

SEC. 135. PROMOTING AVIATION REGULATIONS FOR TECHNICAL TRAINING.

(a) NEW REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—

(1) INTERIM FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall issue interim final regulations to establish requirements for issuing aviation maintenance technician school certificates and associated ratings and the general operating rules for the holders of those certificates and ratings in accordance with the requirements of this section.

(2) REPEAL OF CURRENT REGULATIONS.—

Upon the effective date of the interim final regulations required under paragraph (1), part 147 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this title) and any regulations issued under section 624 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–254) shall have no force or effect on or after the effective date of such interim final regulations.

(b) AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN SCHOOL CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.—No person may operate an aviation maintenance technician school without, or in violation of, an aviation maintenance technician school certificate and the operations specifications issued under the interim final regulations required under subsection (a)(1), the requirements of this section, or in a manner that is inconsistent with information in the school's operations specifications under subsection (c)(5).

(c) CERTIFICATE AND OPERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An application for a certificate or rating to operate an aviation maintenance technician school shall include the following:

(i) A description of the facilities, including the physical address of the certificate holder's primary location for operation of the school, any additional fixed locations where training will be provided, and the equipment and materials to be used at each location.

(ii) A description of the manner in which the school's curriculum will ensure the student has the knowledge and skills necessary for attaining a mechanic certificate and associated ratings under subpart D of part 65 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(iii) A description of the manner in which the school will ensure it provides the necessary qualified instructors to meet the requirements of subsection (d)(4).

(B) DOCUMENTED IN THE SCHOOL'S OPERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS.—Upon issuance of the school's certificate or rating, the information required under subparagraph (A) shall be documented in the school's operations specifications.

(2) CHANGE APPLICATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An application for an additional rating or amended certificate shall include only the information necessary to substantiate the reason for the requested additional rating or change.

(B) APPROVED CHANGES.—Any approved changes shall be documented in the school's operations specifications.

(3) DURATION.—An aviation maintenance technician school certificate or rating issued under the interim final regulations required under subsection (a)(1) shall be effective from the date of issue until the certificate or rating is surrendered, suspended, or revoked.

(4) CERTIFICATE RATINGS.—An aviation maintenance technician school certificate issued under the interim final regulations required under subsection (a)(1) shall specify which of the following ratings are held by the aviation maintenance technician school:

(A) Airframe.

(B) Powerplant.

(C) Airframe and Powerplant.

(5) OPERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS.—A certificated aviation maintenance technician school shall operate in accordance with operations specifications that include the following:

(A) The certificate holder's name.

(B) The certificate holder's air agency certificate number.

(C) The name and contact information of the certificate holder's primary point of contact.

(D) The physical address of the certificate holder's primary location, as provided under paragraph (1)(A).

(E) The physical address of any additional location of the certificate holder, as provided under subsection (d)(2).

(F) The ratings held, as provided under paragraph (4).

(G) Any regulatory exemption granted to the school by the Administrator.

(d) OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, AND MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS.—Each certificated aviation maintenance technician school shall provide and maintain the facilities, equipment, and materials that are appropriate to the 1 or more ratings held by the school and the number of students taught.

(2) TRAINING PROVIDED AT ANOTHER LOCATION.—A certificated aviation maintenance technician school may provide training at any additional location that meets the requirements of the interim final regulations required under subsection (a)(1) and is listed in the certificate holder's operations specifications.

(3) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—Each certificated aviation maintenance technician school shall—

(A) establish, maintain, and utilize a curriculum designed to continually align with mechanic airman certification standards as appropriate for the ratings held;

(B) provide training of a quality that meets the requirements of subsection (f)(1); and

(C) ensure students have the knowledge and skills necessary to be eligible to test for a mechanic certificate and associated ratings under subpart D of part 65 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(4) INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS.—Each certificated aviation maintenance technician school shall—

(A) provide qualified instructors to teach in a manner that ensures positive educational outcomes

are achieved;

(B) ensure instructors hold a mechanic certificate with 1 or more appropriate ratings (or, with respect to instructors who are not certified mechanics, ensure instructors are otherwise specifically qualified to teach their assigned content); and

(C) ensure the student-to-instructor ratio does not exceed 25:1 for any shop class.

(5) CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION.—Each certificated aviation maintenance technician school shall provide authenticated documentation to each graduating student, indicating the student's date of graduation and curriculum completed, as described in paragraph (3)(A).

(e) QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEM.—

(1) ACCREDITATION.—Each aviation maintenance technician school shall—

(A) be accredited as meeting the definition of an institution of higher education provided for in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001); or

(B) establish and maintain a quality control system that meets the requirements specified in paragraph (2) and is approved by the Administrator.

(2) FAA-APPROVED SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS.—

In the case of an aviation maintenance technician school that is not accredited as set forth in paragraph (1), the Administrator shall approve a quality control system that provides procedures for recordkeeping, assessment, issuing credit, issuing of final course grades, attendance, ensuring sufficient number of instructors, granting of graduation documentation, and corrective action for addressing deficiencies.

(f) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) MINIMUM PASSAGE RATE.—A certificated aviation maintenance technician school shall maintain a pass rate of at least 70 percent of students who took a written, oral, or practical (or any combination thereof) FAA mechanic tests within 60 days of graduation for the most recent 3-year period.

(2) FAA INSPECTION.—A certificated aviation maintenance technician school shall allow the Administrator such access as the Administrator determines necessary to inspect the 1 or more locations of the school for purposes of determining the school's compliance with the interim final regulations required under subsection (a)(1), the procedures and information outlined in the school's operations specifications according to subsection (c)(5), and the aviation maintenance technician school certificate issued for the school.

(3) DISPLAY OF CERTIFICATE.—A certificated aviation maintenance technician school shall display its aviation maintenance technician school certificate at a location in the school that is visible by and normally accessible to the public.

(4) EARLY TESTING.—A certificated aviation maintenance technician school may issue authenticated documentation demonstrating a student's satisfactory progress, completion of corresponding portions of the curriculum, and preparedness to take the aviation mechanic written general knowledge test, even if the student has not met the experience requirements of section 65.77 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation). Any such documentation shall specify the curriculum the student completed and the completion date.