



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PROFESSIONAL FLIGHT STUDENT HANDBOOK

**SCHOOL OF AVIATION
2020**



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Overview

The Bachelor of Science in Professional Flight focuses on the practical aeronautical decision-making skills you would need to fulfill a career as a commercial pilot and flight instructor. You will not only gain the technical skills and knowledge to succeed in the field of aeronautics, but will learn the soft skills desired by the aviation industry.

If you hold a minimum of a commercial pilot certificate with airplane single-engine and multiengine ratings, and a flight instructor certificate, you may receive up to 20 transfer credits for the flight portion. If you do not hold these certifications and ratings, you should be simultaneously enrolled in Sterling Flight Training's Part 141 flight program. Before beginning your flight training in term 1, you are required to relocate to Jacksonville, Florida.

Sterling Flight Training

Sterling is a Federal Aviation Administration Part 141 flight school. As former airline professionals, Sterling staff members have trained thousands of pilots over the last three decades and boast years of experience working with university students, military personnel, and adult learners. Additional information can be found on their website at <https://sterlingflight.com/flight-training-programs/purdue-university-global-professional-flight/>. You must abide by Sterling's policies stated in their enrollment agreement. Specific policies may include safety regulations, aircraft rentals, aircraft damage and accidents, and cancellation and no shows, among others.

If you have questions regarding Sterling admissions, flight schedule, and/or flight fees, please contact Sterling at Purdue@sterlingflight.com or 904-642-9683. Caitlin Truckenbrod — Sterling Admissions Specialist — can answer admissions questions, while Alex Osleger — Sterling General Manager — can answer flight questions.

Program Requirements and Curriculum

Refer to <https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/aviation/professional-flight-bs/#degreeplantext> for the degree plan, which includes your online aviation and general education courses and your practicum courses.

Your first-class medical clearance, required prior to enrollment, is valid for 12 months for those under age 40 and 6 months for those 40 and older. Medicals are obtained from an Aviation Medical Examiner (AME) and locations can be found at <https://www.faa.gov/pilots/amelocator>. You should keep track of your first-class medical renewals to remain in the program. Sterling can assist in tracking the renewal process.

The required aviation and general education courses are offered 100% online through Purdue University Global. Hands-on flight instruction will be offered through Sterling Flight Training, in Jacksonville, Florida, starting in term 1. You will be required to pay the full amount for the Private Pilot Flight course practicum fee 3 days prior to the start of your first term or your start date for the program will be postponed to the next available term start.

Each flight training course at Sterling Flight Training is associated with a practicum course at Purdue University Global. You must engage in at least one discussion board activity each week in the online practicum. It is also highly recommended that you fly twice a week (4-hour per week minimum) with a Sterling Instructor to stay on track with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Purdue University Global's requirements. Delays in your progression throughout the term may be caused by absences, weather, and aircraft maintenance, so some degree of flexibility is highly encouraged. Any FAA requirements not met will result in an official "Incomplete" for the term, with requirements to be completed within Purdue University Global's incomplete policy.

Once enrolled in the practicum, you will be required to pay the practicum fees 3 days prior to term start to begin flight training. If flight training requirements are not completed in the allotted time, you will incur additional fees to be paid directly by you to the flight training school.

Fees will be charged to your account at the start of the term. Sterling will deduct the practica fees as you begin specific flight training. You should monitor your balance, although Sterling will assist you as well. Any course practica fees not covered by financial aid or VA benefits, when the program becomes eligible, must be covered by other means of payment; contact Sterling to learn about other means of financing.

Flight Practica

(Please refer to the Tuition & Fees at <https://www.purdueglobal.edu/tuition-financial-aid/aviation-degree-tuition-fees/> for fees for each practicum course.)

PRACTICUM COURSE (20 CREDITS TOTAL)	TERM
AV145: Private Pilot Flight (3 credits)	1
AV253: Instrument Flight Training (4.5 credits)	3
AV210: Ground Trainer (1.5 credits)	4
AV243: Commercial Pilot Flight I (3 credits)	4
AV248: Commercial Pilot Flight II (3 credits)	5
AV351: Flight Instructor Flight (2.5 credits)	7
AV353: Multiengine Flight (2.5 credits)	8

Additional fees will include medical exam(s), Cessna/King School kit, aircraft manuals and supplies, written exams, checkride, TSA background check (international students only), relocation to Florida, and technology fees.

Certified Instrument Instructor (CFII) and Certified Multiengine Instructor (MEI) trainings are not part of the degree; however, these certifications can be completed at Sterling Flight Training. You must pay Sterling Flight Training directly.

Restricted Air Transport Pilot Program (R-ATP)

At this time, graduates of the Bachelor of Science in Professional Flight are not eligible for the R-ATP certificate. You must meet the 1,500 hours of flight time if you plan on furthering your career as an airline pilot.

