

Requirement ID: 157

Sponsor Organization: AFS-800

POC: Michael Henry

Requirement Title: Credit for Instrument Rating in a Flight Training Device Research Statement:

Funded Requirement:

- FY01: No
- FY02: Yes
- FY03: Yes
- FY04: Yes

Requirement Statement: Provide information required for the revision of FAR 61-141, specifying the credit hours for which various Flight Training Devices (FTDs) and Personal Computer Aviation Training Devices (PCATDs) may be used in lieu of actual flight.

Background: Modern flight training devices provide a more effective and safe training experience than aircraft. Instructor and student discuss, perform, and review specific maneuvers in a quiet environment, without the distractions of danger of other aircraft, weather, etc. FTDs provide emergency procedures often not possible in an aircraft. Further, the quality of flight training will be more uniform if the most credit is reserved for the most capable devices, and less credit granted for less capable machines.

By adjusting the flight credit allowance per the varying capabilities of FTDs, the FAA shows that it recognizes qualitative differences in the training experience. It is anticipated that a regulation change may provide incentive for further FTD development and use, and an increase in training effectiveness and efficiency.

SubTasks:

1. Evaluate all seven levels of FTDs, recategorizing them as necessary by shared characteristics (i.e., fidelity fo physical/visual/flight replication)
2. Develop a system for measuring and recording a range of pilot performance within the areas of aircraft handling, navigation, and emergency procedures.
3. Measure the performance levels of students from each of the seven FTD categories.
4. Determine the point at which performance levels in an aircraft meet pilot certification standards?

Output: An advisory circular specifying number of credit hours given in lieu of flight time.

Regulatory Link: none