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Covid19 – outbreak: Extension of validity and other time periods for licences, ratings, privileges, endorsements and certificates of pilots, instructors and examiners

This information Notice contains information that is for guidance and/or awareness.

Recipients are asked to ensure that this Information Notice is copied to all members of their staff who may have an interest in the information (including any 'in-house' or contracted organisations and relevant outside contractors).

Applicability:	
Licensing:	All Approved Part-ORA ATO's, Part-DTO's,
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	Part-FCL License and Certificates Holders
Airworthiness:	N/A
Flight Operations:	N/A

1. INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 outbreak has resulted in drastic travel restrictions and closure of borders between a majority of States.

- Holders of Part-FCL pilot licences who are required to perform their licence proficiency check (LPC) to revalidate the validity period of their class ratings, type ratings, instrument and mountain ratings are not able to timely reach or gain access to aircraft or flight simulation training devices (FSTDs) to complete the necessary flights, training and checking. Additionally, these pilots are not able to timely get access to an examination for maintaining their language proficiency. This would result in expiry of their ratings and the language proficiency endorsement.
- Holders of LAPLs, BPLs, SPLs as well as of mountain ratings or sailplane cloud flying ratings are not able to maintain recent experience related to their privileges.
- Holders of Part-FCL instructor and examiner certificates who are required to perform an assessment of competence to revalidate their instructor or examiner privileges in order to continue to exercise their training and checking privileges are not able to timely reach or gain access to aircraft or FSTDs to complete the necessary assessment of competence. This would result in expiry of said certificate.
- Holders of Part-MED medical certificates who are required to undergo a recurrent medical examination to revalidate their medical certificate to continue to exercise their licence or certificate privileges are not able to timely reach or gain access to an aeromedical examiner (AME) or aeromedical centre (AeMC) to complete the necessary medical examination. In addition, in many cases medical examiners have been reassigned to support the COVID-19 outbreak in their State. This would result in expiry of said certificates.

- Holders of aeromedical examiner certificates as per (Part-MED) to Regulation 1178/2011 who are required to perform medical examinations of the applicants for a medical certificate in order to revalidate their relevant AME privileges are not able to timely reach or gain access to their competent authorities. This would result in expiry of said certificates.
- Applicants for the issue of a licence or an instrument rating are not able to timely reach the competent authority to complete theoretical knowledge examinations within the time periods specified in points (a)(3) and (b)(2) of point FCL.025 of Part-FCL.
- After completion of theoretical knowledge examinations, applicants for the issue of a licence or an instrument rating are not able to access training facilities and training aircraft or FSTDs in order continue with practical training within the time periods specified in point FCL.025(c)(1) of Part-FCL.
- Applicants for a class or a type rating are not able to access training facilities as well as training aircraft or FSTDs in order to comply with the second subparagraph of point FCL.725(c) of Part-FCL.

As a result of the extreme operational and resource constraints caused by the COVID-19 outbreak, it is needed to apply this exemption to holders of European licences, ratings, endorsement and certificates when Cyprus Department of Civil Aviation is informed about the said circumstances, either by the holder of the licence, rating, endorsement or certificate or by the training organisation of the applicant(s), as applicable. This Exemption aims to reduce the severity of the disruptions and consequent negative impacts on general aviation.

➤ This exemption will be Valid from 31/03/2020 to 30/11/2020.

2. SUMMARY OF THE EXEMPTION

Subject to fulfilling the applicable mitigating conditions as specified in this Exemption (see field “Summary of mitigations”), with regard to applicants for as well as holders of licences, ratings, privileges, endorsements and certificates issued by Cyprus Department of Civil Aviation in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011, including associated medical certificates, all of the following shall apply:

(a) The time period of all of the following is extended as follows:

- (1) by 4 months or until the end of the application of this Exemption, whichever period of time is shorter, in the case of validity periods of all of the following:
 - (i) class ratings, type ratings and instrument ratings endorsed in Part-FCL pilot licences the holders of which are not involved in the operation of aircraft representing those classes and types within an organisation for which Annex III (Part-ORO) to Regulation (EU) No 965/2012 is applicable¹;
 - (ii) mountain ratings;
 - (iii) Part-MED medical certificates;

¹ Clarification: Point (a)(1)(i) applies to holders of Part-FCL licences who are involved in CAT operation by third country operators.

