CHAPTER 13. ISSUE A GOLD SEAL FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATE

Section 1 Background

1. PTRS ACTIVITY CODE. As appropriate for renewal, reinstatement, added rating, or upon application.

3. OBJECTIVE. The objective of this task is to determine if an applicant is eligible for a Gold Seal Flight Instructor Certificate. Successful completion of this task results in the issuance of a temporary Airman Certificate for a Gold Seal Flight Instructor or the denial of a Gold Seal Flight Instructor Certificate.

5. GENERAL.

A. Purpose of Gold Seal Flight Instructor Certificate. Flight instructor certificates with distinctive gold seals are issued to instructors who currently meet certain qualifications. These certificates are intended to identify those instructors who have high personal qualifications and who have good records as active flight instructors. The FAA hopes to issue as many Gold Seal Certificates as possible to provide an incentive for flight instructors to improve their qualifications.

A. *Renewal and Eligibility.* The holder of a Gold Seal Flight Instructor Certificate who applies for renewal does not need to re-establish eligibility for a Gold Seal.

B. *Issuance.* A gold seal may be added to a flight instructor certificate upon renewal, reinstatement, when adding an additional rating, or by application, if the criteria stated in Section 2, paragraph 5E of this Chapter are met.

1. PREREQUISITES AND COORDINATION REQUIREMENTS.

A. *Prerequisites.* This task requires knowledge of the regulatory requirements of FAR Part 61 and FAA policies, and qualification as an Aviation Safety Inspector (Operations) or an Aviation Safety Technician.

B. *Coordination.* This task requires coordination with the airworthiness unit, with the airman records section of the Airmen Certification Branch, AVN-460, and with the Enforcement Information System and Accident/Incident Data Subsystem.

3. REFERENCES, FORMS, AND JOB AIDS.

A. References.

- FAR Parts 1, 61, and 91
- PTRS Field Office Manual
- AC 61-65, "Certification: Pilots and Flight Instructors"

B. Forms.

- FAA Form 8000-36, PTRS Transmittal Form
- FAA Form 8060-4, Temporary Airman Certificate (Figure 13-2)
- FAA Form 8710-1, Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application (Figure 13-1)
- C. Job Aids.
 - None

5. PROCEDURES.

A. *Schedule Appointment.* Advise the applicant to bring the following documents to the appointment:

- (1) Flight Instructor Certificate;
- (2) Ground Instructor Certificate;

(4) reliable record of flight instruction.

B. Applicant Arrives for Appointment.

- (1) Collect the documents listed above.
- (2) Open PTRS file.

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C. Review FAA Form 8710-1.

(1) In Section I, "application information," ensure that the applicant has checked "Flight Instructor Renewal" and "Re-issuance of ______ Certificate." Check that the blank has been filled in with the words "Gold Seal Certificate" (Figure 13-1).

(2) Check the application for accuracy, using the instructions on the form attachment. Section II should not be completed.

D. Verify Applicant's Identity. Inspect acceptable forms of identification to establish the applicant's identity. (See Volume 2, Chapter 1, Section 4, paragraph 5 of this Handbook.) Compare the identification with the personal information provided on FAA Form 8710-1.

(1) If the applicant's identity can be verified, continue the issuing process.

(2) If the applicant's identity cannot be verified because of lack of identification or inadequate identification, explain what types of identification are acceptable. Advise the applicant to return with appropriate identification to reapply.

(3) If the applicant's identity appears to be different from the information supplied on FAA Form 8710-1, or it appears that an attempt at falsification has been made, do not issue FAA Form 8060-4. (See Volume 2, Chapter 182 of this Handbook).

E. Required Criteria. Inspect the applicant's

certificates and record of flight instruction to determine if the applicant meets the following criteria at the time of application:

(1) holds a Flight Instructor Certificate and at least a Commercial Pilot Certificate with an Instrument rating;

(2) holds a Ground Instructor Certificate with an Advanced or an Instrument Ground Instructor rating; and

(3) within the past 24 months has accomplished <u>one</u> of the following:

(a) trained and recommended for certification at least 10 applicants for certificates or ratings; 80 percent of these applicants must have passed the flight test on their first attempt;

(b) conducted at least 20 practical tests as a designated pilot examiner or 20 graduation tests as chief flight instructor for an approved pilot school course; or

(c) a combination of (a) and (b) (two practical tests equal one trained and recommended applicant).

F. **Discrepancies.** If a discrepancy that cannot be immediately corrected exists in any of the documents, return the application and all submitted documents to the applicant. Inform the applicant of the reasons for ineligibility, and explain how the applicant may correct the discrepancies.

G. *Applicant Meets Requirements.* If an applicant meets all of the requirements for a Gold

Seal Flight Instructor Certificate, issue FAA Form 8060-4 with the appropriate flight instructor ratings.

(1) Prepare the certificate in duplicate as per Volume 2, Chapter 1, Section 5 of this Handbook.

(2) Enter the words "Gold Seal" as shown in Figure 13-2.

(3) Number the certificate with the same certificate number that appears on the applicant's superseded Flight Instructor Certificate.

(4) Complete the inspector certification section and sign the reverse side of FAA Form 8710-1.

(5) Forward the completed file to AVN-460.

H. *PTRS.* Complete FAA Form 8000-36 in accordance with the PTRS field office manual.

7. TASK OUTCOMES. Completion of this task results in the issuance of a temporary Airman Certificate for a Gold Seal Flight Instructor. If the applicant was denied a Gold Seal Flight Instructor Certificate, a PTRS Transmittal Form is record of the action.

9. FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

A. Renewal of flight instructor certificate.

- B. Reinstatement of flight instructor certificate.
- C. Added rating to flight instructor certificate.

FIGURE 13-1 FAA FORM 8710-1, AIRMAN CERTIFICATE AND/OR RATING APPLICATION - GOLD SEAL CERTIFICATE

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FAA Form 8710-1 17 92) Supersedes Previous Edition

FIGURE 13-2 FAA FORM 8060-4, TEMPORARY AIRMAN CERTIFICATE -GOLD SEAL CERTIFICATE

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