

*Liberty University School of Aeronautics  
Restricted Privileges ATP Information Sheet*

***Introduction:***

The following information is a concise summary of the FAA requirements to qualify for the **Airline Transport Pilot Certificate with Reduced Aeronautical Experience (R-ATP\*)**. As professional aviators we are held accountable to the adherence of FAA guidelines. This information sheet does not relieve pilots of their individual responsibility to take ownership for their education and their knowledge of the FAA requirements to qualify for the R-ATP. **For complete FAA R-ATP guidelines refer to FAA AC 61-139 and FAR 61.160.**

*Note: For brevity, the acronym “R-ATP” is used in place of the proper FAA designation of “restricted privileges ATP”.*

***Historical Overview:***

- Original R-ATP Authorization:
  - Effective September 18, 2013, the Liberty University School of Aeronautics (LUSOA) was issued a Letter of Authorization (LOA) from the FAA granting the LUSOA authority to certify its **residential** graduates for the R-ATP.
  
- Original Flight Training Affiliate Authorization (FTA):
  - Effective May 29, 2015, the LUSOA received additional authorization from the FAA (Amendment No. 6) to certify its **online** graduates who complete their flight training at any of the FAA approved\* **Flight Training Affiliates** (FTA) for the R-ATP.
  
- Amendment #13:
  - Effective Dec 13, 2017, the LUSOA received additional authorization from the FAA (Amendment No. 13) updating the approved list of approved aviation related coursework and FTAs.

***\*Note:***

- *New FTAs are frequently being added to LUSOA’s growing list of approved training locations.*
- *Not all of the LUSOA FTAs are currently approved for the R-ATP.*

*Liberty University School of Aeronautics  
Restricted Privileges ATP Information Sheet*

- *Future LOA amendments will include the new FTAs.*
- *Amendment No 13, (dated: 13 Dec 2017) contains the current list of FAA approved R-ATP FTAs.*

***The LUSOA is authorized by the FAA to certify its graduates for both the 1000 Hour and 1250 Hour R-ATP.***

To be eligible for the FAA R-ATP, a graduate must meet FAA mandated **certificate**, **academic** and **flight training** requirements.

***Certificate Requirements:***

1. FAR 61-160(b)3
  - a. *“Hold a **commercial pilot certificate** with an airplane category and instrument rating.”*

***Academic Requirements:***

1. Approved Liberty University Aviation Degrees:
  - a. Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics
  - b. Bachelor of Science in Aviation
  - c. Bachelor of Science in Aviation Administration / Flight Cognate
2. For the **1000-hour R-ATP**: Complete 60 credit hours of aviation and aviation-related courses that are FAA recognized and approved.
3. For the **1250-hour R-ATP**: Complete 30 credit hours of aviation and aviation-related courses that are FAA recognized and approved.

*Note:*

- Approved residential and online courses can be applied to satisfy the course requirement.***
- a. ***Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) credits cannot be applied to satisfy the course requirement.***
    - i. To receive FAA R-ATP course credit the course must be listed under “Institution Credit” on the student’s official Liberty University transcript. To be listed under “Institution Credit” students must have been officially registered for and enrolled in the course for a grade. Auditing a course does not meet the requirement.

*Liberty University School of Aeronautics  
Restricted Privileges ATP Information Sheet*

- ii. To receive FAA R-ATP course credit for instrument and commercial flight courses, students must be **officially registered** at Liberty University for Instrument Flight (AVIA 320) and Commercial Flight (AVIA 325, 326, 327).
  - iii. Students who complete the 14 CFR Part 141 instrument and commercial flight training courses but were **not officially registered** at Liberty University for Instrument Flight (AVIA 320) and Commercial Flight (AVIA 325, 326, 327) will not be eligible for FAA R-ATP.
- b. **University graduation requirements vs. FAA R-ATP requirements**
- i. *While PLA credit may be applied in certain cases to satisfy university graduation requirements, PLA credit does **not** satisfy the FAA coursework requirements for the R-ATP and in some cases results in ineligibility for the R-ATP.*
  - ii. *Fulfilling the requirements of the Liberty University Bachelor of Science Degree Completion Plan (DCP) for graduation will not guarantee that you meet the FAA R-ATP requirements. You must ensure that you complete the required number of credit hours in FAA approved courses.*
- c. *FAA approved coursework completed **after** the aviation degree has been conferred **cannot** be applied to the 30/60 credit hour coursework requirement.*

