

## MEDICAL CERTIFICATE CHEAT SHEET

### Medical Certificates

FAA Airman Medical Certificate is required for all pilots including student pilots to carry a medical certificate at all times, which allows the pilot to act as pilot in command (PIC) of an airplane.

During the medical examination, the AME is an FAA approved medical physician, which will test your vision, hearing, general health, cardiovascular, and have the applicant do a drug test. In addition, the AME will determine if the pilot applicant has any other conditions that will make the pilot incapacitated during flight.

There are three types of medical certificates:

- **Third class**
  - Any pilot who flies for pleasure, not for hire.
  - Student pilots, recreational pilots, private pilots.
  - Under age of 40 – 60 months
  - Age 40 and older – 24 months
  
- **Second class**
  - Required for pilots commercially, for hire.
  - Valid for 12 months
  
- **First class**
  - Required for pilots with airline transport pilot (ATP) certificate, scheduled airline pilots.
  - Under age 40 – 12 months
  - Age 40 and older – 6 months.

The FAA says there is no minimum or maximum age to obtain an FAA medical certificate, anyone who can pass the exam may be issued a medical certificate. However, anyone under the age of 16 years old seeking a student pilot certificate is unlikely to use a medical certificate.

If a pilot wants to maintain his/her flying privileges, they must continue to see an AME at regular intervals.