

Career Pilot Program – Information Package

Choosing a Career in Aviation

Becoming a pilot is one of life's most challenging and rewarding adventures. A career in aviation is an opportunity to get paid to do what you love. Many young boys and girls dream of one day becoming an airline pilot and flying all over the world. Over a century since the early days of aviation, there is a certain awe and respect for the men and women who are at the controls of massive and complex aircraft.

Sometimes overlooked, there are also a wide variety of different careers in aviation beyond the airline environment:

- Corporate & Charter Aviation
- Forest Fire Detection and Suppression
- Flight Instruction
- Aerobatics and Air Shows
- Domestic and International Medivac
- Airborne Imaging and Surveying
- Management, Maintenance, Administration, etc.



Growing Demand

Increased international air traffic coupled with an increase in the number of pilots retiring is leading to a looming pilot shortage in the aviation industry. According to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), there will be a need for 207,600 new pilots worldwide by 2018, and 352,900 by 2026. (Human Resources Study of the Commercial Pilot in Canada, 2010)

Within Canada, there have been a number of factors leading to an increased demand for pilots. With the introduction of disruptive new carriers such as WestJet and Porter, there has been an increase in the market for air travel rather than just stealing passengers from existing companies. There has also been significant growth and development in the North, resulting in increasing demand for a variety of air transportation and aviation services. As the need grows, air operators will be required to recruit more commercial pilots and aviation professionals.

According to studies, these factors are resulting in a gap between the supply of and demand for commercial pilots in Canada. It is expected that within the next 5 years, there could be a need for over 500 pilots beyond the capacity of what existing flight schools can produce.

(Human Resources Study of the Commercial Pilot in Canada, 2010)

The job market for pilots in Canada is largely dependent on the need for pilots at the airline level. As large carriers increase recruitment, it causes a “pull” effect within the industry. Typically, airlines hire from regional carriers, who hire from smaller charter companies, who hire from their ramp positions or flight instructors from flight schools.

Requirements for a Career in Aviation

Medical Certificate

To become a commercial pilot in Canada, you must hold a valid Transport Canada Category 1 Aviation Medical Certificate. For this process, a thorough examination must be completed by a certified Aviation Medical Examiner. In addition to physical, auditory and visual tests, you must also undergo an electrocardiogram (ECG). Depending on your age, you will be required to complete annual or biannual examinations to maintain the validity of your medical certificate. Some major airlines have their own specific standards including psychological assessments.

Did you know... that you don't need perfect vision to become a pilot? Not being able to wear glasses is an old myth, and is not true at all. To become a pilot your vision needs to be at least 20/30 in each eye, but you are free to wear contacts or eyeglasses.

Age Requirement

There is no minimum age to start flight training. That being said, there are certain age restrictions to stages in your aviation career. For your first solo you need to be 14, to obtain your Private licence you must be 17, and to fly commercially you must be at least 18 years of age.

At the other end of the spectrum, you can fly up to any age as long as you still hold a valid medical certificate. Note that larger airlines may have mandatory retirement age limits of 60 or 65 in some cases.

Citizenship

To train in Canada, you must be a Canadian citizen, a landed immigrant, or hold a student visa valid for the purposes of flight training.

To obtain a student visa, you will need to complete the application forms through Citizenship and Immigration Canada. One of the items you will require is a letter of acceptance from the educational institution where you intend to study.

Language

To undertake a career in aviation, you will need a strong command of the English language. As a result, you will be required to pass a Transport Canada Language Proficiency Test as part of your training. For those whose English is lacking, you may want to consider ESL training prior to commencing flight training.

Education

Educational background is not a prerequisite needed for obtaining Transport Canada licences and ratings. That being said, a majority of schools have a minimum requirement of high school education in order to become a commercial pilot.

Airlines often have a point-system to assess applicants for their flight crew positions. Possessing post-secondary education earns the applicant more points and increases the candidate's odds of getting the job. Some companies score further points for aviation-focused degrees or diplomas.

