Ground Instructor Rating

FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY

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Introductory Note

This manual contains in consolidated form (1) Civil Air Regulations Part 51, Ground Instructor Rating, dated June 1, 1955, Amendments 51–1 and 51–2, and the editorial changes required by Special Regulation SR–430, effective December 31, 1958; and (2) the rules issued by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Agency in application of section 51.17 of the regulations.

FAA *rules* are supplementary regulations issued pursuant to authority expressly conferred on the Administrator in the Civil Air Regulations. Such rules are mandatory and must be complied with.

FAA *policies* provide detailed technical information on recommended methods of complying with the Civil Air Regulations. Such policies are for the guidance of the public and are not mandatory in nature.

FAA *interpretations* define or explain words and phrases of the Civil Air Regulations. Such interpretations are for the guidance of the public and will be followed by the Agency in determining compliance with the regulations.

This manual is arranged to give the number, title, and text of each section of the regulations followed by any rules, policies, or interpretations applicable to that section. These rules, policies, or interpretations of the Administrator are identified by consecutive dash numbers appended to the regulation section number.

As amendments and other pertinent materials pertaining to Part 51 are issued, they will be included in this manual.

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Ground Instructor Rating

51.1 *Ground instructor rating and certificate requirements.* A ground instructor rating and certificate with respect to any ground school subject in which a certificated flying school is required to provide instruction will be issued to an applicant who complies with the following requirements:

(a) *Age.* 18 years is the minimum age for the issuance of a ground instructor rating and certificate.

(b) *Character.* Applicant shall be of good moral character.

(c) *Citizenship.* An applicant for a ground instructor rating and certificate may be a citizen of any country or a person without nationality.

(d) *Aeronautical knowledge.* Applicant shall have practical and theoretical knowledge of each ground school subject with respect to which he seeks a rating. Such knowledge shall be sufficient to accomplish satisfactorily a written examination thereon.

Ground Instructor Certificate

51.2 *Application.* Application for a ground instructor certificate shall be made upon the applicable form prescribed and furnished by the Administrator.

51.3 *Display.* A ground instructor certificate shall be kept readily available to the instructor at all times when he is engaged in giving instruction in any ground school subject with respect to which he is rated, and shall be presented upon the request of any student receiving such instruction, school officer, or authorized representative of the Administrator.

51.4 *Duration.* A ground instructor 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 Administrator, unless suspended or revoked.

(a) *Temporary certificates.* The Administrator or his authorized representative may issue a temporary ground instructor certificate for a period of not to exceed 90 days, subject to the terms and conditions specified therein by the Administrator.

51.5 *Recent experience requirements.* The holder of a ground instructor certificate shall not exercise the privileges thereunder unless during the preceding twelve calendar months he has:

(1) Served for at least three months as a ground school instructor, or

(2) Demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Administrator that he is able to meet the standards currently prescribed by the regulations of this subchapter for the issuance of the certificate and rating.

51.7 *Expired certificates; special issuance.* The holder of a ground instructor certificate which has expired within the preceding twelve months may obtain a new 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 regulations of this subchapter for the issuance of the certificate and rating.

51.8 *Nontransferability.* A ground instructor certificate is not transferable.

51.9 *Surrender.* Upon the suspension, revocation, or expiration of a ground instructor certificate, the holder thereof shall, upon request, surrender such certificate to any officer or employee of the Administrator.

51.10 *Reexamination.* An applicant for a ground instructor rating who has failed to pass any prescribed examination or test therefor shall not apply for reexamination for the same rating until the expiration of 30 days from the date of such failure or after he has received not less than 5 hours' instruc-

tion on each subject of the examination failed from a certificated ground instructor rated for such subject and presents a statement from such instructor showing the amount of instruction given and stating that he deems the applicant qualified to pass the required examination in such subject.

51.11 *Revocation.* No person whose ground instructor certificate has been revoked shall apply for or be issued a ground instructor certificate of any rating for a period of 1 year after the revocation, except as the order of revocation may otherwise provide.

51.11a *Change of address.* Within 30 days after any change in the permanent mailing address of a holder of a ground instructor certificate, the holder shall notify the Administrator in writing of such change. Such notice shall be mailed to the Federal Aviation Agency, attention Aircraft and Airmen Records Branch, Washington 25, D.C.

Ground Instructor Rating Record

51.12 *Ground instructor rating record.* An appropriate Ground Instructor Rating Record, prescribed and issued by the Administrator, shall be attached to each ground instructor certificate issued after May 1, 1940. The ground school subject or subjects for which the holder of such certificate is rated shall be entered on such record.

51.13 *Application to amend.* When any change is desired in a Ground Instructor Rating Record referred to in section 51.12 the applicant shall file a written request therefor upon the applicable form prescribed and furnished by the Administrator.

Examinations and Tests

51.14 *General.* The examinations and tests prescribed in this part will be conducted by an authorized representative of the Administrator.

51.15 *Time and place.* All examinations and tests will be held at such times and places as the Administrator may designate.

51.16 *Inspection.* An applicant for a ground instructor rating shall offer full cooperation with respect to any inspection and examination which may be made of such applicant upon proper requests by any authorized representative of the Administrator prior or subsequent to the issuance of a ground instructor certificate.

51.17 *Standard of performance.* All practical and theoretical examinations and tests shall be accomplished to the satisfaction of the Administrator and the passing grade in each subject shall be 70 percent.

51.17–1 *Practical test requirements for original issuance of a ground instructor certificate and rating (FAA rules which apply to sec. 51.17).* (a) *General.* In the interest of uniformity in application of examination procedures, to effect a better standardization of test requirements, and to raise the general quality of instruction, a practical examination shall be given to all applicants for original issuance of a ground instructor certificate and rating, except those applicants who hold a currently effective teacher's certificate issued by a city, county, or State.

(b) *Date of implementation of practical test.* On and after January 1, 1951, all applicants for original issuance of a ground instructor certificate, except those holding currently effective teacher's certificates issued by a city, county, or State, shall be required to successfully accomplish a practical examination on the fundamentals of instructing. Holders of ground instructor certificates issued prior to January 1, 1951, whose certificates are currently effective on that date shall not be required to take the practical examination.

(c) *Practical examination.* The examination shall consist of a demonstration of the practical application of the fundamentals of instructing, in which the applicant will be tested for his ability to present the subject matter to a student in clear and understandable terms. This practical examination may be accomplished either by having the applicant instruct a representative of the Administrator in the subject matter for which he seeks a rating or by a representative of the Administrator observing the applicant teach a group of students.

A grade of at least 70 percent must be obtained in order to pass the practical examination.

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