

Pilot Training Cost Estimate

Part 141

(Effective November 11, 2025)

PRIVATE PILOT CERTIFICATE - ASEL:

FAA minimum requirement is 35 hours of ground training and 35 hours of flight training, 20 dual and 5 solo. Individual training times vary greatly, depending upon a number of factors, and the FAA website says most people require 60 to 75 hours of training. These figures are for 50 hours, 40 dual and 10 solo.

	Hours	Rate/Hr	
Course fee			\$200
Cessna 172	50	\$140	\$7,000
Flight instructor fees	40	\$45	\$1,800
Ground instruction	35	\$45	\$1,575
Study materials (typical)			\$150
PRIVATE COURSE COST (ESTIMATE)			\$10,725

INSTRUMENT - AIRPLANE RATING *(Assumes a pilot meets ACS standards in all Private Pilot tasks/maneuvers)* :

FAA requires a minimum of 30 hours of ground instruction and 35 hours of instrument flight instruction. These figures are for 17 hours in our Advanced Aviation Training Device (AATD) and 30 hours in a Cessna 172 to meet the instrument instruction requirements.

Course fee			\$200
Cessna 172	30	\$140	\$4,200
AATD	17	\$35	\$595
Flight instructor fees	47	\$45	\$2,115
Ground instruction	30	\$45	\$1,350
Study materials (typical)			\$150
INSTRUMENT COURSE COST (ESTIMATE)			\$8,610

COMMERCIAL PILOT CERTIFICATE - ASEL:

FAA requires at least 35 hours of ground training and 120 hours of flight training, including 55 hours of dual instruction, with at least 10 in a complex airplane or Technically Advanced Airplane, and 10 hours solo. These figures are for 68 hours dual, with 19 in a Technically Advanced Airplane and 15 hours in an Advanced Aviation Training Device, and 52 hours solo, including 8 hours in the Technically Advanced Airplane.

Course fee			\$200
Cessna 172	78	\$140	\$10,920
Cessna 177 (TAA)	27	\$150	\$4,050
AATD	15	\$35	\$525
Flight instructor fees	68	\$45	\$3,060
Ground instruction	35	\$45	\$1,575
Study materials (typical)			\$150
COMMERCIAL COURSE COST (ESTIMATE)			\$20,480

TOTAL MATA PROGRAM COST ESTIMATE (Private, Instrument, Commercial)

\$39,815

Extra Personal Fees:

Each pilot certificate requires books & charts as well as the following FAA testing after completion of that course:

FAA written knowledge test	~ \$175
FAA oral and practical exam (Checkride)	~ \$650

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OTHER TRAINING AVAILABLE

FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR - ASE:

FAA requires a minimum of 40 hours of ground training and 25 hours of flight training. Although a complex aircraft or Technically Advanced Airplane is no longer required for the practical test, MATA still does some training in a Technically Advanced Airplane.

Course fee			\$200
Cessna 172	25	\$140	\$3,500
Flight instructor fees	25	\$45	\$1,125
Ground instruction	40	\$45	\$1,800
Study materials (typical)			\$150
FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR COURSE COST (ESTIMATE)			\$6,775

FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR INSTRUMENT - AIRPLANE:

FAA requires a minimum of 15 hours of ground training and 15 hours of flight training. These figures are for the minimum required times, plus 2 hours in the AATD to perform certain approaches because there are no airports with these approaches within practical range to perform in the airplane.

Course fee			\$200
Cessna 172	15	\$140	\$2,100
AATD	2	\$35	\$70
Flight instructor fees	17	\$45	\$765
Ground instruction	15	\$45	\$675
Study materials (typical)			\$150
FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR INSTRUMENT COURSE COST (ESTIMATE)			\$3,960

TAILWHEEL TRANSITION:

The Tailwheel Transition Course is proficiency based, so the endorsement will be granted when our authorized instructor determines the pilot is competent in operating a tailwheel aircraft. These figures are based on our curriculum which is written for the estimated times it should take a student to earn the endorsement.

Course fee			\$200
Cessna 180	10	\$170	\$1,700
Flight instructor fees	10	\$45	\$450
Ground instruction	8	\$45	\$360
Study materials (typical)			\$150
TAILWHEEL TRANSITION COURSE COST (ESTIMATE)			\$2,860