Contact Information

Purdue University Global: aviation@purdueglobal.edu

Sterling Flight Training: Purdue@sterlingflight.com/904-642-9683

Frequently Asked Questions

STERLING FLIGHT TRAINING

What is Sterling Flight Training?

Sterling Flight Training, located in Jacksonville, Florida, has partnered with Purdue Global to provide the flight training portion of the curriculum. Sterling is a Federal Aviation Administration Part 141 flight school. Former airline professionals, Sterling staff members have trained thousands of pilots over the last three decades and boast years of experience working with university students, military personnel, and adult learners. Additional information can be found on their website at <https://sterlingflight.com/flight-training-programs/purdue-university-global-professional-flight/>.

What is a Part 141 flight training program?

A Part 141 flight instruction program must earn and maintain FAA approval for its training curriculum, syllabus, and lesson plans. This type of program is done in a structured flight training environment. Details on Part 141 can be found on the FAA website at https://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/airline_certification/pilotschools/.

What kind of aircraft does Sterling have for this program?

Sterling's fleet details can be found at <https://sterlingflight.com/about/our-fleet/>. Contact Sterling to hear about aircraft used for each of the practicum courses.

What technology does Sterling require?

Apple iPad: Sterling Flight Training requires you to have an iPad (Wi-Fi + cellular) with iOS 12.4 (May 2020). Recommended size is the medium-sized iPad (10.5" iPad Pro or 9.7" iPad [2019]). Due to its smaller footprint, iPad mini (2019) is also an excellent choice with limited cockpit space. Wi-Fi + cellular iPads contain the internal GPS chip that can be used to activate moving map and other capabilities. You do not have to activate a cellular data plan to use the GPS. Sterling recommends at least an iPad with 128mb of storage.

ForeFlight Mobile: A subscription to ForeFlight Mobile Basic Plus (\$99.99/year) is required. This iPad app provides global data-driven aeronautical maps, VFR/IFR charts, flight planning, briefing and filing, aviation weather, and more and now includes logbook and weight and balance. For more details, see ForeFlight's buying guide at <https://foreflight.com/support/buying-guide/>.

Who should I contact at Sterling for enrollment information?

Enrollment is through Purdue Global, so please contact your Purdue Global Admissions Advisor.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

What are the general requirements to enroll in Purdue Global?

In addition to the general admissions requirements to enroll in Purdue Global, which can be found at <https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/>, to apply for the Bachelor of Science in Professional Flight, you must:

1. Provide proof of a minimum of a commercial pilot certificate with airplane single-engine and multiengine ratings, and a flight instructor certificate, **or**

Acceptance and simultaneous enrollment at a Purdue Global-approved affiliated Part 141 flight instruction program. Provide evidence to your Purdue Global Admissions Advisor.

2. Meet all Federal Transportation Security Administration and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements for flight training and provide evidence to Sterling.
3. Secure a first-class medical certificate and provide evidence to Sterling. Medical certificates may be obtained from an FAA-authorized aviation medical examiner (AME).

What is the first-class medical? Why is it required?

The first-class medical physical includes blood pressure reading, urinalysis, and eyes, ears, and heart exams. At age 40+, an EKG is required. You must provide evidence of a first-class medical to Sterling prior to enrollment. Medicals are obtained from an AME and locations can be found at <https://www.faa.gov/pilots/amelocator>. It is valid for 12 months for those under age 40 and 6 months for those 40 and older. You should keep track of your first-class medical renewals to remain in the program.

A first-class medical is required for pilots to fly in all airlines; we require you to have this prior to enrollment to make sure you do not have any medical conditions that could disqualify you from flying with airlines.

What is included in the TSA clearance?

International students will work directly with Sterling for their TSA clearance. Domestic students must provide evidence of U.S. citizenship to Sterling with one of the following:

- a. Valid, unexpired U.S. passport **or**
- b. Government-issued birth certificate *and* a government-issued photo ID (driver's license, military ID, etc.).

What if I already hold a commercial pilot certificate with airplane single-engine and multiengine ratings and a flight instructor certificate?

You will be able to receive transfer credit for all 20 credits of flight practica (see flight curriculum below). You will provide evidence of your license numbers to your Admissions Advisor, who will verify this information on the FAA Airmen Registry.

If you enter with a private pilot's license only, you may transfer in AV145: Private Pilot Flight. The same transfer credit policy will be for any other license you hold (e.g., instrument rating, commercial pilot flight, flight instructor, and multiengine).

ONLINE AND FLIGHT CURRICULA

Which courses in the degree plan are the flight courses provided by Sterling in Jacksonville, Florida?

