

**PARACHUTE RIGGER
KNOWLEDGE TEST GUIDE**

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INTRODUCTION

FAA-G-8082-15D, Parachute Rigger Knowledge Test Guide, provides information for preparing to take the following knowledge tests. This document supersedes FAA-G-8082-15C, dated 2007.

TEST NAME	TEST CODE
Parachute Rigger	RIG
Parachute Rigger—Military Competence	RMC

The minimum passing score is 70 percent.

As parachuting has grown over the last 35 years, so has the need for skilled riggers. The introduction of the ram-air canopy gave the sport a parachute that is highly maneuverable and capable of gentle landings. This advancement of parachute technology opened the sport to many persons who would not have considered it a few years ago. As a result of the rapid expansion of parachute technology, today's riggers are faced with an ever expanding variety of equipment, materials, and rigging requirements. The ram-air canopy, being more complex than the simple round canopy of a few years ago, requires different packing and repair methods, making it essential that today's rigger possess a high degree of knowledge and skill.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) airman knowledge tests are effective instruments for aviation safety and regulation compliance measurement. However, these tests can only sample the vast amount of knowledge every airman needs to operate safely in the National Airspace System (NAS).

Comments may be e-mailed to AFS630Comments@faa.gov.

KNOWLEDGE TEST ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The general qualifications for a Senior or Master Parachute Rigger's Certificate require that you have a combination of experience, knowledge, and skill.

If you are pursuing a Senior, Master, or Military Competence Certificate, you should carefully review the appropriate sections of Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 65, subpart A and subpart F for detailed information pertaining to this subject.

KNOWLEDGE AREAS ON THE TESTS

Parachute rigger knowledge tests are comprehensive because they must test your knowledge in many subject areas. The knowledge test for military competence for senior parachute rigger consists of questions relating to Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) that pertain to parachuting: Part 39, Airworthiness Directives; Part 65, Certification: Airmen Other Than Flight Crewmembers, Subpart A, General, and Subpart F, Parachute Riggers; and Part 105, Parachute Operations.

If you are pursuing a Senior Parachute Rigger Certificate, you should review 14 CFR part 65, section 65.115.

If you are pursuing a Military Competence Senior Parachute Rigger Certificate, you should review 14 CFR part 65, section 65.117.

If you are pursuing a Master Parachute Rigger Certificate, you should review 14 CFR part 65, section 65.119.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE TESTS

All test questions are the objective, multiple-choice type. Each question can be answered by the selection of a single response. Each test question is independent of other questions; therefore, a correct response to one does not depend upon, or influence, the correct response to another. **The minimum passing score is 70 percent.**

The Parachute Rigger (RIG) test contains 50 questions, and you are allowed 2 hours to complete it.

The Parachute Rigger Military Competence (RMC) test contains 25 questions, and you are allowed 1 hour to complete it.

OBTAINING PERMISSION TO TEST

If you will be taking the parachute rigger knowledge test for the first time, you will need to obtain permission to test. This may be accomplished at your local FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) or International Field Office (IFO) and should be done before contacting the testing center. When you visit the FSDO or IFO, you will be asked to fill out an FAA Form 8610-2, Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application, and to show documentation of your experience. You must also provide a permanent mailing address and positive proof of identification. The identification presented must include your current photograph, signature, and actual residential address, if different from the mailing address. This information may be presented in more than one form of identification.

Acceptable forms of identification include, but are not limited to, driver's license, government identification card, passport, alien residency (green) card, and military identification card. Other forms of identification that meet the requirements of this paragraph are acceptable. Some applicants may not possess the identification documentation described. In any case, you should always check with your local FSDO or IFO if you are unsure of what kind of identification to bring to the office.

Once your eligibility has been established, you will be given FAA Form 8610-2 properly completed and signed by the interviewing Airworthiness Safety Inspector (ASI). This is the form you must present at the testing center to take the test. Ensure that you retain this form; it is also required for the practical exam.

TEST REGISTRATION

The FAA has available hundreds of computer testing centers. These testing centers offer the full range of airman knowledge tests including military competence. A list of computer testing designees (CTDs) and phone numbers are provided in the section titled Training and Testing Publications and General Information.

The first step in taking a knowledge test is the registration process. You may either call the central 1-800 numbers or simply use the walk-in basis. If you choose to use the 1-800 numbers to register, you will need to select a testing center, schedule a test date, and make financial arrangements for test payment. You may register for tests several weeks in advance, and you may cancel your appointment according to the CTD's cancellation policy. If you do not follow the CTD's cancellation policies, you could be subject to a cancellation fee.

TAKING A KNOWLEDGE TEST

At the test site, you will again be asked to provide proper identification and the completed FAA Form 8610-2. Testing center personnel will not begin the test until the required items are verified.

