

You will begin your course, [mind](#) with your Certificated Flight Instructor, building the foundation of knowledge and skills that you will need to become a safe pilot. These skills include the ability to inspect or 'preflight' the airplane, taxiing, use of a checklist, and the ability to follow procedures for a wide variety of activities.

During the lessons, your instructor will evaluate your performance, looking for areas where improvement can be made, as well as reinforcing the good practices that have been learned. Using such proven training techniques will help you build your skills at the fastest pace possible.

Each time you fly an entry will be made in your personal flight logbook that details the maneuvers and tasks that were performed, the number of landings made, and the length of the flight. Some of the maneuvers you will be practicing include climbs, turns, descents, slow flight, stalls, emergency procedures, and many landings.

Prior to solo flight the student pilot must be examined by an FAA certified flight physician and receive at least a Third Class Medical Certificate. The FAA physical is comprehensive, but surprisingly simple in nature. The examination includes a test of your vision, hearing, blood pressure, and other factors including a review of your health history.

It is never too soon to begin preparing for the FAA Private Written Exam. A home-study program is available as part of your training with Ukiah Aviation. Your Flight Instructor will personally supervise your progress through the course material, and provide sample tests, and any additional assistance required to prepare you for the FAA Exam. A complete set of up-to-date King Video tapes and the recently releases Cessna Cd set--Cleared For Takeoff are also available as a pre-test review. A minimum passing grade of seventy percent is required.

At some time during this initial evaluation period, your instructor will decide that you are ready for solo flight. You will then conduct takeoffs and landings in the vicinity of the Ukiah airport under carefully controlled conditions. Entering the solo phase of the flight training is an important milestone for the student, yet there is no fixed time when a student must solo.

The next segment of your training is the cross-country phase which involves flying from one

airport to another. This activity will consist of airborne navigation such as pilotage and radio navigation. Cross-country training begins with a few trips with your Flight Instructor which show you the procedures necessary to build your confidence before you set off on your own cross-country flights.

FAA regulations require at least five hours of solo cross-country flight time between airports more than fifty nautical miles from the departure point. One of these flights must be at least one hundred and fifty nautical miles, with one segment consisting of a straight-line distance of at least fifty nautical miles between takeoff and landing. During your cross-country flights you will complete three solo landings at airports with control towers. Upon completion of the cross-country requirements your Instructor will fly with you for at least three hours of night training, including one cross-country flight of over one hundred nautical miles. Finally your instructor will spend several hours with you preparing for your final checkride with an FAA Designated Examiner. Upon completion of your flight check you will receive your Private Pilot's Certificate, you are now eligible to take passengers with you and fly local or long-distance flights--The world opens up to you!