Tips Webinar ☐ Sectionals Used in Quiz ☐ Getting a Good Weather Briefing ☐ FAA PHAK Chap. 16 - Navigation ☐ Calculating Zulu Time (video)
☐ Flight Planning Calculations	
☐ Cross-Country Considerations Part 1	
☐ Cross-Country Considerations Part 2	
☐ Planning for Alternatives	
☐ Safety Briefing and Survival Gear	

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. Lesson quizzes must be completed to identify areas needing further study. The learner is expected to review any incorrect responses to ensure a thorough grasp of the content before progressing.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage Five Check

Objective

The objective of the Stage Five Check is to evaluate the learner's comprehensive understanding and practical application of the concepts and skills introduced in this stage. The comprehensive stage check will encompass topics from each of the modules in this stage. Prior to undertaking the stage check, the learner must have completed all associated quizzes within the stage. Successful completion of this stage check demonstrates the learner's readiness to handle complex flight planning and decision-making scenarios, advancing them toward the final stages of their pilot training.

Gold Seal Ground School: Stage Five Check

Completion Standards

The stage check is successfully completed when the learner demonstrates an understanding of all material covered in stage five by achieving a minimum passing score of 90% on the comprehensive assessment. Any areas of deficiency identified in the stage check must be thoroughly reviewed and understood by the learner to ensure a solid foundation of knowledge for this stage of training.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Stage 6 - Test Prep

Objective

Stage Six is the final preparatory phase for learners, focused on ensuring they have the knowledge and skills to pass their certification tests with confidence. This stage will provide a comprehensive review and test preparation strategy, equip learners with the necessary tools and techniques to pass the private pilot knowledge test, and share valuable tips for achieving success in the checkride. It will conclude with guidance on post-certification advancement, helping learners map out the next steps in their aviation journey and continued proficiency in flying.

Module	Title
16	Passing the Test
	End-of-Course Test

Completion Standards

Stage completion is achieved when the learner fulfills the objectives of the module, exhibiting proficiency in understanding and applying the associated processes, exercises, and activities. Successful completion of the stage is demonstrated by the learner's ability to achieve a minimum score of 90% on the end-of-course assessment and complete a comprehensive review of any topics where deficiencies are noted.

Module 16 - Test Prep

Objective

The objective of this module is to equip learners with focused strategies for successfully passing the FAA private pilot knowledge test (written test), and the FAA practical test (checkride), and to guide them in planning their future in aviation. This includes an overview of effective test preparation methods, specific tips for mastering the written test, and key insights for checkride success, emphasizing evaluator expectations and practical demonstration of flying skills. The module concludes with a forward-looking segment on post-certification opportunities, discussing advanced training, and ongoing skill development, ensuring learners are not only prepared for the immediate tests but also have a clear roadmap for their aviation journey ahead.

Gold Seal Private Pilot Ground School: Section 6 - Passing the Test

Required Lessons	Additional Resources
☐ Test Preparation Overview	☐ FAA Knowledge Testing Supplement - 2018 ☐ FAA Airman Certification Standards (ACS)
☐ Private Pilot Written Test - Prepare to Pass!	☐ FAA Knowledge Testing Supplement – 2018 ☐ Private Pilot Know It All (Study Guide)
☐ Secrets to Checkride Success	☐ Gold Seal Oral Exam Summary ☐ FAA Airman Certification Standards (ACS) ☐ FAA Form 8710 ☐ Video: Checkride Tips ☐ Private Pilot Know It All (Study Guide) ☐ Practical Test Checklist (from ACS)

Completion Standards

This module is successfully completed when the learner has engaged with and understood all topics presented within the module lessons. At the completion of this module, the learner will be prepared to pass the end-of-course test.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

End-of-Course Test

Objective

The objective of the end-of-course test is to rigorously assess the learner's grasp of all the material presented throughout the ground training course, thereby gauging their preparedness for the FAA Private Pilot-Airplane knowledge test. The end-of-course test, comprised of 60 questions, mirrors the format and scope of the FAA exam, serving as both a benchmark for the learner's proficiency and a final step before undertaking the official FAA exam. Learners are encouraged to take advantage of unlimited practice exams available within the exams menu, ensuring they approach the end-of-course test with confidence and a robust understanding of the subject matter.

Gold Seal Ground School: End-of-Course Test

Completion Standards

The end-of-course test is completed successfully when the learner achieves a minimum passing score of 90%, demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of the course material and readiness for the FAA Private Pilot-Airplane knowledge test. Upon completion, the learner is required to review all incorrect answers to reinforce understanding and rectify any deficiencies. This review process is critical to ensuring the learner has fully grasped the essential concepts and is prepared for the official FAA knowledge test.

Training Log

Study Date(s)	Completion Date	Learner Signature
_____ _____ _____	_____	_____

Enrollment and Graduation Certificates

Enrollment Certificate

This is to certify that

_____

Learner Name

is enrolled in the Federal Aviation Administration approved Private Pilot Ground School Course

conducted by

_____

School Name and Certificate Number

_____ _____

Chief Instructor *Enrollment Date*

Graduation Certificate

This is to certify that

_____

Learner Name and Number

has satisfactorily completed the course requirements, stages and tests, received _____ hours of cross-country training, and has graduated from the Federal Aviation Administration approved Private Pilot Ground School Course

conducted by

_____

School Name and Certificate Number

_____ _____

Chief Instructor *Date of Graduation*

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