



Transportation
Security
Administration

February 28, 2011

Docket No. TSA-2004-19147

THIS INTERPRETATION IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Flight Providers and Alien Flight Student Candidates Subject to 49 CFR part 1552

RE: Policy Clarification - Photograph Submission requirement for Categories 1, 2, 3, and 4

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is issuing the following policy clarification regarding the requirement for flight training providers to upload a current photograph of the flight training candidate prior to commencing training.

Background:

Section 543 of the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act 2009, (Public Law 110-329, September 30, 2008), which amends United States Code 6, section 469, requires the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to (1) establish a process to determine that an alien who takes training is properly identified and does not pose a threat to aviation or national security; and (2) impose reasonable fees to recoup the cost of vetting recurrent training applicants.

Due to concerns raised by industry regarding burdens and limitations of ensuring a current photograph is taken and remains on file prior to commencing flight training, the TSA is clarifying this requirement to both meet the needs of industry, as well as the TSA inspection force.

For all four Alien Flight Student Program (AFSP) categories, flight training may commence prior to submitting a current photograph, as long as the flight training provider/flight instructor has:

- Verified the candidates identity by means of the candidate's current/unexpired government issued photo identification (i.e. passport photograph)

- Ensured that the Category 4 submission and a permission to commence training has been received.
- Taken, uploaded, and placed in the candidates records, either a hard copy or electronic copy of a current photograph of the candidate within five (5) business days from the commencing of flight training.

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