Training towards the

Private Pilot Licence

Welcome to the Tauranga Aero Club. Here at the club our goal is to support you and teach you how to fly to a high standard, while at the same time making the process a fun and enjoyable one. This guide was produced by the instructors at the aero club to answer some of the more frequent questions we get about obtaining a Private Pilot Licence (PPL).

What Can I Do With A PPL?

With a PPL you can carry passengers with you when you fly, although you are not able to charge for your services. You can hire an aircraft that you are type rated on, or buy your own aircraft, and you are able to fly anywhere in New Zealand. Some continue in their training to obtain a Commercial Pilot Licence and ultimately a career in aviation.

How Old Do I Have To Be To Start Training?

To be eligible for the issue of a PPL, you must be at least 17 years old. You may start your training before this, but you will not be able to go solo until you are 16 and you will not be able to sit the PPL flight test until you are 17.

What Medical Requirements Are There?

There are no medical requirements to start your training. However, before you can be sent solo you must obtain a Class 2 Aviation Medical Certificate. This is issued following a medical examination by a Civil Aviation Authority designated medical examiner. Talk to our staff about what medical examiner is closest to you.

What Flying Hours Do I Need To Get My Licence?

Before you can sit your final flight test you must have logged the following <u>minimum</u> flight hours:
50 hours total flight time, which is made up of the following:
15 hours total dual flight instruction.
15 hours total solo flight time.
5 hours dual instruction in instrument flying.
5 hours dual instruction in Terrain and Weather Awareness
5 hours dual cross country flying and 5 hours solo cross country flying.

If you wish to fly at night, you must also complete 5 hours of night flying which must include at least 2 hours of dual instruction and 2 hours of solo flight. Night flying is optional and not required for the issue of a NZ PPL.

What Exams Do I Have to Pass?

You must pass written examinations in the following subjects:

- Air Law.
- Meteorology.
- Navigation and Flight Planning.
- Aircraft Technical Knowledge.
- Human Factors.
- Flight Radio Telephony.

The level of difficulty of the exams is equivalent to Year 11 or 12 of high school. Study guides are available for each subject, and the exams are taken on a regular ongoing basis in Tauranga city. The study guides cost about $70 each and exams cost $95 per sitting. As well as the study guides, aero club instructors run night classes to coach you in each subject. Your instructor at the aero club will show you how to obtain the study guides, the required equipment for each exam, and how to apply to sit each examination.
We recommend that you begin studying for your first exam once you've reached the circuit training.

Are There Any Other Requirements?

You must undergo the CAA Fit and Proper Person assessment process. Under New Zealand law, all applicants for a pilot's license must demonstrate that they have an acceptable respect for the law. Minor criminal convictions and traffic offences should not be a problem, but if you have something more serious in your past it may be a good idea to undergo this check prior to spending money on flight training. The check is carried out in complete confidence by the CAA.

Prior to license issue you must be assessed as competent in spoken English and obtain an English Language Proficiency credit.

At the conclusion of your flight training, you are required to pass a practical flight test in an aeroplane with a CAA authorised flight examiner, a bit like a driver licence test but with wings.

What Is The Tauranga Aero Club?

The Tauranga Aero Club is an incorporated society owned by its members. Although the club is professionally and commercially run, it is administered by a committee which is elected by the club members and any surpluses made are re-invested into the club. The club operates a fleet of ten aircraft – 5 two-seat Cessna 152s, 3 four-seat Cessna 172s. The Club operates from a modern

clubhouse with a reception, training rooms, hangar and bar-lounge and plenty of instructors on site for all training needs.

The aero club movement was established in 1932 shortly before WWII. Among those present was Mrs. Hilda Hewlett, the first female pilot to hold a pilot's licence in the British Empire. She was elected the first president of the Tauranga Aero Club. At the time, the club's charter was to *promote aviation to the wider public* and this remains a foundation of the club charter today. Although aviation is well established in today's society, there is probably less need to promote the new, exciting, and slightly crazy fad of charging around the sky in biplanes. The club exists today to give access to aircraft at a reasonable cost to club members, as a social club, a commercial operation, to provide a career pathway for young pilots aspiring to an airline career, and to introduce as many people as possible to the joy of learning to fly.

Membership of the club is deep and varied. Many club members are private pilots, but there are also topdressing pilots, active domestic and international airline pilots, retired 747 training captains, flying instructors, aircraft engineers, and all manner of aviation buffs. The bar is open on club nights every Friday and sometimes Sunday, where all members are welcome to come along and talk shop.

How Does Flight Training At The Aero Club Work?

When you are ready for your first lesson, contact us and book yourself in for a lesson. A lesson usually consists of a 30-minute power point briefing followed by a 45-minute flight and a short debrief. You should allow two hours for each lesson. You can fly any day of the week, subject to weather and other students booking aircraft in ahead of you.

As you progress through the training program you will pick up training reference material to study at home. You will also need a New Zealand pilot logbook.

You can train as fast or as slow as you like. An optimum pace is two lessons per week. This gives you time between lessons to absorb what was taught in the previous lesson and prepare for the next one. Others have more time on their hands and train full time. A PPL can be completed in about 2-3 months if you work hard and are good at studying for and sitting exams.

How Much Does It Cost?

