

TSA initial endorsement, Instructors of U.S. citizens:

All CFI must register as a “Provider Agent” with TSA. If you are instructed for part 141 and part 61, must register twice. Once for the 141 school and once as independent part 61 CFI.

<https://www.fts.tsa.dhs.gov/home>

Certified Flight Instructors (CFIs) must complete TSA security awareness training within 60 days of hire or being certificated and then annually thereafter. This training is mandatory for all employees who have direct contact with flight training students, regardless of their citizenship status. AOPA has online course.

1. **Determine applicability.** The requirements for determining citizenship status for any student, whether U.S. or alien, applies only to flight training towards an initial pilot certificate, including a recreational pilot, sport pilot, or private pilot certificate; instrument rating; or multiengine rating.
2. **Proof of citizenship.** Student must show evidence of U.S. citizenship to instructor with one of the following:
 - a. Valid, unexpired U.S. passport
 - b. A government Issued ID plus original copy of one of the following
 1. government-issued birth certificate of the U.S., American Samoa, or Swains Island
 2. Certificate of birth abroad with raised seal (Form FS-545 or DS-1350)
 3. Certificate of U.S. citizenship with raised seal (Form N-560 or N-561)
 4. Certificate of Repatriation (Form N-581)
 5. U.S. Naturalization Certificate with raised seal (Form N-550 or N-570)
3. **Logbook or record-keeping** requirements. An instructor must do one of the following:
 - a. Keep a copy of the documents used to provide proof of citizenship for five years
 - b. Make an endorsement in both instructor’s logbook, or other record used by the instructor to record flight student endorsements, and the student’s logbook with the following:

"I certify that [insert student's name] has presented me a [insert type of document presented, such as a U.S. birth certificate or U.S. passport, and the relevant control or sequential number on the document, if any] establishing that [he or she] is a U.S. citizen or national in accordance with 49 CFR 1552.3(h). [Insert date and instructor's signature and CFI number.]"
4. **Students who change flight schools and/or locations** will be required to prove citizenship and receive a logbook endorsement. Recurring logbook endorsements are required when students change flight schools or instructors (if the instructor did not know the student when the student received the initial logbook endorsement).

Exceptions to Citizenship verifications for:

- 1) Introductory or Discovery flights
- 2) Recurrent training such as Flight reviews, IPC, aircraft check out
- 3) Training in Airships, balloons and gliders
- 4) Application for foreign based FAA pilot certificate

Foreign Flight Students: A candidate (the flight student) must participate in the Alien Flight Student Program and undergo a security threat assessment if:

- He/she is an alien; and
- He/she is seeking flight training inside or outside the United States for U.S. airman certificate under 14 CFR. This rule applies to flight training that you could use toward a recreational, sport, or private pilot certificate; multiengine or instrument rating; or any initial U.S. airman certificate issued by FAA.
- **Requires separate and new training request for each of following:**
 - Initial pilot certificate – private, recreational or sport
 - Added instrument rating
 - Added multi-engine rating
 - Transferring to new or different flight school
 - Transferring from independent CFI to another CFI or school
- NOTE: Information on this page applies only to aliens training in aircraft with a maximum certificate takeoff weight of **12,500 pounds or less**. If you are training in an aircraft exceeding this weight read, TSA Background Checks for Training in Aircraft over [12,500](#).

If this rule applies, follow the steps below before you begin providing flight training. Click on the steps for further information.

- [Candidate informs you that he or she intends to start flight training.](#)
- [Register online with TSA. https://www.fts.tsa.dhs.gov/home](https://www.fts.tsa.dhs.gov/home)
- [Assist the candidate in applying for training, as needed.](#)
- [Confirm candidate's training request.](#)
- [Look for a "Preliminary Approval" email from TSA.](#)
- [Assist candidate in submitting fingerprints per instructions emailed to him or her.](#)
- [Wait for TSA to notify you of its decision.](#)
- [Once the candidate has received TSA approval, START FLIGHT TRAINING!](#)
- [Take the candidate's photo on the first day of flight training and submit to TSA.](#)
- [Maintain the appropriate records per TSA regulations.](#)

Exceptions to the Alien Flight Training Rule and Citizenship verifications for:

- 1) Introductory or Discovery flights
- 2) Recurrent training such as Flight reviews, IPC, aircraft check out
- 3) Training in Airships, balloons and gliders

4) Application for foreign based FAA pilot certificate

Once approved for flight training, training must begin within 180 days and complete

