



# OAS TECH BULLETIN

No. TB 20-02 (supersedes TB 20-01) Date: June 26, 2020

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**SUBJECT: Contract and Fleet Pilot Competency Checks and Airman Medical Certificates**

**DISTRIBUTION: All Aviation Activities**

**ISSUE:** The unprecedented circumstances associated with the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in extension of the Federal Aviation Administrations (FAA) regulatory dockets offering temporary relief from certain portions of 14 CFR part 135 and 14 CFR part 61.

**REGULATORY DOCKET NO. FAA-2020-0291, Exemption 18509A, signed May 29, 2020**

Grants temporary exemption to several 14 CFR part 135 recurring checks. Of note are the exemptions granted for **recurring** competency checks required in section 135.293 and instrument proficiency checks required in section 135.297. **Office of Aviation Services (OAS) endorses and adopts these exemptions for Department of the Interior (DOI) aviation operations through July 31, 2020 providing the conditions and limitations contained within the exemption are met.**

**REGULATORY DOCKET NO. FAA-2020-0446 dated June 29, 2020**

Grants temporary relief by allowing persons to “operate beyond the validity period of their medical certificate” through September 30, 2020. This **relief is for a maximum of 3 months** and is applicable when expiration of the medical certificate occurs from March 31, 2020 through September 30, 2020. **OAS endorses and adopts this exemption for DOI aviation medical certificates expiring through September 30, 2020 providing the conditions and limitations contained within the regulatory docket are met.**

**DOI FLEET PILOT FLIGHT EVALAUTIONS (351 DM 3, OPM-16)**

DOI policy requires Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) and Visual Flight Rules (VFR) flight evaluations on a semiannual and annual basis, respectively. The following temporary pilot evaluation protocols are in place to mitigate the COVID-19 hazard.

- DOI pilots maintaining flight experience recency in accordance with 14 CFR 61.57 (c) are authorized to continue IFR operations beyond the validity period of their DOI IFR flight evaluation (**seven calendar months**).
- DOI pilots operating VFR, with current special use evaluations through June 30, 2020 are authorized to continue VFR and authorized special use operations beyond the validity period of their DOI VFR flight evaluation (**thirteen calendar months**).
- **OAS authorizes these exceptions to 351 DM 3 through September 30, 2020.**

Blanket grace periods are not applicable to expiring special use endorsements, coordinate evaluations or exceptions through OAS.

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