

What additional resources do I need outside of textbooks for Private Pilot courses?

Within the Aviation department our students are required to have an Airport/Facility Directory, sectional chart (Atlanta), plotter, current FAR/AIM, and manual flight computer (E6B). Our flight students are required to have all previously listed items plus, kneeboard, headset, Pilot Operating Handbook (POH), and Private Pilot Practical Test Standards. The A/FD and sectional chart can be bought in our bookstore located on the main campus, all other items come in the Private Pilot Kit sold at our certified flight training provider, WNC Aviation, LLC located at the Asheville Regional Airport (21 Aviation Way, Fletcher, NC).

What additional resources do I need outside of textbooks for the Instrument Rating course?

All students (flight or management) are required to purchase a low altitude enroute chart L25-L26 which covers Western NC. In addition you will need the Terminal Approach Procedures Publication for NC/SC. Both the low altitude enroute chart and NC/SC approach procedures can be purchased at our bookstore on the main campus. Flight students can purchase the Instrument Pilot Kit at our certified flight training provider, WNC Aviation, LLC which has all other needed items for instrument flight training.

What additional documents must I have before I can begin flight training?

Students seeking to become pilots must possess a student pilot license and medical certificate. Military veterans must possess at least a 2nd class medical in order to perform flight training where a civilian student must have at least a 3rd class medical. More information on the location of an Aviation Medical Examiner can be found at: faa.gov/pilots/amelocator

Additionally, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requires all prospective student pilots to provide proof of citizenship through either a current/valid U.S. Passport or a copy of your birth certificate with the raised seal. Non-U.S. citizens can perform flight training, but must go through additional background checks. More information can be found at: aopa.org/Pilot-Resources/Flight-Instructor-Resources/AOPAs-Guide-to-TSAs-Alien-Flight-Training-Citizenship-Validation-Rule/Aliens-and-Non-U-S-Citizens-Seeking-Flight-Training

How often should I plan on flying in order to get my license/rating in the same semester as my ground training?

We recommend that you fly at least 3 times per week in order to achieve this goal.

What happens if I do not obtain my license/rating in the same semester in which I'm taking my ground school course(s)?

Students enrolled in AER 161 Flight – Instrument Pilot or AER 171 Flight – Commercial Pilot that do not earn their license/rating within the given semester earn a grade of “I” or Incomplete and are given 6 weeks from the start of the next semester in which to complete their flight training. Please speak with your advisor if you do not believe you can achieve your license/rating in the given semester or within the 6 week extension into the following semester.

Do I have to complete all of my flight training in order to graduate?

No, our career pilot students can switch concentrations at any time in order to graduate as an aviation management student. This allows students the opportunity to earn an A.A.S. degree and continue their flight training after graduation and still enjoy the perks of being an A-B Tech Aviation graduate such as being eligible for the R-ATP.

What is the R-ATP?

The Reduced Aeronautical Experience Airline Transport Pilot allows graduates of our program to earn an airline or cargo pilot position with less than the federal mandate of 1,500 total flight hours. Since A-B Tech is a 2-year institution the Federal Aviation Administration reduces the total time our graduates must achieve to 1,250 hours to earn an airline or cargo pilot position. Having to spend less time accumulating hours means entering the job market sooner.

Do you have to take flight lessons at one particular flight school?

No. However, if you wish to take advantage of the R-ATP certification you must take all academic courses through A-B Tech and perform all flight training for the Instrument Rating and Commercial Pilot license through our certified flight training provider, WNC Aviation, LLC. If you are not career oriented, or do not wish to take advantage of the R-ATP you may perform your flight training at any school of your choosing for all the required FAA credentials within the program.

Do I have to be in the degree program in order to take aviation classes?

No, you do not have to be a degree-seeking student to take aviation classes. However, you must select one of our certificate options in order to register for AER courses. The certificate options allow you to pick and choose the appropriate courses geared towards your particular interests.

When is the last day to enroll in an aviation course?

Technically you have up until right before the first class meeting to be registered. In reality, you need to start the application process at least one week prior to the first day of class in order to realistically have all required items completed in order to enroll in classes.

How much does it cost to become a commercial pilot?

Our certified flight training provider, WNC Aviation, LLC can best answer this question by contacting them at **828-687-7540** or at beyourowncaptain.com. You can also find pricing information on our website: abtech.edu/aviation.