- (2) until the end of the application of this Exemption, in the case of validity periods or time periods, as applicable, of all of the following:
 - (i) Part-FCL instructor and examiner certificates;
 - (ii) language proficiency endorsements as per point FCL.055 of Part-FCL;
 - (iii) Part-MED aeromedical examiner certificates;
 - (iv) recommendations for taking theoretical knowledge examinations, issued by a DTO or by an ATO in accordance with point FCL.025(a)(3) of Part-FCL, point BFCL.135(b)(3) of Part-BFCL and point SFCL.135(b)(3) of Part-SFCL;

- (v) theoretical knowledge examinations for the purpose of licence issue as per points (c)(1) and (c)(2) of point FCL.025 of Part-FCL, point BFCL.135(d) of Part-BFCL and point SFCL.135(d) of Part-SFCL;
 - (vi) the time periods specified in point FCL.725(c) of Part-FCL with regard to all of the following:
 - (A) the time period between the commencement of the type rating training course and the pass of the skill test;
 - (B) the time period between the pass of the skill test and the application for the issue of the class or type rating;
 - (vii) the time period specified in all of the following, provided that the regular time period ended during the application period of this Exemption:
 - (A) point FCL.735.A(b);
 - (B) point FCL.735.H(b);
 - (C) point (1) of Section H of Appendix 3 to Part-FCL;
 - (D) points (a)(1) and (b)(2) of point FCL.810;
 - (E) point FCL.815(b);
 - (F) point FCL.825(c);
- (3) in the case of the time period specified in point FCL.025 (b) (2) of Part-FCL, point BFCL.135(c) (2) of Part-BFCL and point SFCL.135(c)(2), that time period is extended by the time period that equals the time period during which an applicant was unable to access theoretical knowledge examinations for the reasons specified in this Exemption (*see section "Introduction"*).

If, towards the end of the period specified in point (1), Cyprus DCA considers that the reasons for granting this Exemption still apply, the validity period of the rating or certificate may be further extended for another period of up to 4 months or the end of the application of this Exemption, whichever date comes first.

- (b) For the application of all of the following requirements of Part-FCL, the time period is extended as follows:
- (1) to the last 300 days, in the case of point FCL.060(a) (balloon pilot recency for commercial air transport and the carriage of passengers);
 - (2) to the last 2 years and 8 months, in the case of point FCL.140.A(a) (LAPL(A) recency);
 - (3) to the last 20 months, in the case of point FCL.140.H (LAPL(H) recency);
 - (4) to the last 32 months, in the case of all of the following:
 - (i) points FCL.130.S(c) and FCL.220.S (sailplane launching methods);
 - (ii) points (a) and (b)(1) of point FCL.140.S as well as point FCL.230.S (sailplane pilot recency);
 - (iii) points FCL.130.B(c) and FCL.220.B (recency for tethered balloon flight);
 - (iv) points FCL.140.B and FCL.230.B(a) (balloon pilot recency)
 - (v) point FCL.805(e) (towing rating recency);
 - (vi) point FCL.830(d) (sailplane cloud flying recency).
- (c) For the application of all of the following recency requirements of Part-BFCL, the time period is extended as follows:
- (1) to the last 30 months, in the case of all of the following:
 - (i) points (a)(1)(i), (a)(2) and (f)(1) of point BFCL.160 (balloon pilot recency);
 - (ii) point BFCL.215(d)(2) (commercial operation rating recency);
 - (2) to the last 56 months, in the case of all of the following:
 - (i) point BFCL.160(a)(1)(ii) (balloon pilot recency);
 - (ii) point BFCL.200(d) (recency for tethered balloon flight);
 - (3) to the last 300 days, in the case of point BFCL.215(d)(1) (commercial operation rating recency);
 - (4) to the last 3 years and 8 months, in the case of point BFCL.360(a)(1) (balloon instructor recency).
- (d) For the application of all of the following recency requirements of Part-SFCL, the time period is extended as follows:
- (1) to the last 2 years and 8 months, in the case of all of the following:
 - (i) point SFCL.155(c) (sailplane launching methods);

- (ii) point SFCL.205(f) (sailplane towing or banner towing rating);
 - (iii) point SFCL.215(e) (sailplane cloud flying rating);
 - (2) to the last 30 months, in the case of points (a) and (b) of point SFCL.160 (sailplane pilot recency).
 - (3) to the last 3 years and 8 months, in the case of point SFCL.360(a)(1) (sailplane instructor recency).
- (e) In the case of point FCL.060(c)(1), the 120-day period is extended to 180 days under the same conditions as specified in that point.

