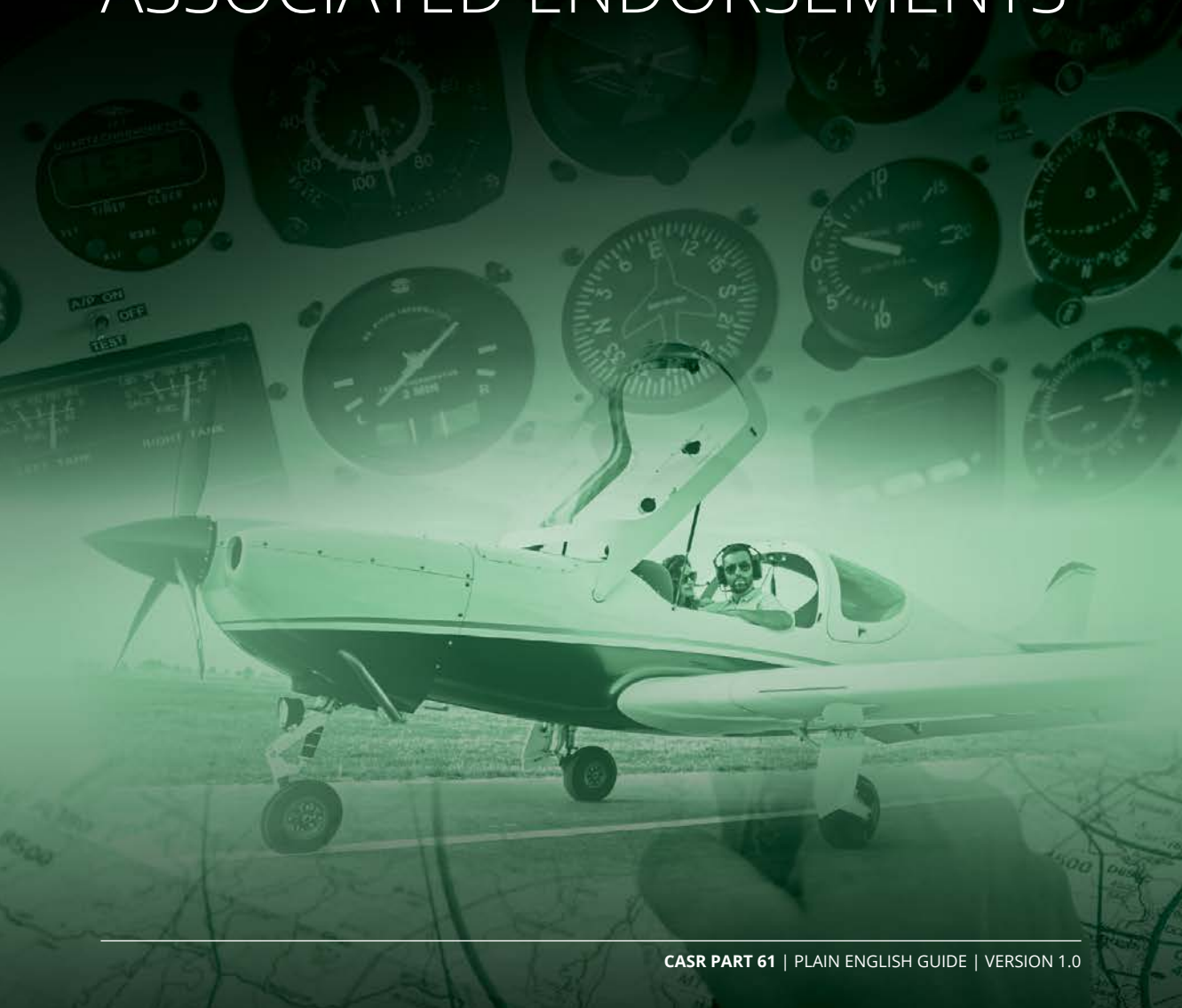




# CHAPTER 7

## LOW-LEVEL RATING AND ASSOCIATED ENDORSEMENTS



## 7.1 Overview

This chapter details the specific requirements for:

- › obtaining a low-level rating
- › obtaining a mustering endorsement (including an alternative pathway)
- › limitations
- › recency requirements
- › flight reviews
- › person approved to conduct training (CAO 29.10)
- › conduct of air displays including aerobatics practice
- › miscellaneous dropping operations.

