Use of DL9 medicals by PPL holders

Frequently asked questions for pilots

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF NEW ZEALAND
Te Mana Rererangi Tūmatanui o Aotearoa

Please note: To be able to fly on a DL9 driver licence medical certificate, your DL9 needs to be at least a Class 2 (2,3,4,5) medical certificate with passenger (P) endorsement.

What if I hold a PPL, CPL or ATPL and also have an RPL?
You can operate the privileges of a PPL based on which medical certificate you decide to maintain or get – a Part 67 Class 2 or a NZTA DL9. The amended rule effectively revokes your RPL as of 5 April 2021.

What are the privileges of a PPL holder who has a DL9 medical certificate?
You can see a comparison of PPL privileges by medical certificate type here.

I can't find and/or have misplaced my PPL, CPL or ATPL as I've been using my RPL.
You'll need to apply for a replacement licence. Please use CAA form CAA600. Please note that no PPLs, CPLs or ATPLs were revoked when an RPL was issued - your original licence is a lifetime licence.

I haven't completed a biennial flight review or operational competency assessment for more than 5 years. If I get a DL9 medical, will I be able to fly?
You will need to re-sit the air law examination, which for most pilots on a DL9 will be PPL subject 4 (AC61-3). Please refer to CAR Parts 61.37 – Recent flight experience; 61.39 – Biennial flight review; 61.41 – Use of lower pilot licence or rating.

I'm living in Australia and have a New Zealand PPL. Can I fly over here on a DL9 or do I still need a Class 2?
You would need to get permission from CASA to do so, please refer to CAR 61.155(bb)(3)(i). This applies to any other National Aviation Authority (NAA) as well.

What do I need to tell my health practitioner when requesting a DL9 certificate?
You need to inform them that it is for exercising the privileges of a PPL, and the DL9 needs to be issued with Class 2 (2,3,4,5) medical certificate with passenger (P) endorsement.

Where do I send my DL9 once it has been completed by my health practitioner?
You must send a copy of your completed DL9 certificate to CAA within 7 days of it being issued. This is a rule requirement - refer to CAR Part 61.35(d). A record of your DL9 should be available whenever you are flying. Please send the copy of your DL9 to us at med@caa.govt.nz.

What do I do if I have a change in medical condition after my DL9 has been issued As for all participants in the aviation system, holders of PPLs have a general obligation to ensure that they are complying with the requirements for their aviation document. In this case they need to ensure they continue to meet health requirements for holding a PPL.

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Frequently asked questions for health practitioners

Please note: For a pilot to fly on a DL9 driver licence medical certificate, their DL9 needs to be at least a Class 2 (2,3,4,5) medical certificate with passenger (P) endorsement.

Can I refuse to issue a DL9 if I have concerns?
Yes, but the concerns would need to be related to the person's ability to drive safely as opposed to their ability to fly safely and they should be documented as such.

Am I assessing fitness to fly with a DL9?
No, you are assessing whether they meet the driving standards in the NZTA "medical aspects of fitness to drive".

Can I contact NZTA with concerns about fitness to fly on a DL9?
No, but you can contact them about an applicant that does not meet the NZTA driving standards.

An applicant did not meet C1 or C2 standards and is now requesting a DL9 – what do I do?
Assess the applicant in accordance with the NZTA manual and determine if they meet the standards.

An applicant flying on a DL9 has had a change in medical condition – do I inform CAA or NZTA?
If an ME has concerns about a DL9 certificated pilot, they should advise CAA in accordance with **section 27C (3)** of the **Civil Aviation Act**. In respect of concerns regarding a drivers licence holder, a GP will need to notify Waka Kotahi under **section 18** of the Land Transport Act if they consider the licence holder is likely to drive a motor vehicle.

I think someone hasn't declared their full medical history and is flying on a DL9 – who do I inform?
You should advise CAA in accordance with section 27C(3) of the Civil Aviation Act.