



Emergency Directive: Relief from the General Directions – Examination Procedures and Timetable of Routine Examinations

Purpose

This Emergency Directive is issued in response to the situation created by COVID-19, and in particular, the inability to safely undertake some aspects of ear, nose and throat examinations and eye examinations in [Levels 2, 3 and 4 or Framework levels Orange and Red] of the COVID-19 alert and traffic light system.

This Emergency Directive is necessary to provide relief from certain requirements of Civil Aviation Rules 61.35 and 65.25, without compromising civil aviation safety.

Scope and Duration of Emergency Directive

As aspects of ear, nose and throat examinations and eye examinations are unable to be conducted safely in these levels, due to the risk of cross contamination, the following may be omitted in Routine Examinations-

- Direct ophthalmoscopy is not required where an applicant has no visual symptoms or pre-existing eye conditions (pre-existing condition does not include pre-existing refractive errors); and
- Otoscopic and throat examination is not required where an applicant has no ear, nose or throat symptoms, or pre-existing throat or ear conditions.

A medical certificate may be issued under these circumstances so that they can continue to exercise the privileges of their aviation licences until their next medical examination, as long as it is conducted within 12 months.

The applicable aviation licences are:

- Private pilot licence
- Commercial pilot licence
- Airline transport pilot licence
- Recreational pilot licence
- Air traffic trainee licence
- Air traffic controller licence



Any conditions, restrictions or endorsements on the existing medical certificate must continue to be complied with in order to exercise the privileges of the licence. If, due to COVID-19, the medical certificate holder is unable to complete other medical tests that are a condition of the medical certificate, the medical certificate holder may apply to the Director of Civil Aviation to extend the due date for those testing and reporting requirements. The Civil Aviation Authority reminds all licence holders that under section 27C of the Civil Aviation Act 1990, if a licence holder is aware of, or has reasonable grounds to suspect, that any change in their medical condition or the existence of any previously undetected medical condition that may interfere with the safe exercise of the privileges to which their medical certificate relates, the licence holder—

- (a) must advise the Director of the change as soon as practicable; and
- (b) may not exercise the privileges to which the licence holder's medical certificate relates.

This Emergency Directive will expire in accordance with section 27G(4) of the Civil Aviation Act 1990, unless renewed by the Director of Civil Aviation.

Legal authority to make this Emergency Directive

This Emergency Directive is issued under section 27G (4) of the Civil Aviation Act 1990.

SIGNED at WELLINGTON

This 13th day of January 2022

by JOHN GLYDE KAY

Acting Director of Civil Aviation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Glyde Kay', is positioned above a horizontal line.

JOHN GLYDE KAY