CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD

WASHINGTON, D. C.

CIVIL AIR REGULATIONS

PART 26—AIR-TRAFFIC CONTROL-TOWER OPERATOR CERTIFICATES

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QUALIFICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE

26.1 General. An applicant must be a citizen of and of unquestionable loyalty to the United States, temperamentally fit, and not less than 21 years of age. He must be able to read, write, and understand the English language, and to speak the English language without any accent or impediment of speech which would interfere with two-way radio conversation.

26.10 Physical condition. Applicant shall meet the physical standards of the Second Class prescribed in Part 29.

26.11 Knowledge. An applicant must pass an examination in the following subjects: [1]

(a) Air traffic rules set forth in Part 60 of the Civil Air Regulations;
(b) Airport traffic control procedures, and Part 26 of the Civil Air Regulations;
(c) Airway traffic control procedures;
(d) Radio frequencies and procedures used for airport traffic control;
(e) Use of radio aids to air navigation;
(f) The making of weather observations;
(g) Pertinent rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission. An applicant who presents satisfactory evidence that he possesses a restricted radiotelephone operator's permit or higher grade of radiotelephone operator's license issued by the Federal Communications Commission will not be required to take the examination prescribed in this subsection.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR RATINGS

26.2 Character of ratings. The holder of an air-traffic control-tower operator certificate (hereafter referred to as "certificate") may receive a junior or senior rating, depending upon his qualifications to perform the duties of an air-traffic control-tower operator (hereafter referred to as "operator") at a particular airport.

26.20 Qualifications for junior rating. An applicant must pass an examination on the following subjects:

(a) Local airport rules of the airport for which the rating is sought;

[1] Lists of source material covering the subject matter of these examinations can be obtained from any Regional Manager of the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

(b) Local aircraft operations and such other aircraft operations as may affect conditions at the airport for which the rating is sought;
(c) Teletype symbols and weather sequences of the airways converging on the airport for which the rating is sought;
(d) Any other subject or subjects in which the Administrator may deem an examination necessary.[2]

26.21 Qualifications for senior rating.

26.210 Knowledge. An applicant must pass an examination in the subjects required for a junior rating and, in addition, the following subjects:
(a) Air-navigation facilities within a radius of 200 miles of the airport for which the rating is sought;
(b) Airway traffic control procedures in the area in which the airport for which the rating is sought is located;
(c) Instrument approach and departure procedures at the airport for which the rating is sought;
(d) Any other subject or subjects in which the Administrator may deem an examination necessary.[3]

26.211 Experience. An applicant must have performed satisfactory service:
(a) As an operator with a senior rating for at least 6 months; or
(b) As an operator with a junior rating at the airport for which the rating is sought for the 6 months immediately preceding application; or
(c) As an air-traffic control trainee in Federal service for at least 6 months; or
(d) For 1 year of the 2 years immediately preceding application as :
(1) An operator with a junior rating at an airport other than that at which the rating is sought; or
(2) An operator at a landing area under military or naval jurisdiction.

26.212 Other requirements. The applicant must demonstrate his ability to supervise and manage all activities of the airport control tower or airport control station, which shall at least include the preparation of such reports as may be required from time to time by the airport manager or the Administrator.

EXAMINATIONS

26.3 General. The prescribed examinations will be conducted by representatives of the Administrator at a designated time and place. The passing grade in any subject shall be at least 70 percent.

26.30 Physical examinations.
(a) The prescribed physical requirements must be met before any practical or theoretical examination will be given and must be completed within the 12 months immediately preceding application for a certificate.
(b) In lieu of a physical examination conducted by an authorized medical examiner of the Administrator, a form acceptable to the Administrator, signed by a medical officer on duty with the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard who is authorized to conduct physical examinations for flying stating that the applicant is an active member of his service and has met within the preceding 12 months the physical requirements prescribed by §26.10.

26.31 Reexamination. An applicant who has failed to pass any examination may apply for reexamination after the expiration of 30 days from the date of his failure.

ISSUANCE AND EXPIRATION OF CERTIFICATES

26.4 Duration. An air-traffic control-tower operator's certificate shall be of 60 days' duration, and unless the holder is otherwise notified by the Administrator within such period, it shall continue in effect thereafter until otherwise specified by the Board, unless suspended or revoked.

26.40 Unassigned.

26.41 Expired certificates: special issuance. The holder of an air-traffic control-tower operator certificate which has expired during the preceding twelve months may obtain a new

[2] The applicant will be given adequate notice of the subject of the examination.
[3] The applicant will be given adequate notice of the subject of the examination.

certificate and the same rating theretofore held immediately prior to its expiration, upon application, by demonstrating to the satisfaction of the Administrator that he is able to meet the standards currently prescribed by the Civil Air Regulations for the issuance of the certificate and rating.

26.42 Transfer of a certificate is prohibited.

26.43 Revocation. No person whose air-traffic control-tower operator certificate has been revoked shall apply for or be issued an air-traffic control-tower operator certificate of any rating for a period of one year after the revocation, except as the order of revocation may otherwise provide.

