

Endorsements and Pilot Qualifications

Commercial Pilots, 61 Subpart F

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

61.123 Eligibility

- Must be 18 years old
- Be able to read, speak, write, and understand the English language
 - ICAO Level 4 English
 - See AC 60-28B, Appendix A for evaluation
- Hold a private pilot certificate
- Pass a knowledge test
- Meet the aeronautical experience 61.129

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

61.125 Aeronautical Knowledge

- Student must receive and log ground training or complete a home-study course on the areas listed in 61.125(b).
- Take a knowledge test, after the following endorsement
 - The [A.34 endorsement](#) for ground training
 - The [A.82 endorsement](#) for a home study course

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

61.127 Flight Proficiency

Need ground and flight training around these areas:

- Preflight/postflight preparation, procedures
- Airport operations, takeoffs, landings, and go-arounds
- Performance maneuvers (steep turns, lazy 8s, etc.)
- Ground reference maneuvers
- Navigation
- Slow flight and stalls
- Emergency operations
- High-altitude operations

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

61.129 Aeronautical Experience

250 hours total flight time, including:

- 100 hours in powered aircraft, of which 50 hours must be in airplanes
- 100 hours of PIC time, including:
 - 50 hours in airplanes
 - 50 hours of XC flight, of which 10 hours must be in airplanes

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

61.129 Aeronautical Experience (cont.)

- 20 hours of flight training, including:
 - 10 hours of instrument training, 5 hours must be in a single-engine airplane
 - This must be specifically logged to the requirements in [61.129\(3\)\(i\)](#)
 - This training must be done by a CFII
 - 10 hours of complex, turbine, or TAA aircraft
 - One dual 2-hour day XC flight >100nm
 - One dual 2-hour night XC flight >100nm
 - 3 hours within 2 months of the practical test

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

61.129 Aeronautical Experience (cont.)

- 10 hours of solo flight time OR 10 hours performing the duties of PIC (PDPIC) with an instructor:
 - Restrictions:
 - The solo time and PDPIC time *cannot* be combined
 - No instruction can be given on PDPIC flights
 - PDPIC cannot be used on the 300nm solo requirement
 - One 300nm flight with landings at 3 points, which is a straight-line distance of at least 250nm from the departure point
 - 5 hours of night flight in VFR conditions, including:
 - 10 takeoffs and landings at an airport with an operating control tower



61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

61.133 Privileges and Limitations

- Without an instrument rating, flights are limited to:
 - 50nm with passengers for hire
 - No night flight with passengers for hire
- Have the same privileges as a private pilot, including:
 - Carrying passengers or property for hire
- Must comply with common carriage rules per Part 119.1

