Green Castle Aero Club

New Student Checklist

Last Updated: 12/12/25

Prior to First Training Flight

- **REQUIRED: GCAC Membership Application and Payment >>** https://www.greencastleaeroclub.com/membership.html

- **REQUIRED: TSA endorsement of U.S. citizenship >>** 49 CFR 1552.3(h) **{A.14}**
  - ➢ Acceptable verification documents (either #1 or #2):
    1. Valid passport
    2. Valid government photo ID & either one of the following [official birth certificate or naturalization/citizenship certificate]
  - ➢ GCAC instructors - save copy of documents for 5 years

- **REQUIRED: Purchase an Aviation Headset (GA Plugs)** (these are suggested examples only; purchase any headset you choose)
  - ➢ Low-Cost: Skycom H-40A (~$90) >> https://www.aircraftspruce.com/pages/av/headsets_0browse/11-09099.php
  - ➢ Best Value: David Clark H10-13S (~$370) >> https://www.aircraftspruce.com/catalog/avpages/h10_13S.php

- **REQUIRED: Pilot Logbook** (these are suggested examples only; you may use any flight logbook you choose)
  - ➢ Purchase (hardcover): Pilot Log Book (~$11 Amazon) >> https://a.co/d/aZyEepX
  - ➢ Free (digital): MyFlightBook >> https://myflightbook.com/

- **REQUIRED: Select a Self-Study Ground Training Syllabus* >>** https://www.greencastleaeroclub.com/ground-training-syllabus.html
  - ➢ Rod Machado's Private Pilot Ground Training Syllabus (books cost ~$140 or $95 for the minimum)
  - ➢ Green Castle Aero Club's Private Pilot Ground Training Syllabus (equivalent syllabus; uses free FAA resources)

  **Please check with your primary flight instructor as they may choose to use an alternate syllabus.*

- RECOMMENDED: Select a Private Pilot Ground School Program >> Short Video (3:47) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MghjIJrdgio

- OPTIONAL: Non-Polarized sunglasses

- OPTIONAL (if needed*): Seat Cushion (this is an example only; you are free to choose anything that helps improve seating position in the aircraft)
  NORAL SEAT CUSHION WITH BACK (TYPE A) >> https://www.aircraftspruce.com/catalog/pspages/noral_seats.php?clickkey=441397

  **Seat adjustments are limited in our aircraft. Work with your flight instructor to determine whether or not a cushion is recommended.*

Prior to First Solo Flight

- **REQUIRED: Medical Certificate (Third Class or Higher) >>** §61.23(a)(3) & §61.23(c)(3)
  - ➢ Complete an Application for FAA Medical Certification on MedExpress >> https://medxpress.faa.gov/MedXpress/Disclaimer.aspx
  - ➢ Locate and schedule an appointment with a local Aviation Medical Examiner (AME) >> https://designee.faa.gov/designeeLocator

- **REQUIRED: Student Pilot Certificate >>** §61.85
  - ➢ Create IACRA account, start new student pilot application, & record your FTN # >> https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/Default.aspx >> HELP
  - ➢ Complete the application with your flight instructor (they will look up your application using your FTN)

- **REQUIRED TRAINING & ENDORSEMENTS**
  - ➢ **Pre-Solo Aeronautical Knowledge Test >>** §61.87(b) **{A.3}**
    - ■ Pass (correctable to 100%) pre-solo exam issued by your instructor
    - ■ Knowledge areas: Applicable sections of FAR Parts 61 & 91, airspace rules & procedures for the solo flight airport, and flight characteristics & operational limitations of the solo flight aircraft
  - ➢ **Pre-Solo Flight Training: Maneuvers & Procedures >>** §61.87(c) & §61.87(d) **{A.4}**
    - ■ Training areas: Flight preparations, surface operations, flight fundamentals, traffic patterns & landings, and safety & emergencies
    - ■ For specific training requirements, see the PDF titled, "FAR Part 61 Solo Requirements"
    - ■ **Solo Flight (first 90-calendar-day period) >>** §61.87(n) **{A.6}**

Reference >> Advisory Circular (AC) 61-65, "Certification: Pilots and Flight and Ground Instructors"
Note: Endorsements appear in approximate order to when they are required; Endorsement References - **{A.#}**