A low-level rating is required for low-level flight operations (below 500 ft AGL, including low-level aerobatics and mustering).

If you hold an aerial application rating, you can apply for and be granted a low-level rating based on your aerial application rating.

Also see section 1.19 of this guide for diagrams depicting the low-level rating and associated endorsements.

For the aerial mustering endorsement, an alternative pathway is available where you can train, be assessed and undertake on-the-job training and supervision through a Part 138 operator. A legislative instrument CASA 05/23 – Flight training and flight tests for grant of aerial mustering endorsements approval 2023 has been made and contains the approvals and requirements for the operator, trainer and assessor who wish to conduct the training. See section 7.7 of this guide.

## 7.2 Requirements for the grant of a low-level rating

### (61.1070)

To obtain a low-level rating, you must:

- › hold a PPL, CPL or ATPL
- › meet the requirements for the grant of at least one endorsement (see section 7.3 of this guide)
- › have passed the flight test mentioned in Schedule 5 of the MOS for the low-level rating.

If you are the holder of an aerial application rating you meet the requirements for the granting of and application for a low-level rating.

If you are the holder of a low-level rating and an aerial application endorsement (aeroplanes), you are taken to meet the requirements for the granting of an aeroplane low-level endorsement.

## 7.3 Low-level and mustering endorsement requirements

### (61.1075)

As the holder of a low-level rating, you may conduct activities detailed in table 28 if you hold the required endorsement(s).

Table 28: Minimum requirements

Activity	Endorsement	Requirements
low-level operations (other than aerial mustering)	aeroplane low-level endorsement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› hold an aeroplane category rating</li> <li>› hold a valid low-level rating</li> <li>› have at least 5 hours of dual flight in an aeroplane while receiving training in low-level operations</li> <li>› completed flight training for the endorsement</li> <li>› passed the flight test for the endorsement detailed in Schedule 5 of the MOS</li> </ul>
aerial mustering operations	aerial mustering – aeroplane endorsement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› hold an aeroplane category rating</li> <li>› hold a valid low-level rating</li> <li>› hold an aeroplane low-level endorsement</li> <li>› have at least 5 hours of dual flight while receiving training in aerial mustering in an aeroplane</li> <li>› completed flight training for the endorsement</li> <li>› passed the flight test for the endorsement detailed in Schedule 5 of the MOS</li> </ul>

**Note:** You cannot count the 5 hours of dual flight experience for the issue of an aeroplane low-level endorsement towards the aeronautical experience for the issue of an aerial mustering endorsement.



An alternative pathway is available to complete an aerial mustering endorsement – see section 7.7 of this guide.



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## 7.4 Limitations of a low-level rating

### (61.1045 and 61.1050)

Before undertaking any low-level operation, you must:

- › conduct a risk assessment of the area
- › hold the appropriate endorsement (detailed in section 7.3 of this guide).

## 7.5 Recency requirements

### (61.1055)

You may only exercise the privileges of your low-level rating or aerial mustering endorsement if you meet the recency requirements in table 29.

**Table 29: Recency requirements**

Rating or endorsement	Time period	Recency requirements
low-level rating	within the previous 6 months	<p>either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› at least 2 hours of low-level operations</li> <li>› an assessment by a flight instructor qualified to conduct low-level operations</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> The above requirements are met, if in the previous 6 months you have successfully completed one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› a proficiency check in low-level operations</li> <li>› a flight review for the low-level rating.</li> </ul>
aerial mustering endorsement	within the previous 12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› completed 20 hours of aerial mustering operations</li> <li>› been assessed as competent to conduct aerial mustering operations by a flight instructor who holds a low-level training endorsement</li> <li>› successfully completed an operator proficiency check in low-level operations covering aerial mustering operations</li> <li>› successfully completed a low-level flight review covering aerial mustering operations.</li> </ul>

## 7.6 Flight review requirements

### (61.1060)

As a holder of a low-level rating, you must have a current flight review.

