

Appendix B

Becoming a Flying Instructor ?

Becoming an Autogyro Instructor is a remarkable achievement and to be able to be allowed to fly those amazing aircraft on a daily basis beats any other job going. As a matter of fact it is not a job – it is sheer enjoyment!

For more information please visit the CAA website www.caa.co.uk and search for STANDARDS DOCUMENT 44.

The minimum requirements to become an Assistant Flying Instructor (AFI) are set out as:

- Must have completed at least 150 hours of flying as pilot in command of an Autogyro since the issue of the licence. Any training prior to your PPL(G) licence issue does not count towards those hours. You may count up to 50 hours of flying as pilot in command of microlights / helicopters or fixed wing aircraft towards the total of 150 hours reducing it to 100 hours only and this includes commercial pilots and / or other instructors.
- 30 hours flown as P1 on cross-country flights i.e. a flight where a landing is made at an aerodrome at least 25NM away from the departure aerodrome.
- Demonstrate by personal log entries, landings at aerodromes with full ATC, FISO, radio and non-radio service.
- You will have to pass a flying skills entry test with a CAA Instructor Examiner FIE(G) in the UK to prove that you are competent at flying the aircraft from the front seat as you are not allowed to fly from the rear seat unless with a flying instructor or examiner of gyroplanes.
- You will have to sit a ground school course consisting of a minimum of 40 hours. This can either be done before you start the flying part of your instructor training or it can run side-by-side when you train to fly. It is acceptable that ground course subjects can also be taught by any Microlight Examiner being able to teach and exam Ground School Subjects (Air Law/ Human Performance / Navigation and Met) and must be signed off as having been completed. Alternatively you may also elect to do it all in-house but only the Gyroplane Examiner FIC(G) is allowed to teach all subjects ground and air. The FIC(G) will also be teaching your Gyroplane Technical which may not be covered by the Microlight Examiner. Gyroplane Technical and flying the Gyroplane usually go hand in hand.
- You will have to start a flying course of a minimum required 20 hours. During your time you will learn how to demonstrate the flying aspects and teaching aspects of the entire PPL(G) syllabus.
- On completion of both courses you will be required to pass an Assistant Flying Instructor rating exam – this is an air and ground exam where you demonstrate your ability to handle the aircraft from the back seat with (the examiner as) a student and be able to brief the (examiner as the) student before, during and after the flight applying corrections where you see fit for the safe conduct of everyone.
- On successful completion you will be awarded with an Assistant Flying Instructors (AFI) rating which is valid for a period of three (3) years. This will allow you to train students however you may only do so under the supervision of a Flying Instructor FI(G). The requirements for the issue of an FI(G) rating are that you must have completed (as an AFI) a minimum of 100 hours of giving dual instruction (this training must include the briefings and associated flying training of every exercise in the PPL(G) syllabus) and you must have supervised at least 25 student solo flights.
- At that point a further Instructors exam (air and ground with a FIE(G)) is necessary to facilitate and allow the qualification of a Flying Instructor rating - FI. At that point you are no longer required to teach under supervision, you can now teach by yourself.