Typical Training Process



All pilots beginning a career in aviation must start with a Private Pilot Licence (PPL). The PPL includes at least 45 hours of flight and 40 hours of ground school training. One of the most exciting parts of this training is the student's first solo. As with all flight training, the amount of time it takes to finish the licence is dependent on a student's schedule and skill. In addition, since the cost of flight training depends on an hourly rate, there is often a range to how much it cost to complete the PPL. On average, a student completes their PPL in 50-60 flight hours and pays approximately \$10,000-\$13,000.

In order to be paid to fly, the student must continue their training toward a Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL). Included in CPL training is at least 65 hours of commercial flight and 80 hours of ground school training. Moreover, to obtain a CPL a student must have a total of 200 hours of flight time. In order to conduct training efficiently, most students add additional skills and ratings within those 200 hours of flight time. It is at this point the time, cost, and skills acquired can range significantly for each individual.

Most students choose to pursue a Multi-Engine rating in order to be able to fly aircraft with more than one engine. To fly an aircraft in poor weather conditions, some students decide to expand their training by including an Instrument Rating. Some students choose to pursue a flight instructor rating to increase their chances of acquiring an entry-level job in the industry. There are also a number of other ratings including endorsements for float or specific types of aircraft that may further qualify students for the career path that they intend to take.

By the time a typical student finishes their commercial training, they should expect to have invested between \$50,000 and \$70,000.

Later in a pilot's career, they will have the option of obtaining an Airline Transport Pilot Licence (ATPL). This licence does not require any specific training, but includes a number of flight hour and written examination requirements. The ATPL allows a pilot to be a captain of large commercial airliners.

CAREER PILOT PROGRAM (CPP)



Overview

The Career Pilot Program (CPP) is designed to graduate commercial pilots who have the experience and real-world exposure to make them employable in the Canadian aviation industry.

Summary

Title – Career Pilot Program

Prerequisites – None

Schedule – Full-Time

Intake – Continuous

Duration – 2 years (or less)

Cost – Approximately \$64,100.00



Admission

An application form must be submitted to the Program Manager before the appropriate deadline. MAG Aerospace Canada reserves the right to accept or decline any application.

To be eligible for admission, applicants must:

- Hold a Canadian secondary school diploma or equivalent
- Hold a current, valid Category 1 Canadian Aviation Medical Certificate
- Have the financial means to complete both the ground and flight training

Note:

Acceptance into the Career Pilot Program is conditional based on passing the Transport Canada English Language Proficiency Test.

The valid Category 1 Canadian Aviation Medical Certificate is not due at application, but must be received by MAG Aerospace Canada no later than 30 days prior to the course start date.

International Students

Applicants who are not of Canadian citizenship, a permanent resident of Canada or a dependent of a diplomat accredited to Canada must get a student authorization. Contact your nearest Canadian embassy for details. As part of the student authorization process, a Letter of Acceptance from MAG Aerospace Canada will be required. This letter will be issued once we have received verification of eligibility and an administrative deposit.

Advanced Standing

Applicants who already hold a Transport Canada Private Pilot Licence may apply for advanced standing. Such applicants will be considered on an individual basis at the discretion of the Chief Flight Instructor.

Program of Study – Career Pilot Program

The CPP is a 2-year full-time program focusing on in-depth ground and flight instruction leading to the Commercial Pilot Licence with additional ratings.

Year 1 (September – December) – Private Pilot Licence

The first phase consists of classroom and in-flight training toward the Private Pilot Licence. Within this phase are approximately 55 hours of flight training (45 hours minimum) and a minimum of 40 hours ground school. With the recommendation of an instructor, the student will be required to pass both a written examination and flight test administered by Transport Canada. Successful completion of these tests will qualify the student to be issued a Private Pilot Licence.

Year 1 (January – May) – Specialized Training

During this phase students will build specialized, valuable training while working toward their Commercial Pilot Licence. Included in this timeframe are the night rating, centreline thrust multi-engine rating, and cross-country experience building. Students will also attend 80 hours of Commercial Pilot Licence ground school during this stage of training.

MAG Aerospace Canada is one of the only schools in Canada to allow a student to build multi-engine pilot-in-command time as part of their commercial training. This is completed on a Cessna C337 Skymaster. The Skymaster is designed in a centre-line thrust configuration and its similarity to the C172 allows for an easy transition into multi-engine flying.