**Ground / Flight Training Requirements:**

1. IAW 14CFR61.160, the graduate must have obtained a **commercial pilot certificate** with an airplane category and instrument rating from a 14 CFR Part 141 pilot school associated with an institution of higher education.
  - a. Complete the required Instrument (AVIA 310) and Commercial (AVIA 315) ground training as part of an approved 14 CFR Part 141 curriculum at Liberty University.
  - b. Complete the required Instrument (AVIA 320) and Commercial (AVIA 325, 326, 327) flight training as part of an approved 14 CFR Part 141 curriculum at the LUSOA or at an approved 14 CFR Part 141 flight school that has an FTA agreement with the LUSOA as stipulated under 14 CFR §141.26

*Liberty University School of Aeronautics  
Restricted Privileges ATP Information Sheet*

- c. *The ground training courses and flight training courses must be completed **concurrently**.*
  - i. *Concurrently is interpreted to mean the ground training must be completed either the semester prior or in the same semester as the associated flight training.*
- d. *There is **no provision in place for transferring** partial Instrument or Commercial flight training between approved flight schools.*
  - i. *Any student who begins Instrument or Commercial flight training at one approved flight school and then transfers to another must start over and complete the entire approved TCO (Training Course Outline) flight training for certification.*

*Note:*

- a. *Students are not eligible to apply for the R-ATP Certifying Certificate until they hold an FAA Commercial Pilot Certificate and their B.S. Degree (Aeronautics, Aviation, or Aviation Administration, Flight Cognate) has been conferred. **Prior to graduation, students should conduct a review of their records to ensure they have met all requirements.***
- b. *Graduates should **not** wait until achieving the appropriate amount of flight time before applying for their R-ATP Certifying Certificate. The time required to process the R-ATP Certifying Certificate could actually delay your airline interview.*
- c. *Graduates who apply to a DPE to take the ATP practical test using the provisions of 14CFR61.160 (restricted privileges ATP) will be required to provide their:*
  - i. *Official academic transcript from their LOA-holding university*
  - ii. *61.160 R-ATP certifying statement (R-ATP Certificate).*

**Transfer Students:**

- 1. AC 61-139 does provide a provision for students transferring between Authorized Institutions of higher learning.
  - a. Both institutions must be authorized to certify its graduates for the R-ATP per FAR 61.169.

*Liberty University School of Aeronautics  
Restricted Privileges ATP Information Sheet*

- b. The student must provide an official transcript and a copy of the FAA R-ATP Letter of Authorization from the institution initially attended.
- c. Courses to be transferred must be included on the FAA Authorized Aviation Coursework List from the institution initially attended.
- d. To avoid duplicating course credit, in some cases a course syllabus may be required.

*Note:*

- a. Both Instrument Ground and Instrument Flight, or Commercial Ground and Commercial Flight, must be completed ***concurrently at one approved institution.***
- b. *There is **no provision for transferring** partial Instrument or Commercial ground or flight training between approved institutions.*
- c. ***Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) credits cannot be applied to satisfy R-ATP course requirements.***
- d. Ref: AC 61-139,12b. Transferring Between Authorized Institutions of Higher Education

***R-ATP Application Procedures:***

1. Graduates should make their request for the R-ATP Certifying Statement via email.
  - a. Residential students email:
    - i. Professor Reichard at [whreichard@liberty.edu](mailto:whreichard@liberty.edu)
  - b. Online / FTA students email:
    - i. Mrs. Sarah Valle at [flightaffiliate@liberty.edu](mailto:flightaffiliate@liberty.edu)
2. The R-ATP checklist will then be emailed to the graduate.
3. The checklist contains a list of the documentation required to process the R-ATP Certifying Statement.
4. With the exception of the LU Official Transcript, all required documentation should be emailed to the addresses above.
5. Attach the remaining checklist items in a single email.
6. When the required documentation is received the R-ATP will be processed.
7. Plan ahead!

*Liberty University School of Aeronautics  
Restricted Privileges ATP Information Sheet*

8. The normal processing time can be as long as 2-3 weeks from receipt of all the required documentation to the issuance of the R-ATP Certifying Certificate.

*-----The End-----*