



Requirements for Private Pilot Glider Rating

Minnesota Soaring Club

*Historic Stanton Airfield
Stanton, Minnesota*

This is the most basic rating for flying gliders. The Private Pilot Glider rating allows a licensed pilot to take passengers for rides. Pilots and passengers can equally share the costs of the flight.

Eligibility Requirements:

To be eligible for a private pilot glider license a person must

- Be at least 16 years old.
- Be able to read, speak, write, and understand the English language.

It should be noted that no medical certificate is required to fly gliders or motor-gliders. For more information see: FAR §61.103

Training Requirements:

For people with under 40 hours of logged flight experience the FAA requires at least 10 hours of flight time. Those 10 hours of flight time must include:

- 20 flights
- At least 3 flights with instructor for practical test preparation
- 2 hours of solo flight with at least 10 launches and landings.

For people with over 40 hours of logged flight experience the FAA requires at least 3 hours of flight time. Those 3 hours of flight time must include:

- 10 solo flights
- At least 3 flights with instructor for practical test preparation
- Reference: FAR §61.109.f

Test Standards

In order to complete your private pilot glider license, a student must complete 2 or 3 exams depending on the individual's experience. The exams are the written, the oral, and the practical exams. Written exams are required if you do not have a private pilots license. Practice written exams can be found on the internet.

The oral and practical exams are somewhat combined. Fortunately the FAA publishes what the student will need to know in the following sections of §61 of the FAR's.

FAR §61.105 Aeronautical Knowledge

FAR §61.107 Flight Proficiency

FAR §61.109 Aeronautical Experience

The practical test standards from the FAA can be found in Advisory Circular 61-131 or AC61-131.

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