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26.5 Rating record. A certificated operator shall not serve as such unless there is attached to his certificate the appropriate rating record prescribed and issued by the Administrator, nor serve otherwise than in accordance with the limitations prescribed by the Administrator in his certificate or rating record.[4]

26.50 Exercise of authority. An operator on duty at a control airport within an airway traffic control area or a control zone of intersection shall not authorize contact flight rule operations below contact flight rule weather minimums in accordance with the authority vested in such operators by Part 60 of the Civil Air Regulations,[5] unless the operator previously notifies either the airway traffic control center if the airport is located in an airway traffic control area or airway communication station if the airport is located in a control zone of intersection of the action to be taken: *Provided*, That an operator with a junior rating shall not exercise this authority unless such action is taken with the consent of an operator with a senior rating for the particular airport, who is on duty and is present in the control tower at the time the authorization is given.

26.51 Control airports. An operator with a junior rating shall not control air traffic at a control airport except under the supervision of an operator with a senior rating for such airport: *Provided*, That in an emergency the person in charge of the tower may authorize an operator with a junior rating for the airport to control air traffic during the period of such emergency, if such person immediately notifies the regional manager of the Administrator, for the region in which the airport is located, of the existence of the emergency and the facts and circumstances surrounding it: *Provided further*, That whenever the Administrator finds, in the interest of safety, that this authority should not be exercised, it shall terminate upon notification by the Administrator.

26.52 Relaying information. An operator shall not relay information or instructions received from airway traffic control personnel, airway communications, or United States Weather Bureau airport stations, otherwise than in the manner approved by the Administrator.

26.53 Maximum hours. Except in case of an emergency, a certificated operator shall be relieved of all duty for not less than 24 consecutive hours at least once during each 7 consecutive days, and shall not serve, nor be required to serve, as such:

(a) In excess of 10 consecutive hours;

(b) In excess of 10 hours during a period of 24 consecutive hours unless the operator is given a rest period of not less than 8 hours at or before the termination of such 10 hours of duty.

26.54 Display of certificate. An operator shall keep his certificate readily available when he is on duty and shall present it for inspection upon request of any officer or employee of the Administrator or Board and of any State or municipal official charged with the duty of enforcing local laws or regulations involving Federal compliance.

26.540 Medical certificate. A medical certificate issued by an authorized medical examiner of the Administrator or other evidence satisfactory to the Administrator that the air-traffic control-tower operator has met the physical requirements prescribed in this Part shall be carried by such airman while on duty.

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[4] The rating record is a sheet, which will be attached to all certificates when they are issued and will prescribe the airports at which the holder is authorized to serve and the class of rating held.

[5] Part 60 of the Civil Air Regulations empowers an operator on duty in a radio-equipped airport control tower in operation at a control airport to authorize flying in a control zone when the ceiling or visibility is below the minimums which prevail in the absence of any such special authorization.

26.55 Performance standards. A certificated air-traffic control-tower operator shall control air traffic in accordance with practices and procedures prescribed by the Administrator as being best calculated, among other things, to avoid collisions and to establish uniformity in air-traffic control.

26.56 Equipment standards. A certificated air-traffic control-tower operator shall not control air traffic with facilities which the Administrator has determined to be inadequate.

26.57 Inspection. An applicant or a holder of a certificate or rating, upon reasonable request by any representative of the Administrator, shall cooperate fully in any examination which may be made of him.

26.58 Surrender of certificate. Upon the suspension, revocation, or expiration of a certificate, the holder shall, upon request, surrender such certificate to a representative or employee of the Administrator.

26.59 Identification card. No person shall serve as an air-traffic control-tower operator, after May 15, 1942, unless he has in his possession, in addition to a currently effective control-tower operator certificate, an identification card, satisfactory to the Administrator, containing his fingerprints, his picture, and his signature.

26.60 Periodic physical examination. The holder of an air-traffic control-tower operator's certificate shall not exercise the privileges thereunder unless within the preceding 12 calendar months he has met the physical standards of the Second Class prescribed in Part 29 by passing an examination conducted by an authorized medical examiner of the Administrator.

26.61 Recent experience requirements. The holder of an air-traffic control-tower operator's certificate shall not exercise the privileges thereunder unless:

(1) If rated as a junior air-traffic control-tower operator he has served for at least three months as an operator at the airport to which the rating applies during the twelve calendar months immediately preceding, or

(2) If rated as a senior air-traffic control-tower operator he has served for at least three months as an operator at the airport to which the rating applies during the six calendar months immediately preceding, or

(3) He has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Administrator that he is able to meet the standards currently prescribed by the Civil Air Regulations for the issuance of the certificate and rating.

26.62 Reports. The holder of an air-traffic control-tower operator certificate shall furnish the medical examiner, at the time of each physical examination, to be forwarded by him to the Administrator, a report setting forth the amount and type of his aeronautical experience and such other pertinent data as the Administrator may require, since his last preceding medical examination.

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