Soaring Oklahoma

Presented by

OKLAHOMA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

AEROSPACE & DEFENSE

Lesson 7: Becoming a Pilot

Help students to better understand what it would take to become a pilot. Explore the following steps to gaining a pilot's license:

STEP 1: Take a Discovery Flight.

Research available flight schools in your area, and reach out to schedule a discovery flight. This will allow you the opportunity to gauge your own interest in learning how to fly as well as offer insight into the program you are considering enrolling in. Things to consider when choosing a flight school: instructor availability, support from the program's administration and overall professionalism.

STEP 2: Sign up for the prescribed courses.

Complete your enrollment into the flight school and work to establish a training schedule with an instructor. Most schools are very flexible about scheduling.

STEP 3: Be consistent with your training schedule.

With 3 or more days per week attendance, you will likely complete your training within 6 months. There will be three stages to your overall training:

1. Preparing for a local airport solo flight.
2. Preparing for a cross country solo flight.
3. Preparing for the final check ride with a flight examiner.

Training will include a ground school as well as flight training component.

STUDENT ACTIVITY:

Ask students to research available flight schools in Oklahoma and determine the following for a minimum of three flight schools:

1. School name, location and services provided to students.
2. Estimated cost for retaining a pilot's license through that school.
3. Estimated timeline for completing their training.
4. Based on their research, ask students to recommend one of the three flight schools.

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