Flying lessons are paid according to the amount of time the aircraft engine is running, as recorded by an air switch meter in the aircraft. If you are a member our current aircraft rate for a C152 is $288/hr and $60/hr for an instructor. If you choose not to become a member, then there is 20% surcharge on flight costs. Membership costs $180 per year and we welcome new members.

As Tauranga is a controlled aerodrome, all aircraft landing here must pay a landing fee (for the owner of the airfield – your friendly local council) and airways fee (for air traffic control). For the two-seater trainer this works out to $7.50 and $11.00, respectively. So, for your average dual training flight (Including preflight, briefing & debrief) you can expect to pay:

Instructor Time	-	1.5 hours @ $60/hour = $90.00
Aircraft time	-	0.7 hours @ $288/hour = $201.60
Airways fee	-	$11.00
Landing fee	-	$7.50
Total cost	-	$310

(At times, a small fuel surcharge may apply. Any cancellations made within 24 hours will incur a fee.)

A Class 1 & 2 medical will cost approximately $1000.

Theory exams cost $95 each to sit, and you should budget $200 - $300 for each subject for all the study guides and reference material you will need. The Aero Club offers a full PPL night class schedule and 1 on 1 tutoring if required.

The total overall cost to get a PPL will vary depending on your progress through the exams and flight training program. From experience, we estimate the total cost for most people is about $30,000. Some will do it for slightly less than that figure, some will enjoy the scenery more along the way and do it for slightly more.

Estimated Cost for Private Pilot's Licence:

- Approx 65 Hours Flight Time, Incl. Instructor Time	$23300
- Class 1 & 2 Medical	$1000
- Airways and Landing Fees	$2230
- PPL Flight Test Fee	$795
- 6 Exams	$565
- English Proficiency Test	$140
- Logbook	$55
- PPL Books	$335
- A.I.P Volume 4 (incl update service paid yearly)	$225
- Student Pilot Guide	$15
- CAA Licence issue fee	$230
Total:	**$28,890**

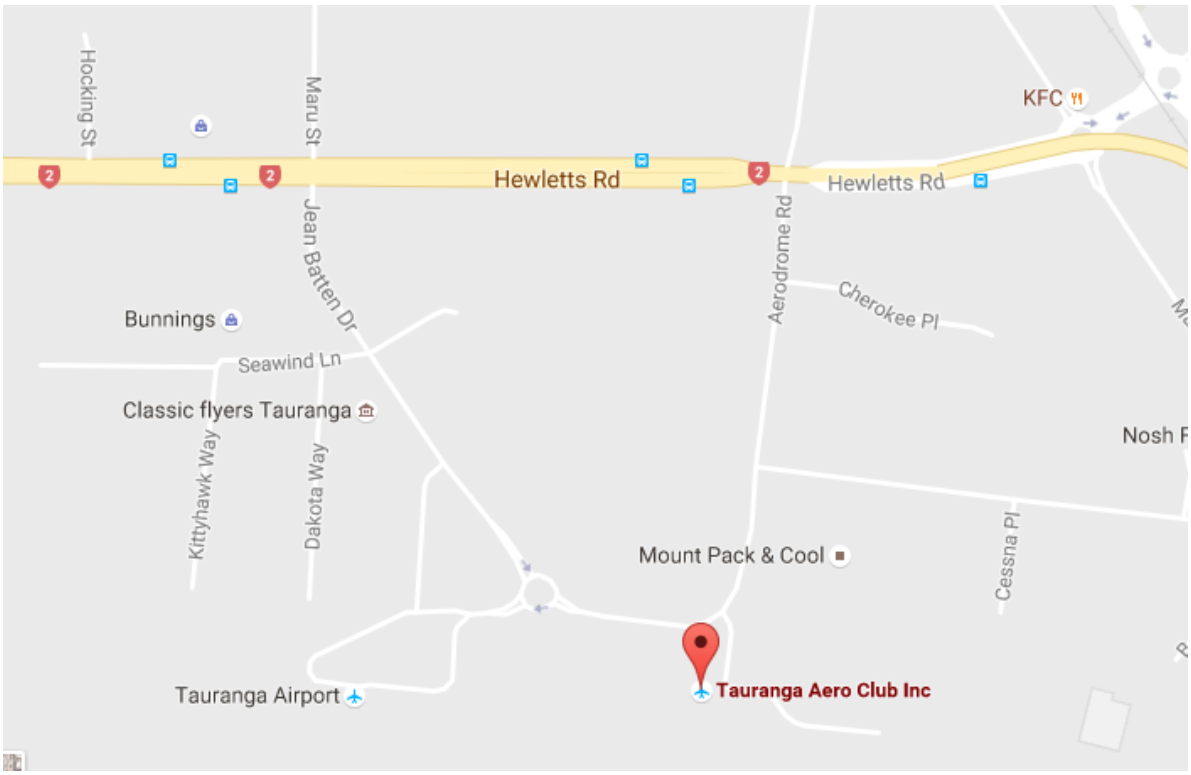
This estimate is based on 65 hours total time. This is usually achieved by our students. Please remember that flying is competency based, total cost may vary. All the above prices are subject to change without notice and include GST.

How do I contact you?

Telephone: (07) 575 3210

Email: info@flytac.co.nz

Website www.flytac.co.nz

Address 240 Aerodrome Road,
Tauranga Airport,
Mount Manganui

Or drop in and see us any time.