HOW TO STAY CURRENT AS A PILOT

What you need to fly

The *Canadian Aviation Regulations* tell us that pilots must have:
- a valid licence or permit
- a valid medical certificate
- a valid aviation document booklet

How to stay current

In addition to meeting the requirements above, pilots must also stay current. Here’s how:

1. **Every 6 months:**
   - Pilots who wish to carry 1 or more passengers must complete at least 5 takeoffs and 5 landings in the category and class* of aircraft in which they carry passengers
   - Pilots who wish to carry passengers at night must complete 5 takeoffs and 5 landings at night
   - Glider pilots have the option of completing 2 takeoffs and landings with an instructor
   - Balloon pilots are not allowed to land at night: if part of a balloon flight carrying passengers departs before dawn with the plan to land in the daylight, the pilot must have completed at least 5 landings during the day and 5 takeoffs at night (before dawn) in a balloon during the last 6 months

   *Class refers to whether the aircraft is meant for land or sea, whether it is single-engine or multi-engine, etc.

2. **Every 2 years**, you must complete **one** of these training activities:
   - Complete a flight review with an instructor
   - Attend a Transport Canada safety seminar
   - Participate in a Transport Canada-approved recurrent training program
   - Complete the self-paced study program, which is updated each year
   - Complete a training program or pilot proficiency check required by Part IV, VI or VII of the *Canadian Aviation Regulations*
   - Complete the requirements for the issue or renewal of a licence, permit or rating
   - Pass the written exam for a licence, permit or rating

3. **Every 5 years**, you must fly as pilot-in-command or co-pilot at least once in a category** of aircraft for which you’re licensed.

   Pilots who do not complete this requirement must:
   - successfully complete a flight review with an instructor, and
   - pass the Student Pilot Permit or Private Pilot Licence for Foreign and Military Applicants, Air Regulations examination

   **Category refers to whether the aircraft is a glider, airplane, helicopter, balloon, gyroplane, etc.

To review the requirements in full, see the [Canadian Aviation Regulations, 421.05](https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/Acts/C-3.1/section-421.05/421.05.html).