



## **SAFETY DECISION 2020-15**

**Issue 01**

**Date of Issue: April 30, 2020**

### **SUBJECT:**

NEW FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR APPROVED TRAINING ORGANIZATIONS

### **REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:**

- CAR Part II, Chapter 9 (CAR ORA)
- CAR Part VIII, Subpart IV
- CAR Part II, Chapter 6
- CAR PARTII Chapter 2 FCL

### **APPLICABILITY:**

This Safety Decision shall be applicable from 19 March 2020 to 30 November 2020, unless otherwise specified

### **INTRODUCTION:**

The socio-economic impact of the novel coronavirus is yet to be assessed. It has already resulted in drastic restrictions and arrangements preventing training organizations' certificate holders for timely completing the necessary processes and hence ensuring that their organizational approval and training specifications are revalidated prior to expiry.

As a result of the unforeseen circumstances, the GCAA:

- a) found it necessary to reduce the severity of the disruptions; and
- b) would like to present a mitigation action to the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 outbreak while assuring an acceptable level of safety is maintained.

This Safety Decision is issued to adopt additional provisions to:

- a) provide extension and flexibility to training organisations (**Requirement No.1**)
- b) defer the GCAA fee payments for a period of 3 months; and (**Requirement No.2**)
- c) allow issuance of approvals, certificates or other authorizations by email or without signature or stamp (**Requirement No.3**)

### **DISCLAIMER:**

- a) **If any other flexibility provision is sought, organisations shall communicate the same to their principal inspector for future consideration.**
- b) **This SAFETY DISCISION has been approved electronic by HE the Director General of the GCAA – hence it does not bear any stamp or signature. To verify its authenticity, anyone can check on GCAA website: [https://www.gcaa.gov.ae/en/ePublication/Pages/OperationalDirectives.aspx?CertID=\(DIR\)](https://www.gcaa.gov.ae/en/ePublication/Pages/OperationalDirectives.aspx?CertID=(DIR))**



## REQUIREMENTS

### REQUIREMENT No.1:

#### FLIGHT CREW TRAINING REQUIREMENT AND ASSOCIATED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS

- a) **Theoretical examination recommendation:** any recommendation issued to comply with CAR-FCL.025(a)(3) shall be extended for a period of 8 months from the date of expiry. This privilege shall be limited to recommendations expiring any date between 31 March 2020 and 30 November 2020 (both dates included). The extension can only be anticipated by less than 1 month.
- b) **Theoretical knowledge examinations:** theoretical knowledge examination conducted for the issue of a commercial pilot licence or instrument rating (IR), whose validity is prescribed by CAR-FCL.025(c)(1)(ii), shall be extended for a period of 8 months from the date of expiry. This privilege shall be limited to recommendations expiring any date between 31 March 2020 and 30 November 2020 (both dates included). The extension can only be anticipated by less than 1 month.
- c) **Skill test:** Student pilots having started their class or type rating training courses prior to the COVID-19 outbreak may be allowed to pass the skill test required by CAR-FCL.725(c) no later than 31st December 2020 provided that the ATO responsible for their training confirms that the length and the discontinuity in the training provided will not adversely affect their competences. Additionally, those student pilots may be allowed to apply for the issue of the class or type rating within a period of less than 6 months preceding the successfully passed required skill test.
- d) **Distance Learning:** ATO may deliver distance theoretical knowledge training to students provided appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure safety objectives are met. The following process shall be followed:
  - i) The GCAA is informed in writing;
  - ii) Students remain in direct contact with their theoretical knowledge instructor via distance learning methods (telephone or internet-based application such as online courses and webinar events);
  - iii) The distance learning methodology for students is pre-approved by the GCAA;
  - iv) Attendance is recorded;
  - v) Attendance requirement prescribed by the rule is complied with.
  - vi) Such practice is under the surveillance of the compliance monitoring system of the ATO.
- e) A FSTD Qualification Certificate issued in accordance with CAR-ORA Subpart C and expiring between 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (both dates included) may be renewed for 12 months provided the following is complied with:
  - i) the FSTD has been subject to an initial and at least one recurrent evaluation that has established its compliance with the qualification basis;
  - ii) the FSTD qualification certificate holder has a satisfactory record of successful regulatory FSTD evaluations during the previous 36 months;
  - iii) the GCAA has recently performs a formal and satisfactory audit of the compliance monitoring system defined in ORA.GEN.200(a)(6) of the organisation; and
  - iv) an assigned person of the organisation with adequate experience reviews the regular reruns of the qualification test guide (QTG) and conducts the relevant functions and subjective tests every 12 months and sends a report of the results to the GCAA.



**REQUIREMENT No. 2**

Payment of fees related to GCAA services for aviation safety activities (excluded Air Navigation Services and GCAA theoretical knowledge examination) shall be deferred up to 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020. Fee related to the service not collected will be recollected at next transaction with GCAA.

**REQUIREMENT NO.3**

Due to the current unforeseen circumstance, certificates or other authorisations may be required to processed by email and may not bear a signature and/or stamp. Operators/Individuals are required to coordinate with concerned GCAA department.

**CONTACT:**

Further instructions or guidance may be obtained through:

**Email:** [aircrewlicensing@gcaa.gov.ae](mailto:aircrewlicensing@gcaa.gov.ae) and [fops@gcaa.gov.ae](mailto:fops@gcaa.gov.ae)