Also see section 2.12 of this guide.

#### Exemption

**(Instrument number CASA EX32/24 Flight Crew Licensing and Other Matters (Miscellaneous Exemptions) Instrument 2024) has been included in this section as is applicable.**

### Flight review requirements with an aerial mustering endorsement

To exercise the privileges of the low-level rating, you must have completed a low-level flight review in the past 12 months or successfully completed one of the following:

- › the flight test for the rating within the previous 12 months
- › the flight test for the low-level endorsement within the previous 12 months, but more than 6 months after passing the flight test for the rating
- › an aerial application proficiency check within the previous 12 months
- › an operator proficiency check within the previous 12 months that covers either:
  - » operations under the low-level rating
  - » operations under the aerial application rating
- › participating in an operator's training and checking system for the low-level rating and the operator has an approval under regulation 61.040 (approval to test aircraft without holding a type rating).

### Flight review requirements without holding an aerial mustering endorsement

To exercise the privileges of the low-level rating, you must have completed a low-level flight review in the past 24 months or successfully complete one of the following:

- › the flight test for the rating within the previous 24 months
- › the flight test for the low-level endorsement within the previous 24 months, but more than 6 months after passing the flight test for the rating
- › an aerial application proficiency check within the previous 24 months
- › an operator proficiency check within the previous 24 months that covers either:
  - » operations under the low-level rating
  - » operations under the aerial application rating
- › participating in an operator's training and checking system for the low-level rating and the operator has an approval under regulation 61.040 (approval to test aircraft without holding a type rating).



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## 7.7 Aerial mustering – alternative pathway

### (Instrument number 05/23 Flight Training and Flight Tests for Grant of Aerial Mustering Endorsements Approval 2023)

This pathway allows a person who has a high level of practical experience to conduct the training. It provides the opportunity for more operational-focused training with direct supervision in mustering operations after completing the training.

An operator with an aerial work certificate for aeroplane mustering is approved under regulations 141.035 and 141.050 to provide flight training for an aerial mustering endorsement (aeroplanes) provided:

- › the head of operations manages the flight training
- › the person conducting the flight training must:
  - » hold an aerial mustering endorsement
  - » be approved to conduct flight training for the grant of an aerial mustering endorsement
  - » be competent to conduct flight training
- › flight training activities are detailed in the operator's operations manual and meet the following requirements:
  - » aeronautical knowledge and practical flight training and the flight test must comply with the MOS
  - » your practical flight training must include 20 hours of dual flying in the same type of aeroplane used for the aerial mustering once the training is complete
  - » your theoretical and practical training must be conducted in suitable ground and airspace environments
  - » the aeroplane used must be airworthy and suitable for training.

You may undertake the above training provided you:

- › have a minimum of 100 hours in an aeroplane
- › hold a low-level endorsement.

Upon successfully completing your flight training, you will receive a course completion certificate issued by the operator that must include:

- › your name
- › the name of the operator
- › the name of the approved person who conducted your training
- › a comment to the effect that:
  - » the operator has provided you with a course of training that meets the requirements of the MOS
  - » the person who conducted your course of training was approved under regulation 141.035 to do so
  - » you have been assessed as competent in each unit of competency by the approved person.

The approved person conducting the flight training, on behalf of the operator, must make a record of the following as soon as practicable after you complete your flight training:

- › your (the applicant's) name and ARN
- › the dates of commencement and completion of flight training
- › for each flight training activity:
  - » the location
  - » the date
  - » the aircraft type and registration mark
  - » the flight time, and whether the flight was a dual flight, solo or as pilot in command under supervision
  - » the results of your performance measured against the relevant MOS competency requirements (Schedule 2)
- › a copy of your course completion certificate.

