

CHAPTER 14 CONVERTING A HELICOPTER CATEGORY LICENCE TO AN AEROPLANE CATEGORY LICENCE



14.1 Overview

This chapter details the specific requirements for holders of an Australian helicopter pilot licence wishing to obtain an Australian aeroplane category licence.

14.2 Knowledge and experience requirements

(CASR 61.475 and FCLM 5.2, 6.4, 7.2, 8.2 and 8.3)

Table 53 shows the differences between the requirements for licences already held in the helicopter category of aircraft, compared to an aeroplane category licence.

Table 53 only indicates the additional specific requirements that you may not already meet. For example, the table does not include hours of aeronautical experience when these are automatically accounted for as part of your current licence.

It is important to note that for aeronautical experience to be considered it may need be flown in specific aircraft categories.

The hours detailed for conversion to a PPL(A) and CPL(A) are those pertaining to a non-integrated training program.



Table 53: Conversion requirements

Licence that you already hold	Licence that you wish to obtain	What you need to do (in addition to what you have already done)
Recreational pilot licence (RPL(H))	Recreational pilot licence (RPL(A))	 pass the RPL(A) or PPL(A) basic aeronautical knowledge exam (BAKA) for aeroplanes pass the RPL(A) flight test have at least 25 hours flight time in aeroplanes, which includes at least: 20 hours dual 5 hours solo Note: Simulator time does not count
Private pilot licence (PPL(H))	Recreational pilot licence (PPL(A))	 pass the RPL(A) or PPL(A) basic aeronautical knowledge exam (BAKA) aeroplanes have at least 25 hours flight time in aeroplanes, which includes at least: » 20 hours dual » 5 hours solo. » pass the RPL(A) flight test Note: Simulator time does not count
	Private pilot licence (PPL(A))	 pass either the aeroplane category-specific PPL(A) exam or all seven CPL exams, including the 4 aeroplane category-specific CPL exams have aeronautical experience that includes at least: 35 hours of flight time as a pilot including 20 hours of flight time as a pilot of an aeroplane 10 hours of solo flight time in an aeroplane 5 hours of solo cross-country flight time in an aeroplane 2 hours of dual instrument flight time including 1 hour of dual instrument flight time in an aeroplane pass the aeroplane category PPL flight test
	Commercial pilot licence (CPL(A))	 pass the 7 aeroplane category-specific CPL exams within 2 years (one window) have aeronautical experience that includes at least: 200 hours of aeronautical experience of which 10 hours can be in a flight simulator 190 hours of flight time as a pilot 80 hours of flight time as PIC 20 hours of solo cross-country flight time as PIC of an aeroplane including one flight of 300 nm with a full-stop landing at 2 aerodromes outside the flight training area 10 hours of dual instrument time of which 5 hours must be in an aeroplane pass the aeroplane category CPL flight test

10 hours can be in a flight simulator » 190 hours of flight time as a pilot » 60 hours of flight time as PIC

> pass the aeroplane category CPL flight test

training area

must be in an aeroplane

» 20 hours of solo cross-country flight time as PIC of an aeroplane including one flight of 300 nm with a full-stop landing at 2 aerodromes outside the flight

» 10 hours of dual instrument time of which 5 hours

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Licence that you already hold	Licence that you wish to obtain	What you need to do (in addition to what you have already done)
Air Transport licence (ATP(H)L)	Recreational pilot licence (PPL(A))	 pass the RPL(A) or PPL(A) basic aeronautical knowledge exam (BAKA) aeroplanes
		have at least 25 hours flight time in aeroplanes, which includes at least:
		» 20 hours dual
		» 5 hours solo.
		› pass the RPL(A) flight test
		Note: Simulator time does not count
	Private pilot licence (PPL(A))	 pass either the aeroplane category-specific PPL(A) exam or all seven CPL exams, including the 4 aeroplane category-specific CPL exams
		› have aeronautical experience that includes at least:
		» 35 hours of flight time as a pilot including 20 hours of flight time as a pilot of an aeroplane
		» 10 hours of solo flight time in an aeroplane
		» 5 hours of solo cross-country flight time in an aeroplane
		2 hours of dual instrument flight time including1 hour of dual instrument flight time in an aeroplane
		› pass the aeroplane category PPL flight test
	Commercial pilot licence (CPL(A))	 pass the 4 aeroplane category-specific CPL exams within 2 years (one window). The required exams are:
		» flight rules and air law (aeroplane) (CLWA)
		» operation, performance & flight planning (aeroplane) (CFPA)
		» aircraft general knowledge (aeroplane) (CSYA)
		» aerodynamics (aeroplane) (CADA)
		› have aeronautical experience that includes at least:
		 200 hours of aeronautical experience of which 10 hours can be in a flight simulator
		» 190 hours of flight time as a pilot
		» 60 hours of flight time as PIC
		» 20 hours of solo cross-country flight time as PIC of an aeroplane including one flight of 300 nm with a full-stop landing at 2 aerodromes outside the flight training area
		» 10 hours of dual instrument time of which 5 hours must be in an aeroplane
		› pass the aeroplane category CPL flight test

Licence that you Licence that you What you need to do (in addition to what you already hold wish to obtain have already done) Air Transport pilot pass the 4 aeroplane category-specific ATPL exams licence (ATPL(A)) within 2 years (one window). The required exams are: » flight planning (aeroplane) (AFPA) » aerodynamics and aircraft systems (aeroplane) (AASA) » performance and loading (aeroplane) (APLA) > pass the instrument rating exam (IREX) before you ATPL(A) flight test have aeronautical experience that includes at least: » 1500 hours of aeronautical experience » 1400 hours as a pilot of which 750 hours is in an aeroplane » 500 hours as PIC or PICUS or 250 hours in an aeroplane as PIC or PICUS of an aeroplane, of which at least 70 hours must be as PIC » 200 hours of cross-country flight time in an aeroplane » 100 hours of cross-country flight time as PIC or PICUS of an aeroplane » 100 hours of flight time at night as PIC or PICUS of an aeroplane » 75 hours of instrument flight time, of which at least 45 hours must be in an aeroplane > pass the aeroplane category ATPL flight test flight crew > to be resolved endorsement

Note: ATPL subject passes are not an equivalent pass in any CPL subject exam.

Note: CASA does not recognise flight crew exam credits gained under the licensing system of a foreign aviation regulatory authority.



Once you complete your theory examinations for your change to category licence, contact CASA to ensure you have the right theory credit awarded to you.

14.3 Medical requirements

There are no differences between the medical requirements for holders of the same level of pilot licence in the helicopter and aeroplane categories.

For a CPL(A) you must hold:

- > a Class 1 medical to take the CPL flight test
- > a Class 1 or 2 to fly an aircraft and are limited to a MTOW under 8,618 kgs where no passengers are permitted on the aircraft.

For an ATPL(A) you must hold:

- > a Class 1 medical to take the ATPL flight test
- > a Class 1 or 2 to fly an aircraft and are limited to a MTOW under 8,618 kgs where no passengers are permitted on the aircraft.