3. SUMMARY OF MITIGATING MEASURES

- (a) Holders of class ratings, type ratings, instrument ratings, mountain ratings or language proficiency endorsements benefiting from point (a) of this exemption (see field “Summary of the exemption”) shall comply with all of the following:
 - (i) they shall hold a valid relevant rating and, if applicable, a valid language proficiency endorsement;
 - (ii) they shall, during the application period of this Exemption, have received a briefing from an instructor who holds relevant instructional privileges in order to refresh the required level of theoretical knowledge to safely operate the applicable class or type and to safely carry out the relevant manoeuvres and procedures, as applicable. That briefing shall include class – or type – specific abnormal and emergency procedures, as appropriate.
- (b) Upon successful completion of the briefing as per point (ii), the new expiry date of the relevant rating, shall be endorsed in the licence of the pilot, either by the DCA or by an examiner and acting in accordance with point FCL.1030, as applicable.

The new expiry date of the language proficiency shall be endorsed in the licence of the pilot by the DCA, only after applicant has submitted a request to DCA with a confirmation statement by the Instructor responsible for the briefing above.

Examiners should act as per their current privileges as described in their Examiner’s Certificate.

All the Examiners, prior any revalidation, should notify DCA by email for the use of this exemption.

Upon license endorsement, the Examiner has to submit to DCA the following:

1. The method used by the Examiner for verification of candidate’s knowledge and awareness.
2. Copy of the examiner's licence (only for non-Cyprus DCA License holders).
3. Copy of the examiner's certificate (only for non-Cyprus DCA Examiner Certificate holders).
4. Copy of the examiner’s medical certificate (only for non-Cyprus DCA Examiner Certificate holders).
5. Copy of endorsed licence (if entry on licence by examiner).

In the case that the nominated Examiner is a non-Cyprus DCA Examiner Certificate Holder, there is no requirement to follow notification procedures as described in “*Examiner Differences Document*”.

For the above communication, please use the following email address:

eld@dca.mcw.gov.cy

- (b) **Part-FCL instructors and examiners** certificate holders benefiting from point (a) of this exemption (see field "Introduction") shall hold a valid instructor and, if applicable, a valid examiner certificate. The new expiry date of the certificate shall be endorsed in the licence or certificate of the pilot, in one of the following methods:
- i. For the Instructors, it shall be endorsed in the licence of the pilot, either by DCA or an Examiner and acting in accordance with point FCL.1030, as applicable;
Examiners should act as per their current privileges as described in their Examiner's Certificate.
 - ii. For the Examiners, it shall be endorsed by DCA or a Cyprus DCA Senior Examiner by completing "**LIC-062_Temporary Licensing Certificate for Examiner Privileges**" with the new expiry date. On Section 3 of the above form, the Senior Examiner should cross-out all irrelevant items and make a written reference to this Notice.

All the Examiners (Senior), prior any revalidation, should notify DCA by email for the use of this exemption.

Upon License/Certificate endorsement, the Examiner (or Senior Examiner) has to submit to DCA the following:

1. Copy of the examiner's licence (only for non-Cyprus DCA License holders).
2. Copy of the examiner's certificate (only for non-Cyprus DCA Examiner Certificate holders).
3. Copy of the examiner's medical certificate (only for non-Cyprus DCA Examiner Certificate holders).
4. Copy of endorsed Licence/ Certificate/LIC-062 form (if entry on licence by examiner).

In the case that the nominated Examiner is a non-Cyprus DCA Examiner Certificate Holder, there is no requirement to follow notification procedures as described in "*Examiner Differences Document*".

For the above communication, please use the following email address:

eld@dca.mcw.gov.cy

- (c) Applicants for a licence, rating or certificate benefiting from point (a)(2)(vii) of this exemption (see section "Summary of the exemption") shall have received additional training, if deemed necessary by the ATO or the DTO, in consultation with the Cyprus DCA.
- (d) **Holders of licenses as per Part-FCL, Part-BFCL and Part-SFCL** benefiting from point (b), (c) or (d) of this Exemption (see field "Summary of the exemption") shall, during the application period of this Exemption, have received a briefing from an instructor who holds relevant instructional privileges in order to refresh the required level of theoretical knowledge to safely operate the applicable aircraft and to carry out the relevant manoeuvres and procedures, as applicable. That briefing shall include specific abnormal and emergency procedures, as appropriate to the category, class and type of aircraft as well as to the relevant kind of privileges, as applicable.
- (e) **Part-MED medical certificate** holders benefiting from this exemption shall hold a valid medical certificate without limitations, except visual ones.
- (f) **Part-MED aero-medical examiner certificate holders** benefiting from this exemption shall hold a valid aero-medical examiner certificate.