Paid Co-Op Placements

As an option within the Career Pilot Program, students may be able to spend their summer building valuable experience within the aviation industry. An example of the type of positions that will be available is the Aerial Detection Observer with MAG Aerospace Canada. Aerial Detection Observers work as a team with MAG Aerospace Detection Pilots as an integral part of Forest Fire and Emergency Services in Ontario. Flying in the right seat of the Cessna 337 Skymaster, Aerial Detection Observers support the process by helping spot fires.

Year 2 (September – March) – Commercial Pilot Licence

During this phase students will work toward finishing up the requirements of their Commercial Pilot Licence and complete their flight test. Completion of the Commercial Pilot Licence allows the student the ability to work as a pilot, however additional ratings and experience is typically required before the candidate is considered employable by most aviation companies.

Year 2 (April – June) – Instructor Rating

This phase consists of ground and in-flight training toward the Flight Instructor Rating. Flight instruction accounts for the majority of entry-level positions in the aviation industry. While training toward the Flight Instructor Rating, students will gain the skills and confidence necessary to teach other aspiring pilots how to fly.

Although not offered through MAG, some students may decide to undertake their Multi-IFR rating before the end of the program. MAG will work with students individually to ensure that they are able to obtain this training through another provider without undue stress and hassle.

Estimated Tuition Fees

Please contact us for a full breakdown of the costs associated with the Career Pilot Program.

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF CAREER PILOT PROGRAM

\$64,100.00

Note:

Due to the large costs associated with flight training, MAG Aerospace Canada does not expect students to pay tuition fees upfront or in large installments. MAG Aerospace Canada utilizes the "Pay-Per-Lesson" method, where the student settles their invoice after each lesson.

The Career Pilot Program is a registered vocational program making it exempt from HST.

International Student Fees

Please contact MAG Aerospace Canada for more information on international student fees.

Graduation

Students graduate the program when they have received letters of recommendation for both the Transport Canada written examination and flight test for the Commercial Pilot Licence and Flight Instructor Rating as applicable. Graduates are issued a certificate for each licence and rating achieved and on completion of the Career Pilot Program.

Enrollment:

The Career Pilot Program will start in September and will be limited to a maximum enrollment of 25 students. Interested students are encouraged to apply before June 1st, but applications will be taken on a first-come first-served basis after that date.

Application Checklist

Please ensure that the following materials are submitted to MAG Aerospace Canada:

- Completed Career Pilot Program Application Form (Appendix A)
- Transcript from highest educational certificate received (minimum high school)
- Photocopy of Category 1 Canadian Aviation Medical Certificate (if already held)
- Radio Licence or English Proficiency Results (if already held)
- Administration fee for international students (certified cheque or money order made payable to "MAG Aerospace Canada Corp.")

Note:

Acceptance into the Career Pilot Program is conditional based on passing the Transport Canada English Language Proficiency Test.

The valid Category 1 Canadian Aviation Medical Certificate is not due at application, but must be received by MAG Aerospace Canada no later than 30 days prior to the course start date.

Applications can be submitted via mail or email, the information is listed below:

MAG Aerospace Canada Corp.
8555 Aviation Rd
Greater Sudbury Airport
Garson, Ontario
P3L 1V4
academy@magaero.ca



Career Pilot Program – Appendix A

Career Pilot Program – Application Form				
Applicant Information				
Name:				
Date of Birth:			Citizenship:	
Mailing Address:				
City:		Province/State:		Postal Code:
Country:		Home Phone:		Cell Phone:
Email:				
Education Information				
Education (Please Circle) High School College University Other				
School:			Graduation Date:	
Program Name:				
Certification Awarded:				
Education (Please Circle) High School College University Other				
School:			Graduation Date:	
Program Name:				
Certification Awarded:				
Aviation Information				
Pilot Licence or Ratings Currently Held:				
Dual Hours:			Solo Hours:	
Flight Training Unit:				
Qualifications				
Please Circle All Qualifications Currently Held:				
Industry Canada Restricted Radiotelephone Operator Certificate Transport Canada Category 1 Medical Transport Canada English Proficiency (Operational or Expert)				
Other Information				
Where did you hear about MAG?				
I understand the costs associated with the Professional Pilot Program and will have the financial means available to complete the program (Please Check) <input type="checkbox"/>				
References				
Name:		Address:		Phone: