

Number: LIC 2021/01



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COVID-19 / 2W: Extension of validity periods and other time periods for aircrew

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 continued applicability of mandatory health safety measures, including related travel restrictions, imposed by health authorities of several States (physical distancing) as well as the closure of borders may cause several constraints to flight crew licenses/certificates validity.

- 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 rating may not be 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 may not be 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 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 may not be 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.
- Applicants for the issue of a licence or an instrument rating may not be 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 may not be 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 may not be 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, the Cyprus Department of Civil Aviation in January 2021 has applied an exemption to holders of Cyprus licences, ratings, endorsement and certificates (ref. *DCA/EX/01/2021*). The duration period of that exemption was until the **31**st of March 2021.

The limitation of flights in and out from Cyprus, the unavailability of approved and suitable FSTDs within the country and the continued applicability of mandatory health safety measures, imposed by health authorities of several States (physical distancing) as well as the closure of borders resulted in the impossibility for pilots to meet instructors/examiners for the purpose of required training or check flights. In such cases, the continued use of Article 71 BR is deemed justified (urgent operational need).

As Cyprus Department of Civil Aviation considers that the reasons for granting this Exemption will still apply beyond March 2021, the validity period of the rating, privilege, certificate or endorsement as described above may be further extended for another period of four months or until **31**st of **May 2021**, whichever is the earlier.

The duration period of exemption with ref. DCA/EX/01/2021 is extended until 31 May 2021.

2. SUMMARY OF THE EXEMPTION

Use of this extended period of the above exemption requires prior approval from Cyprus DCA. Therefore, applicants shall apply for exemption by submitting application form "SF-081_ Application for Exemption" (available on Department's website). The Department, after assessment of individual application, will inform the applicant accordingly whether application is accepted or not and for possible additional mitigation measures.

All Exempted Regulation requirements, Summary of Mitigating measures and Instructions for Examiners remain the same as described in exemption with ref. **DCA/EX/01/2021.**

For communication and further information, please use the following email address: eld@dca.mcw.gov.cy