

Summary of AC 61-91K – FAA WINGS Program

The document outlines the WINGS—Pilot Proficiency Program, aimed at enhancing pilot safety and proficiency in General Aviation through structured educational opportunities.

Purpose and Objectives

- The WINGS Program seeks to reduce General Aviation accidents by promoting ongoing pilot education focused on risk assessment and management.
- It encourages pilots to engage in targeted flying tasks and learning activities that address identified risks, thereby mitigating common pilot errors and enhancing overall safety.

Audience and Accessibility

- The primary audience includes General Aviation pilots and flight instructors, while secondary audiences encompass ground instructors, flight schools, and stakeholders in pilot safety.
- The Advisory Circular (AC) is accessible on the FAA's website and the Dynamic Regulatory System.

Program Structure and Participation

- The WINGS Program consists of three levels: **Basic** WINGS, **Advanced** WINGS, and **Master** WINGS, with pilots earning phases by completing specified knowledge and flight tasks.
- All FAA-certified pilots, including student pilots, can participate, and there are no restrictions for those involved in past accidents.
- Successful completion of a WINGS phase satisfies the flight review requirements under 14 CFR part 61, § 61.56.

Training and Knowledge Requirements

- Pilots must complete a set of knowledge and flight tasks within a 12-month period to earn a phase of WINGS.
- Knowledge tasks can be accomplished through online courses or FAA Team-sanctioned safety meetings, while flight tasks require demonstration of proficiency with an authorized instructor.

- The program emphasizes areas identified as common accident causal factors, such as aeronautical decision-making and preflight planning.

Levels and Phases of WINGS

- Basic WINGS phases are based on Private Pilot standards, while Advanced and Master levels align with Commercial and Airline Transport Pilot standards, respectively.
- Pilots must complete Phase 1 at the Basic level before advancing to higher levels, reinforcing foundational knowledge and skills.
- Each phase earned is valid for 12 months, and pilots can earn multiple phases within each level.

Instructor Involvement and Program Modifications

- Instructors play a crucial role in the program and are encouraged to participate in WINGS themselves.
- Modifications to the program will be communicated through the FAA's website without necessitating a revision of the AC.

Feedback and Support

- The document includes a feedback form for users to report errors or suggest improvements.
- Additional information and support can be accessed through the FAA's website, including FAQs and contact options for complex inquiries.

This summary captures the essential elements of the WINGS—Pilot Proficiency Program, emphasizing its purpose, structure, and the roles of participants and instructors in enhancing aviation safety.