Before you take the actual test, you will have the option to take a sample test. The actual test is time limited; however, you should have sufficient time to complete and review your test.

When taking a test, keep the following points in mind:

- Carefully read the instructions given with the test.
- Answer each question in accordance with the latest regulations and guidance publications.
- Read each question carefully before looking at the answer options. You should clearly understand the problem before attempting to solve it.
- After formulating an answer, determine which answer option corresponds with your answer. The answer you choose should completely resolve the problem.
- From the answer options given, it may appear that there is more than one possible answer; however, there is only one answer that is correct and complete. The other answers are either incomplete, erroneous, or derived from popular misconceptions.
- If a certain question is difficult for you, it is best to mark it for review and proceed to the next question. After you answer the less difficult questions, return to those you marked for review and answer them. The review marking procedure will be explained to you prior to starting the test. Although the computer should alert you to unanswered questions, make sure every question has an answer recorded. This procedure will enable you to use the available time to maximum advantage.
- When solving a calculation problem, select the answer that most nearly matches your solution. The problem has been checked by various individuals and with different types of calculators; therefore, if you have solved it correctly, your answer will be closer to the correct answer than any of the other choices.

USE OF TEST AIDS AND MATERIALS

You may use aids, reference materials, and test materials within the guidelines listed below, if actual test questions or answers are not revealed. The following guidelines apply:

- You may use any reference materials provided with the test.
- Dictionaries are not allowed in the testing area.
- The proctor makes the final determination relating to test materials and personal possessions you may take into the testing area.

DYSLEXIC TESTING PROCEDURES

If you are a dyslexic applicant, you may request approval from the local FSDO or IFO to take airman knowledge test using one of the three options listed in preferential order:

- Option 1. Use current testing facilities and procedures whenever possible.
- Option 2. You may use a Franklin Speaking Wordmaster® to facilitate the testing process. The Wordmaster® is a self-contained electronic thesaurus that audibly pronounces typed in words and presents them on a display screen. It has a built-in headphone jack for private listening. The headphone feature must be used during testing to avoid disturbing others.
- Option 3. If you do not choose to use the first or second option, you may request a proctor to assist in reading specific words or terms from the test questions and supplement material. In the interest of preventing compromise of the testing process, the proctor must be someone who is non-aviation oriented. The proctor must provide reading assistance only, with no explanation of words or terms. When this option is requested, the FSDO or IFO inspector must contact the Airman Testing Standards Branch (AFS-630) for assistance in selecting the test site and proctor.

Prior to approval of any option, the FSDO or IFO inspector must advise you of the regulatory certification requirement of being able to read, write, speak, and understand the English language.

CHEATING OR OTHER UNAUTHORIZED CONDUCT

Computer testing centers must follow strict security procedures to avoid test compromise. These procedures are established by the FAA and are covered in FAA Order 8080.6, (as amended), Conduct of Airman Knowledge Tests. The FAA has directed testing centers to terminate a test at any time a test proctor suspects a cheating incident has occurred. An FAA investigation will then be conducted. If the investigation determines that cheating or unauthorized conduct has occurred, then any airman certificate or rating that you hold may be revoked, and you will be prohibited for 1 year from applying for or taking any test for a certificate or rating under 14 CFR part 65.

KNOWLEDGE TEST REPORTS

Upon completion of the knowledge test, you will receive your Airman Knowledge Test Report, with the testing center's embossed seal, which reflects your score.

The Airman Knowledge Test Report lists the learning statement codes for questions answered incorrectly. The total number of learning statement codes shown on the Airman Knowledge Test Report is not necessarily an indication of the total number of questions answered incorrectly.

The Learning Statement Reference Guide for Airman Knowledge Testing, found at www.faa.gov, contains the listings of reference materials, learning statement codes, and learning statements. The learning statement codes, as used in airman testing, refer to a measurable statement of knowledge that a student should be able to demonstrate following a defined element of training. You should match the codes on your Airman Knowledge Test Report to the codes in the Learning Statement Reference Guide to review your areas of deficiency.

Your instructor is required to provide instruction on each of the knowledge areas listed on your Airman Knowledge Test Report and to complete an endorsement of this instruction. The Airman Knowledge Test Report must be presented to the examiner prior to taking the practical test. During the oral portion of the practical test, the examiner is required to evaluate the noted areas of deficiency.

