

# Pilot Training Information Kit

*smart*air



So you want to learn to fly?

Read on to see how Smartair can help get your career or hobby off to a flying start.

Please complete the enquiry form at the back of this pack, then we can contact you to discuss your pilot training program.

Or you can visit us at:  
11-12 Avalon Street, Albury Airport, or  
1 PJ Moodie Drive, Bathurst Airport

(But call us first to make sure the right person is there to meet you.)

11-12 Avalon Street  
Albury Airport  
Albury NSW 2640  
Tel (02) 6021 2929  
Email [flying@smartair.com.au](mailto:flying@smartair.com.au)

[www.smartair.com.au](http://www.smartair.com.au)

# Getting Started

## Will my age matter?

There is no minimum age for flight training.

However, you do need to be 16 to hold a Student Pilot Licence and fly solo. 17 is the minimum age to hold a Private Pilot Licence, and 18 for a Commercial Pilot Licence. There is no maximum age restriction.

## What do I need before I can learn to fly?

English to IELTS Level 4 and a reasonable grasp of maths.

- A Student Pilot Licence.
- An Aviation Medical Certificate.
- An ASIC security check, permitting you to fly into airports

handling regular public transport.

# The Training Program

## What is involved in learning to fly?

There are two aspects to learning to fly:

### Flying

Your practical lessons are structured so you confidently progress from the very basics of flying, through to performing more challenging manoeuvres and handling more difficult situations. Depending on the level you are aiming for, there is a structured program of flying lessons to achieve your goal. Please refer to individual course brochures for more details.

### Aviation theory

You will study the principles of flying, through a structured program of lessons, according to the qualification you are aiming for. (See separate course details).

You need to pass oral and written exams and practical flight tests as you progress through the various stages of your training.

## How long will it all take?

This depends on a range of factors (eg part time or full time study). Individual results for part time study vary depending on the time allocated and funds available. As a rule of thumb:

**Private Pilot Licence (PPL)** takes most people approx 12 months studying part-time.

**Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL)** takes approx 12 months in a full time, structured program. If studying part-time, a motivated student could obtain their CPL in 18 months.

Obviously, your objectives, priorities and budgets influence training time, and occasionally so does the weather.

## How much study will I need to do?

Allow about 3 hours study time prior to each flying lesson, so you can put the principles into practice in your flying lessons.

The PPL theory requires about 273 hours of study. That increases to 624 for the CPL course.

Theory exams also require preparation. You can follow a 'home study' program, or attend classes at our training school.

## What subjects do I need to study?

These include the Principles of Flight, Navigation, Navigational aids, Air Law, Flight Planning and Radio Procedures. Refer to the course outlines for precise details.

## How long are the lessons?

Initially you should allow about 3 hours for each flying lesson. This will reduce as you become accustomed to the training process. Navigation exercises can take up most of a day as both the preparation time and actual flight time is much longer.

## What do the lessons involve?

A briefing, followed by a pre-flight aeroplane check, the actual flight, and finally a debriefing.

## How is the classroom component delivered?

Either by attending the classes we schedule to assist students to prepare for the theory exam, or you can 'self-study' in your own time.

## What is my program?

This depends on your objective in learning to fly, ie for a career or a hobby. Your instructor will design a program to suit your needs. Please refer to the course outlines for more details.



# Outcomes and Qualifications

## When will I be able to carry passengers?

After you have passed the General Flying Progress Test (GFPT). To achieve this standard generally requires about 35 hours flying time.

## What qualifications can I learn?

There are four licence types:

**Student Pilot Licence (SPL)**

**Private Pilot Licence (PPL)**

**Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL)**

**Airline Transport Pilot Licence (ATPL)**

There are also various ratings, (not available on SPL)

**Night VFR Rating**

**Command Instrument Rating**

**Instructor Rating**

**Aerobatic Rating**

**Agricultural Rating**

And several different licence endorsements:

**Constant speed propeller**

**Retractable undercarriage**

**Multi-engine**, and

**Aircraft type endorsements.**

## Where will I be able to fly?

Initially you will be able to fly only in the training area. As you progress you will be able to fly further afield, subject to your licence endorsements.

## What type of aircraft will I be able to fly?

Your flight training will enable you to fly a wide range of aircraft, depending on the endorsement attained.

# Career Opportunities

## What are the employment opportunities for commercially qualified pilots?

Demand for qualified pilots is high. Positions include:

Airline pilot

Charter pilot

Instructor pilot

Air Force pilot

Air Force navigator

Agricultural pilots.

## Are there any opportunities with Smartair?

We are a professional air charter business and flying school, so we also hire pilots. Smartair makes no guarantee of employment whatsoever, neither directly nor implied.

# Cost

## How much does it cost?

Our Trial Instructional Flight is \$150 for 30 minutes.

The Student Pilot Kit is \$180.

## Private Pilot Licence

Approximately \$16,750 (inc GST) including aircraft hire, classroom time, books and equipment, and examination and licence issue fees.

## Commercial Pilot Licence

Approximately \$42,130 but it depends on the aircraft, training, and endorsement options you choose.

## Books and Equipment

Books and equipment vary with the course selected. Costs are included in the figures quoted above. Refer to specific course brochure for details of requirements for that course.

## Theory Courses

To assist you to prepare for the theory exams:

Basic Aeronautical Knowledge - \$375

Private Pilot's Licence Theory - \$440

Briefing - \$44 per hour

Please refer to the brochure specific to your course for more detailed information.

# Books and Equipment

## Do I need any books or equipment?

We can supply all the books and equipment you will need:

- Student Pilot Kit
- PPL theory manual
- Navigation equipment (plotter, navigation computer)

Publications and charts are available from Airservices Australia on a subscription service. These depend on the level of study but include:

- WAC and other charts
- Aeronautical Information publication (AIP)
- Enroute Supplement (ERSA)

A good watch with a clear face and a sweeping second hand is also essential.



# Training with Smartair

## Why train with Smartair?

Smartair is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) which means that our standards and procedures are audited by the NSW Vocational Education and Training Accreditation Board (VETAB).

Erik Mol, our Chief Flying Instructor is a CASA approved Test Officer with post graduate qualifications in education. All testing is done at our training centres, up to and including the Command Instrument Rating. We have our own aircraft maintenance facility in both Albury and Bathurst.

## Where are the lessons held?

We have bases in both Albury and Bathurst where you can learn to fly safely, in uncluttered airspace. However, we can provide certain training services anywhere, any time.

## What experience does Smartair have in training pilots?

We have been training local and overseas pilots for over 40 years and now have a reputation for training up to multi-engine command IFR, with a consistently high standard. Our instructors are highly trained professionals, with many years of experience.

## What type of aircraft will I learn in?

Most training flights are in our purpose-built, ergonomically designed Piper Tomahawk. You can then advance to a Cessna 172 or Cessna 182 or complete multi-engine training on a Piper Seneca II.

## When can I start?

We have courses running throughout the year. However, with our flexible training model, we can tailor programs to suit your needs.

## Can I have a trial lesson first to see if I like flying?

Yes! You can start with a Trial Instructional Flight (TIF) to help you decide if flying is for you.

The TIF is a hands-on lesson where you actually fly our Tomahawk training aircraft, following a one-on-one pre-flight briefing with our instructor.

# Further Information

**Website** [www.smartair.com.au](http://www.smartair.com.au)

**Email** [flying@smartair.com.au](mailto:flying@smartair.com.au)

**Phone** 02 6021 2929 (Albury)  
02 6337 3452 (Bathurst)

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**On Site** 11-12 Avalon Street, Albury Airport  
1 PJ Moodie Drive, Bathurst Airport