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

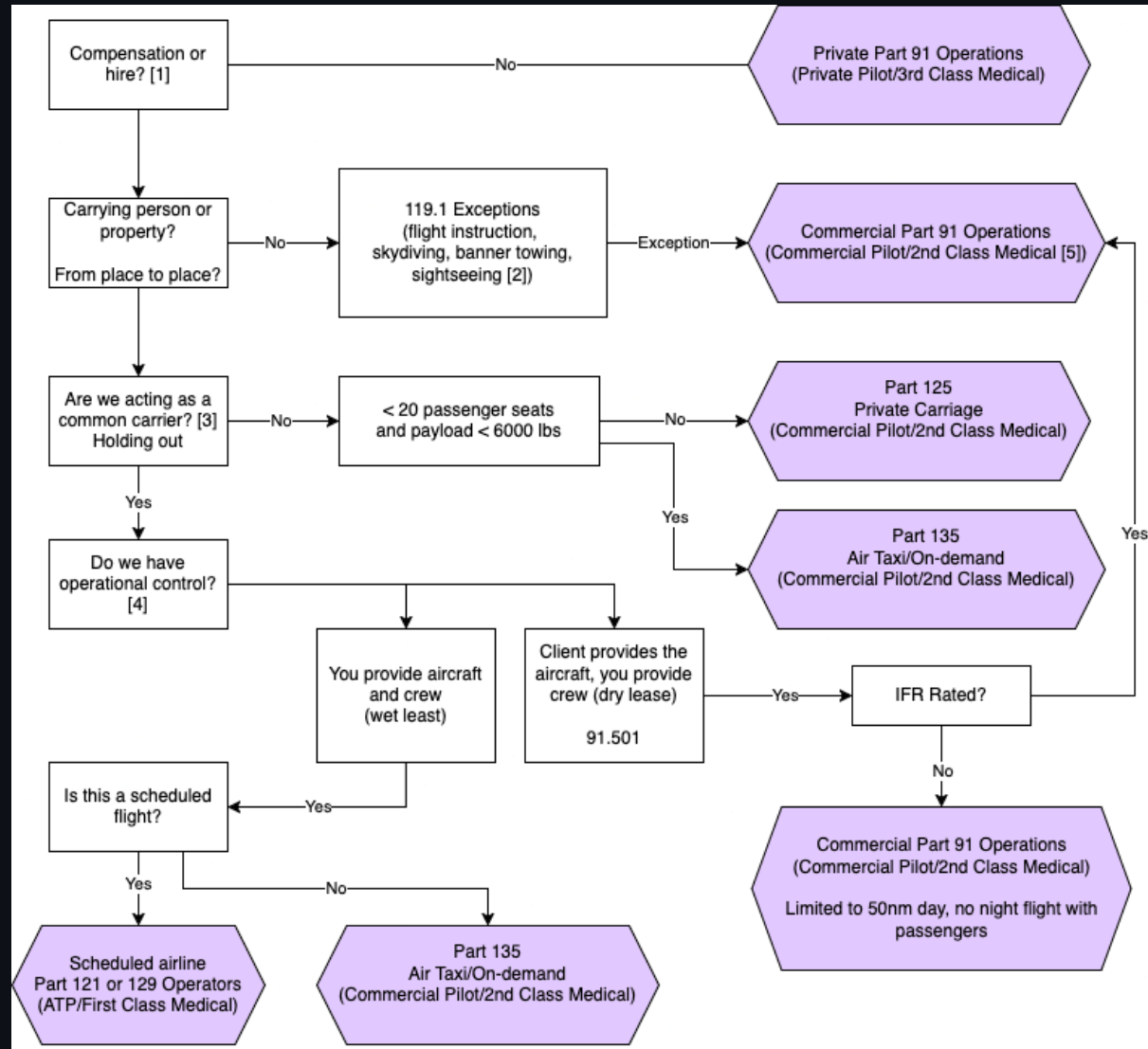
61.133 and 119.1 Privileges and Limitations

- A commercial pilot is free to work *for* a commercial operator, who is certificated for the operations they perform.
- They may also act as an operator themselves, but the services they offer may require a operating certificate.
- A person *or* an organization can be a commercial operator

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

119.1 Common Carriage

- 4 requirements for common carriage:
 - i. Holding out a willingness to
 - ii. Transport persons or property
 - iii. From place to place
 - iv. For compensation
- Any operations of a "common carrier" requires an operator certificate
- "Holding" out could be many things
 - Advertising to the general public is an unambiguous sign of holding out
 - This is a matter of degree and subject to interpretation



[1] 61.113: Compensation can be in different forms, doesn't have to be money

[2] Sightseeing flights may require a letter of authorization

[3] See AC 120-12A. Common carriage involves: (1) Holding out a willing to, (2) transport from (3) place to place, (4) for compensation

[4] Authority over initiating, conducting, or terminating a flight

[5] Instructors providing instruction can use a 3rd Class Medical

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

119.1 Commercial Operators Exceptions

- Certain operations do not require an operator's certificate (<20 seats, <6000 lbs)
 - Student instruction
 - Nonstop Commercial Air Tours (defined per 119.1(e)(2))
 - Ferry/training flights
 - Crop dusting, banner towing, fire fighting, photography/survey, power line/pipeline patrol
 - Sightseeing in balloons/gliders
 - Parachute operations (within 25nm)

61 Subpart F: Commercial Pilots

Recommendation for the Practical Test

1. A.34 endorsement or A.82 endorsement to take the knowledge test
2. Passing knowledge test result
3. A.1 endorsement: Preparation for the practical test
4. A.2 endorsement: Review of any missed questions on knowledge test (if required)
5. A.35 endorsement: Flight proficiency/practical test