

# Summary of proposed flight test and proficiency check standards

## Consultation draft *Part 61 Manual of Standards* *Amendment Instrument 2017 (No. 1)*

September 2017

### **Introduction**

CASA is proposing changes to the flight test and proficiency check standards, as prescribed in Schedules 5 and 6 of the Part 61 Manual of Standards (MOS).

#### *Flight test standards*

Schedule 5 of the Part 61 MOS contains the flight test standards for Part 61 licences, ratings and endorsements. The current flight test standards refer to the practical flight standards in Schedule 2 of the Part 61 MOS. Most of the test standards in Schedule 5 are modified versions of the Schedule 2 standard, such as to limit the scope of the range of variables or remove elements or performance criteria. If no modifications are specified within for a particular Schedule 5 standard, then the test standard is all of the content of a Schedule 2 unit according to the applicable range of variables. In other words, the flight test standard is the same as the flight training standard for a particular unit, element and performance criterion.

#### *Proficiency check standards*

Schedule 6 of the Part 61 MOS contains the proficiency check standards for Part 61 ratings. The current proficiency check standards rely on the practical flight standards in Schedule 2 of the MOS. Most of the check standards in Schedule 6 are modified version of the Schedule 2 standard, such as to limit the scope of the range of variables or remove elements or performance criteria. If no modifications are specified within a particular Schedule 6 standard, then the check standard is all of the content of a Schedule 2 unit according to the applicable range of variables. In other words, the proficiency check standard is the same as the flight training standard for a particular unit, element and performance criterion.

### **Issue**

Examiners have found the current format of modifications and references to Schedule 2 to be an inflexible means by which to apply the flight test and proficiency check standards. Sometimes aircraft equipment, operational practice or location can lead to difficulties in applying the standards.

CASA has also found instances where several test and check items were addressing a common activity or manoeuvre, but used different terms. For example, items for planning, briefing, and conducting take-off and departure procedures for various tests and checks were written in different ways even though all of the items were targeting the same matters. As a result, and in

conjunction with an update to the Flight Examiners' Handbook (FEH), CASA is proposing to update the Schedule 5 and 6 flight test and proficiency check standards.

### **Purpose and scope of the proposed amendments**

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to regularise the flight test and proficiency check standards across the testing and checking system so that common items are used in the Part 61 MOS, flight test forms, the online flight test management system and the flight examiner handbook.

The scope of the proposed changes extends to all flight tests and proficiency checks, although some of the changes are relatively small. The aim is to simplify the process, improve its functionality with data integrity checks and expand its usefulness through greater use of online capability.

### **Impact on industry**

The impact on industry is positive in that the proposed changes simplify and streamline the flight testing and proficiency checking systems. There are no costs involved with the changes. People involved in conducting flight tests and proficiency checks will find the standards easier to understand and apply.

### **Regulation impact statement**

The Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR) made the assessment that a Regulation Impact Statement was not required for the proposed amendments to the Part 61 MOS (OBPR ID: 22720).

### **Closing date for comment**

CASA will consider all comments received as part of this consultation process and incorporate changes as appropriate. Comments on the draft *Part 61 Manual of Standards Amendment Instrument 2017 (No. 1)* should be submitted through the [online response form](#) by close of business **3 October 2017**.

### **How we handle your feedback**

At the end of the response period for public comment, we will register and review each comment and submission received through the online response form, but will not acknowledge individual responses. We will consider the submissions to this Consultation Draft before making any change to the regulations or other legislative instrument.

We will make all submissions publicly available on the CASA website unless a respondent requests that their submission remain confidential. Information about how we consult and how to make a confidential submission is available on the [CASA website](#).

When the CD submissions are published we will also publish a summary of consultation. The summary of consultation will summarise the feedback received, detail our plans for future policy, and outline any further consultation or planned rule making on this subject.

If we do change the rules, we will not publish an NFRM; information about the rule making will be available in the Explanatory Statement that is published with the final rule on the Federal Register of Legislation. You can subscribe to our [consultation and rule making mailing list](#) to be notified of future consultation or rule making on this subject.