

STEPS FOR OBTAINING STUDENT PILOT CERTIFICATE (AIRPLANE)

(Effective 4/1/2016; updated 8/15/2017, 9/9/2018, 5/21/21)

Applicant

- Must be at least **16 years of age** (for airplane & helicopter) or **14 years of age** (for glider & balloon) (*see note below*)
- Completes FAA Integrated Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application (IACRA) at <https://iacra.faa.gov/iacra/>
- Receives FAA Tracking Number (FTN) online
- Gives Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) the FTN

CFI

- Enters FTN to IACRA
- Validates applicant's address, age, English proficiency, signature and review of Act Privacy information
- Looks at photo ID (e.g. driver's license) and writes down number
- Submits IACRA application to FAA

FAA processes application, which includes TSA approval

Applicant receives permanent Student Pilot Certificate(plastic card with no expiration date) in about 3 weeks

Important:

Keep your FTN number in a safe place; you'll use it for the rest of your aviation career!

Be sure to print a copy of your Temporary Certificate after your CFI submits your application.

Student pilot must carry certificate if conducting solo flight.

Medical Certificate also required for solo flight.

For more information see FAA Advisory Circular AC 61-65F.

For even more details go to the IACRA Student Pilot guide

<https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/HelpandInfo.aspx?id=6>

Note: If a student wants to solo a glider pilot certificate at 14 years of age, or solo an airplane on his/her 16th birthday, and if the student has not yet reached his/her 14th/16th birthday, he/she can apply for the student pilot certificate via IACRA, with an authorized individual, no earlier than 90 days before their 14th/16 birthday. Once the application is approved and vetted (about a week), IACRA will send an email notification instructing the student to print the temporary student pilot certificate.