Should you require a duplicate Airman Knowledge Test Report due to loss or destruction of the original, send a signed request accompanied by a check or money order for \$1.00, payable to the FAA. Send the request to:

Federal Aviation Administration
Airmen Certification Branch, AFS-760
P.O. Box 25082
Oklahoma City, OK 73125

For an Airman Knowledge Test Report to be valid, it must be dated within the 24-calendar-month period preceding the month you complete the practical test. **If the Airman Knowledge Test Report expires before completion of the practical test, you must retake the knowledge test.**

RETESTING PROCEDURES

If you receive a grade lower than 70 percent and wish to retest, you must present the following to testing center personnel.

- You may retake the test after 30 days from the date your last test was taken by presenting your failed Airman Knowledge Test Report.
- You may retest sooner than 30 days if you present the following: your failed Airman Knowledge Test Report and a signed statement from an airman holding the certificate and rating you seek certifying that you have been given additional instruction in each subject failed and that you are now ready for retesting.

If you decide to retake the test in anticipation of a better score, you may retake the test after 30 days from the date your last test was taken. The FAA will not allow you to retake a passed test before the 30-day period has lapsed. Prior to retesting, you must give your current Airman Knowledge Test Report to the test proctor. The last test taken will reflect the official score.

TRAINING AND TESTING PUBLICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Most of the current Flight Standards Service airman training and testing publications can be obtained in electronic format from the FAA Web site, www.faa.gov. The training and testing publications and general information can be found on the opening page of that Web site under the Education and Research tab. If a publication is not available in electronic format, there are instructions for obtaining paper copies. Information found on the Web site includes the following:

- Advisory Circulars
- Airworthiness Directives
- Code of Federal Regulations
- Computer Testing Supplements
- Knowledge Test Centers
- Knowledge Test questions
- Knowledge Test statistics
- Learning Statement Reference Guide
- Practical Test Standards
- Training handbooks
- Type Certificate Data Sheets

Advisory Circulars

Advisory circulars (ACs) provide guidance and information on various subjects related to airman certification.

Airworthiness Directives

Airworthiness Directives (ADs) are notifications to aircraft owners of a known safety deficiency with a specific model of aircraft, engine, avionics, or other system.

Code of Federal Regulations

The portion of 14 CFR containing what was formerly known as the Federal Aviation Regulations can be found on the Web site. 14 CFR contains regulations designed to promote aviation safety, and govern all aviation activities in the United States.

Computer Testing Supplements

The knowledge testing supplements contain the graphics, legends, and maps that are needed to successfully respond to certain knowledge test items. These supplements will be provided by CTD test center personnel during the airman knowledge test.

Knowledge Test Centers

The Knowledge Test Centers portion of the Web site contains current listings of CTDs and other testing centers, and the registration telephone numbers to call to register for a test.

The following is a list of the computer testing designees authorized to give FAA airman knowledge tests. This list should be helpful in case you choose to register for a test or simply want more information.



Computer Assisted Testing Service (CATS)

1801 Murchison Drive, Suite 288
Burlingame, CA 94010

Applicant inquiry and test registration: 1-800-947-4228

From outside the U.S. (650) 259-8550



LaserGrade Computer Testing

16821 SE McGillivray Blvd., Suite 201
Vancouver, WA 98683

Applicant inquiry and test registration: 1-800-211-2753 or 1-800-211-2754

From outside the U.S. (360) 896-9111

Knowledge Test Questions

Sample questions are located in the Airman Knowledge Test Questions section of Web site and represent the types of questions included in the actual test banks. Practicing these questions will help you become familiar with similar questions on the airman knowledge tests. The knowledge test is not designed to intimidate any prospective airman; it is designed to measure understanding of the rules and regulations required to receive an FAA certificate.

Knowledge Test Statistics

Test statistics for all airman knowledge tests are contained in a series of tables organized by year and subject area. Individual tables are provided for the following subject areas: test volume, pass rates, average test scores, countries, regions, and district offices.

Learning Statement Reference Guide

Learning statement codes replace the old subject matter codes and are noted on the test report. They refer to measurable statements of knowledge that a student should be able to demonstrate following a defined element of training. The learning statement

corresponding to the learning statement code on the test report can be located in the Learning Statement Reference Guide on the Web site.

Practical Test Standards

The practical test standards outline the knowledge and skill requirements for each airman certificate and rating. The references listed in each task of the practical test standards indicate the specific publications used to develop the skill standards. The ability to issue immediate changes prior to publishing revised printed copies ensures the practical test standards are always accurate and usable.

Training Handbooks

The training handbooks are the basic information sources an airman applicant should refer to when preparing for the knowledge and practical tests for a specific certificate or rating. FAA handbook FAA-H-8083-17 (as revised), Parachute Rigger Handbook, is a large document and will take a few minutes to download.

Type Certificate Data Sheets (TCDS)

A Type Certificate Data Sheet contains a formal description of an aircraft, engine, or propeller, including detailed specification of the type design and the information required for type certification.