The operator must not permit a person to conduct flight training or to conduct a flight test (and a person must not do either) unless they meet the following criteria:

- › hold a CPL or ATPL
- › are employed by an approved operator (employment may be by contract or other arrangement)
- › hold a mustering endorsement (aeroplane)
- › have a minimum of:
  - » 3 years of aerial mustering operational experience (in any aircraft category)
  - » 2,000 hours of PIC conducting aerial mustering in an aeroplane
- › is qualified in principles and methods of instruction by:
  - » completing an approved course conducted by a Part 141 operator
  - » holding a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment
  - » holding a tertiary teaching qualification
- › have completed a course of instructor training delivered by a Part 141 operator that:
  - » includes a minimum of 5 hours of dual flight training in the non-command seat
  - » is delivered by a grade 1 flight instructor who holds a low-level training endorsement
  - » includes an assessment of competency to conduct aerial mustering training
- › has successfully completed the e-learning modules for the flight examiner rating course prepared by CASA.

As the approved person for the operator, you must also ensure you complete a recurrent check every 2 years in conducting flight training with a grade 1 flight instructor who holds a low-level rating.

Before commencing a flight test, the approved person must:

- › ensure they meet all recency requirements of their applicable rating
- › be the nominated person of the operator for the flight test
- › conduct the flight test as per the requirements of the MOS
- › notify CASA at least 24 hours before the flight test of the intent to conduct the flight test
- › upon completing the test inform you of the result and, if the result is a fail, the reason(s) for the fail
- › within 14 days of the flight test give a copy of the result, on the approved form, to the operator and CASA.

## 7.8 Approval to conduct mustering training

### **(Instrument number 05/23 Flight Training and Flight Tests for Grant of Aerial Mustering Endorsements Approval 2023)**

This section applies to an eligible person. To be an eligible person you must:

- › by 31 August 2014 have been approved under CAO 29.10 to act as an approved pilot in an aeroplane
- › hold a valid proficiency check that includes a competency test in the low-level training endorsement (aeroplane).

If you meet the conditions of an eligible person you are able to conduct flight training for the grant of:

- › a low-level rating
- › a low-level endorsement (aeroplane)
- › an aerial mustering endorsement (aeroplane).



## 7.9 Conduct of air displays including aerobatics practice

### (Instrument CASA EX07/24 Low-level Operations (Air Displays and Aerobatic Manoeuvres) Exemption 2024)

See section 2.17 of this guide for an exemption in holding a low-level rating or an aerial application rating when conducting an air display or aerobatic practice for an air display.

## 7.10 Dropping operations (miscellaneous)

### (Instrument CASA EX32/24 Flight Crew Licensing and Other Matters (Miscellaneous Exemptions) Instrument 2024)

A miscellaneous dropping operation is an operation or training for an operation that drops the following articles from an aeroplane (in flight) below 500 ft:

- › incendiaries to initiate controlled burning
- › baits for the capture or eradication of feral animals
- › search and rescue equipment
- › fodder for livestock
- › items for disaster relief
- › other articles of a nature or articles dropped for a purpose, that are similar in nature or purpose to those above.

**Note:** A relevant article does not include any substance that may be sprayed or broadcast.

If you conduct miscellaneous dropping operations you do not need an aerial application rating.

When acting as the PIC and not employed by an operator under Part 137 or Part 138 (aerial work operator), you must ensure that you conduct your miscellaneous dropping operations in accordance with all applicable requirements and conditions that apply to Part 138 of CASR limited aerial work operations.

To conduct a miscellaneous dropping operation in an aeroplane as the PIC you must:

- › hold a low-level rating and a low-level endorsement – both for aeroplanes
- › either (as applicable):
  - » comply with the requirements for a PIC as required by Part 137 of CASR
  - » comply with the requirements for a PIC as required by Part 138 of CASR for aerial work operations.