

The gateway to medical certification flexibility

You have applied for a Medical Certificate and completed an examination with your CAA Medical Examiner. Your Medical Examiner tells you that they are unable to issue you with a medical certificate right now. They ask you: “Do you want me to apply for an AMC?”

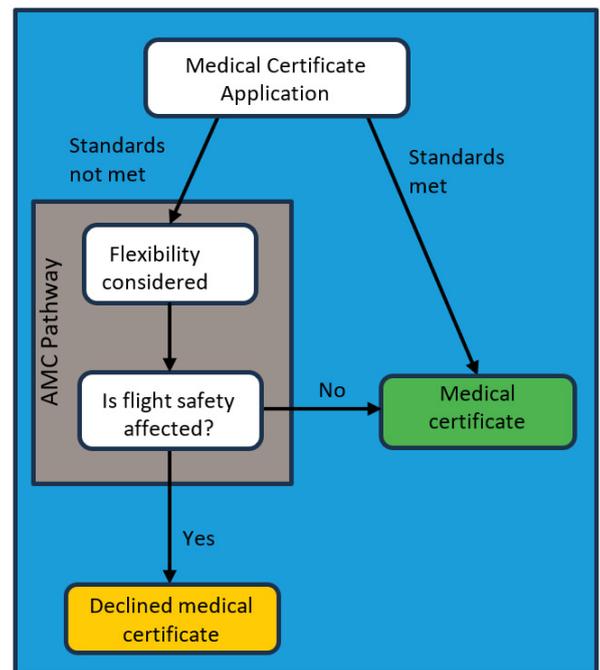
What does this mean? Will I get my medical? Will it cost me?

What does this mean?

To issue a Medical Certificate there are two options available to your medical examiner. When the required medical standards are met, a medical certificate must be issued by your Medical Examiner. Where the standards are not met, with your consent, your medical examiner can apply for consideration of “flexibility”. This is done by your Medical Examiner applying for an Accredited Medical Conclusion (AMC). In most cases a medical certificate is issued following this risk assessment process.

The AMC process looks at whether flight safety will be affected by your condition/s. (i.e. of aeromedical significance).

The AMC also looks at operational factors such as your experience, aircraft type, single or non-single operations, and your flying environment.



What do I expect when an AMC is needed?

1. The Medical Examiner asks if you wish to proceed with your application via an AMC. Your consent is required for this, and you may withdraw from the AMC process at any time.
2. If you do not elect to progress to an AMC, your Medical Examiner can only make an assessment without applying flexibility to the medical standards. This may result in a medical certificate not being issued, when this may have been possible following an AMC.
3. Where you agree to an AMC, your Medical Examiner must ask for the CAA Director to appoint “Experts” (that’s the legal name for the people doing the AMC). In some cases, the CAA Director nominates your Medical Examiner as the Expert, in others it is the CAA Medical Officers.
4. When your Medical Examiner is the Expert for the AMC, they are advised by CAA and can proceed to conclude their assessment.
5. Where CAA Medical Officers are the Experts, notification will be sent from the CAA advising you of the progress and you will receive regular updates.
6. There may sometimes be additional costs for an AMC. That is one of the reasons why your

consent is required. If the medical work by your Medical Examiner or CAA takes more than 2 hours, there is an additional charge (see information about [fees, levies and charges](#) on the CAA website). Few applicants end up being charged for additional time. There may also be need for additional medical information. The cost of any additional specialist reports or tests must be covered by you.

When a CAA AMC is completed, you and your Medical Examiner are advised by CAA. Your Medical Examiner will be able to conclude the assessment. If there are any requirements, they will be able to explain these to you. This includes matters such as regular blood tests or specialist reports. It may include operational restrictions such as vision requirements (e.g. glasses) or multi crew restrictions when carrying passengers.

Looking at the law

Sch 2, cl 5(2): Most medical certificates are issued under Schedule 2, clause 5(2) of the Civil Aviation Act 2023 (the Act). Medical certificates can only be issued, under this section of the Act, to applicants who meet the medical standards.

Sch 2, cl 5(3): This section of the Act allows for Medical Certificates to be issued, through the use of flexibility, to applicants who do not meet the medical standards.

Flexibility: For the purposes of medical certification, the term flexibility is described in Sch 2, cl 5(3-4) of the Act.

Sch 2, cl 5(4): This section of the Act describes flexibility and includes the requirement for Accredited Medical Conclusion if flexibility is to be used.

Sch 2, cl 1: This section of the Act provides the meaning of Accredited Medical Conclusion as “the conclusion reached by 1 or more medical experts acceptable to the Director for the purpose of the case concerned, in consultation with flight operators or any other experts that may be necessary.”

Part 67: Civil Aviation Rule Part 67 is the rule that contains the medical standards.

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