

## CSL 3.11



# English Proficiency

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Pilots applying for any of the new EASA licences must have a valid English language endorsement before the licence can be issued by the CAA. Described below is the process by which you can obtain an English Language Level 6 endorsement which is valid for life.
- 1.2 A number of LAA Coaches may assist in providing the English language assessment required in order for the CAA to issue English Language Proficiency at Level 6. Those listed as examiners (in blue) on the LAA Coach map may conduct this assessment.

<http://www.tinyurl.com/laacoach>

## 2 Previous endorsement

- 2.1 In 2008, all UK pilots who held a Flight Radio Telephony Operators Licence (FRTOL) were deemed by the CAA to be at 'Level 4' in the English language. This followed a global agreement through the International Civil Aviation Organisation requiring that pilots must demonstrate proficiency in English at Level 4, 5 or 6 and for Language Proficiency: English to be endorsed in their licences by a specified date. A 'Level 4' endorsement is valid for four years only.
- 2.2 Endorsements granted in 2008 to UK pilots who held radio licences expired in March 2012, unless they were renewed at Level 4 or were upgraded to Level 5 or 6 by one of the permitted methods. A 'Level 6' endorsement, the standard of an 'expert' English speaker, does not expire.
- 2.3 There are believed to be a significant number of pilots who have not obtained a Level 6 assessment from an examiner within the last four years during a test or check. Therefore, some existing licence holders may be unable to acquire an EASA licence until they renew their language proficiency endorsement.
- 2.4 The UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) is advising pilots to check the currency of the English language proficiency endorsement associated with their licences.

## 3 Obtaining a Level 6 endorsement

- 3.1 Holders of UK Examiner Certificates may conduct the assessment required to issue a English Language Level 6 endorsement. For these purposes a holder of a UK Examiner Certificate is any holder of a valid FE, TRE, CRE, IRE, SFE, or FIE certificate issued by the CAA.
- 3.2 The assessment is conducted to assess listening, speaking and interaction in English.

- 3.3 A brief conversation, followed by a simulated flight with the applicant demonstrating use of appropriate radiotelephony calls will be used to assess each applicant. The applicant is assessed on both standard R/T phraseology and use of plain language where appropriate.
- 3.4 A record of the event will be retained by the examiner confirming completion of the tasks required under FCL.055(b) and AMC1 FCL.055 Sections (a) to (I) inclusive.

## **4 Administrative Procedures**

- 4.1 CAA Form SRG 1199 is used to provide evidence to the CAA of the English Language proficiency assessment, and may be retained by the applicant until licensing action is required.
- 4.2 The examiner will also forward a record of the event to the LAA. This will be retained at LAA Head Office for up to 5 years.

## **5 Reference Material**

CAP 804 Section 4 Part M  
FCL.055 Language Proficiency  
AMC 1 FCL.055 Section (a) to (I) inclusive



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