



INFORMATION FOR: PILOTS

Aviation medicine

The new Basic Class 2 medical certificate

From July 2018, a new Basic Class 2 medical certificate is available for some private pilots.

All pilots, regardless of the type of pilot licence, have certain legal responsibilities regarding their health and ability to fly.

To ensure the highest level of aviation safety is always met, pilots must be able to quickly address any issue that could impact the safe operation of their aircraft. This includes having all the technical skills required to fly an aircraft, but also requires an acceptable level of general wellbeing that includes both physical and mental health.

You cannot exercise the privileges of your pilot licence unless you hold a current aviation medical certificate.

This information sheet outlines:



1

CURRENT CLASSES

OF MEDICAL CERTIFICATION



2

CASA CHANGES

FROM JULY THAT ALLOW MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS TO ASSESS PILOTS



3

A CHECKLIST

FOR PILOTS TO OBTAIN A BASIC CLASS 2 MEDICAL CERTIFICATE



1

CURRENT CLASSES OF MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

Pilot medical certification quick reference guide

| CLASS OF MEDICAL | COMMERCIAL (NO PAX) | COMMERCIAL (WITH PAX) | TOTAL PAX | OTHER LIMITATIONS | EXAMINED BY | REVIEWED BY CASA | VALIDITY PERIOD |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--|------------------------------|---|--|
| CLASS 1 | ✓ | ✓ | No limit | No limits | DAME | ✓ | Up to 1 year |
| CLASS 2 | ✓ | ✗ | No limit | 8618kg for non-passenger carrying commercial operations | DAME | ✗ CASA review only for cases of irreversible dementia, psychosis or epilepsy (or DAME request) | Up to 4 years (<40yo) Up to 2 years (>40yo) |
| BASIC CLASS 2 | ✗ | ✗ | 5 | 8618kg • Piston engines only • Day visual flight rules • No aerobatics • Altitudes up to 10,000 feet | Medical Practitioner or DAME | ✗ | Up to 5 years (<40yo) Up to 2 years (>40yo) Up to 1 year (>70yo) |

If you are just starting out, there are no medical requirements for learning to fly when you are in the aircraft with your flight instructor. If you have any relevant medical conditions or history, you should consider discussing this with a medical practitioner and your flying school before starting to fly.



YOUR OBLIGATIONS

As a pilot you also have a responsibility to be thoughtful about the way your health may affect you being 'fit to fly'. This applies to general health as well as the use of drugs and alcohol.

The type of flying activity being undertaken will determine the type of medical certificate required and whether this can be undertaken by any medical practitioner or a medical practitioner that has been designated as a '[Designated Aviation Medical Examiner](#)' (DAME) by CASA.

During your medical examination, you must respond honestly to questions asked of you by the examining health professional and comply with treatments and review periods advised by the health professional, DAME or CASA.

You must report any health conditions that might affect your ability to fly. This ensures that your health does not unduly increase your risk of an accident or issue occurring mid-air. These timeframes are:

CLASS 1 MEDICAL CERTIFICATE:

any condition continuing
for longer than 7 days

CLASS 2 MEDICAL CERTIFICATE:

any condition continuing
for longer than 30 days

BASIC CLASS 2 MEDICAL CERTIFICATE:

any condition continuing
for longer than 30 days

When you report your illness, it doesn't necessarily mean that your licence will be taken away, but it does mean that CASA can work with you and your doctor to manage your condition with respect to your flying.

Pilots are required to [ground themselves](#) if they develop a medically significant condition, if their condition impairs their ability to use their licence or if there is a change in their condition or its treatment.

Your health professional has an understanding and awareness of the risk posed by some types of medical conditions. If you require a Class 1 or 2 medical certificate, a DAME will also have a professional understanding and awareness of the impacts of aviation on the human body.

2

CASA CHANGES FROM JULY THAT ALLOW MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS TO ASSESS PILOTS

The new Basic Class 2

Changes to the aviation medical certification system from July 2018 allow medical practitioners to assess applicants against the [Austroads](#) commercial driving standard for some simple types of private flying.

If applicants unconditionally meet the standard (except for glasses and hearing aids), they will be issued with a Basic Class 2 medical certificate by CASA.

If you do not meet the unrestricted Austroads commercial driving standard, you can still apply for a Class 2 medical certificate where you will be assessed by a DAME who has the ability to judge risk factors and consider health issues relevant to aviation.

To help pilots understand the aeromedical impacts of some of the [more common conditions that affect medical certification](#), we've prepared [guidance materials](#) and a series of [fact sheets and case studies](#). Although every person and their specific medical condition are unique, this information helps explain both the effect of aviation on the condition as well as how the condition impacts aviation.



3

A CHECKLIST FOR PILOTS TO OBTAIN A BASIC CLASS 2 MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

Basic Class 2 medical checklist

Before logging onto the CASA MRS system to commence your application for a Basic Class 2, you need to first book an appointment with a medical practitioner or DAME. The details of this appointment are necessary to help complete the documents you need to take with you to your medical examination.

Below is a summary of the steps you will need to complete to obtain a Basic Class 2 medical certificate.

| | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|
| 1 | Book appointment with medical practitioner or DAME | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | Obtain CASA Aviation Reference Number (ARN) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | Log onto CASA online medical registration system (MRS) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | Confirm correct email and address | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | Apply for your medical certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 | Download and print medical questionnaire | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 | Take CASA medical questionnaire to appointment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 | Complete required tests and medical examinations | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 | Log back into MRS and finalise application | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | Pay online CASA fee of \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | Await the issue of your medical certificate (usually within a few minutes) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

MORE INFORMATION

CASA [publishes information](#) about its aviation medicine responsibilities on our website, including the [login page for MRS](#), for pilots and medical practitioners.

If you have more questions or need to contact someone about your aviation medical, you can contact the Aviation Medicine section of CASA.

Proudly supported by: The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the Australasian Society of Aerospace Medicine.



RACGP