Each flight training course at Sterling is associated with an online practicum course at Purdue Global. There are seven practicum courses in which you will complete the flight assignments at Sterling with a flight instructor, but also engage in Purdue Global's online practicum course with a Purdue Global instructor. You must engage in at least one activity each week in the online practicum.

1. AV145: Private Pilot Flight (term 1)
2. AV253: Instrument Flight Training (term 3)
3. AV210: Ground Trainer (term 4)
4. AV243: Commercial Pilot Flight I (term 4)
5. AV248: Commercial Pilot Flight II (term 5)
6. AV351: Flight Instructor Flight (term 7)
7. AV353: Multiengine Flight (term 8)

What is the estimated time for me to complete all flight requirements?

Flight courses begin in term 1 and end in term 8. Assuming you have continuous enrollment without a leave of absence, the flight portion can be completed in 18 to 24 months.

What housing options are available in Jacksonville?

Sterling provides information on housing accommodations and should be contacted directly. One such accommodation is less than 2 miles from campus: fully furnished and discounted apartments (\$200/week for a shared room). You are required to relocate to Jacksonville, FL, prior to starting the program.

How many hours should I expect per week for online courses and for flight?

The online aviation and general education courses will require approximately 15 to 18 hours per week per 10-week course. Flight times vary, but you should fly at least 4 hours per week.

What if I am not able to complete my flight practica within a 10-week term?

Delays due to weather, time commitment, and other reasons may disrupt your flight time. If you cannot complete the FAA requirements within a 10-week term, Purdue Global will issue an official "Incomplete." We scheduled the flight practica in a specific sequence so as to maximize your ability to complete the practica in the respective term.

FUNDING QUESTIONS

What fees are due before I can start the program?

The first term practicum fee is due by the 3rd day prior to the start of the first term. If you are not able to pay the full amount, your enrollment will be postponed. After term 1, practicum fees are due by the 3rd day prior to the start of your term before you are eligible to start the term.

DIFFERENTIATION AND CAREERS

Why would I enroll in Purdue Global's Bachelor of Science in Professional Flight?

1. Aviation and general education courses are offered 100% online.
2. Flight practicum course can begin in term 1.
3. Once AV 351: Flight Instructor Flight practicum is satisfactorily completed in term 8, you can begin earning money by potentially becoming an instructor at a flight school.

What are some career options?

After graduating from the program, you can become a commercial pilot and/or flight instructor. You will continue to fly to gain enough hours to advance in the aviation field to becoming a first officer and beyond. Note: Purdue Global cannot guarantee employment or career advancement.

What industry certification will I earn upon successfully graduating from this program?

Private Pilot Certification, Instrument Flight Rating, Commercial Pilot Certification, Flight Instructor Flight Certification (CFI), and Multiengine Flight Certification (ME). Note: Students are responsible for understanding the requirements of certification exams. The University cannot guarantee students will be eligible to sit for or pass exams. In some cases, work experience, additional coursework beyond the Purdue Global program, fieldwork, and/or background checks may be necessary to be eligible to take or to successfully pass the exams.

Which industry certifications are not included in this degree?

Certified Instrument Instructor (CFII) and Certified Multiengine Instructor (MEI) are not part of the degree. You have the option of earning these certifications directly through Sterling, but not as part of Purdue Global's program or tuition and fees.

FAA APPROVALS AND PROGRAMMATIC ACCREDITATION

Is the Bachelor of Science in Professional Flight approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)?

The FAA does not approve university programs unless the university curriculum is a Part 141. Purdue Global's program is not a Part 141 program, but Sterling's program is. Therefore, Sterling's Part 141 program has been approved by the FAA. Purdue Global is providing the online aviation and general education courses in connection with Sterling's Part 141 program.

What are ATP and R-ATP? Is Purdue Global's program an approved Restricted (Reduced Hour) Air Transport Pilot (R-ATP)?

Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) is the certificate required for an individual to fly for commercial airlines. For you to earn an ATP certificate, 1,500 hours of flight time are required. The R-ATP, or Restricted Air Transport Pilot, certificate allows pilots to obtain their ATP certificate in 1,000 hours rather than 1,500. A university's curriculum must first go through an approval process. At this time, graduates of the Bachelor of Science in Professional Flight are not eligible for the R-ATP certificate. You must meet the FAA's required 1,500 hours of flight time to become first officers. In 2021, Purdue University Global will apply for the R-ATP to reduce those hours to 1,000.

Will I receive my ATP at Purdue University Global after graduating from the program?

No. If hired by an airline after graduation, ATP training is arranged for and provided by the airline.

Does the Bachelor of Science in Professional Flight hold programmatic accreditation?

Although Purdue University Global is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC), the professional flight program does not hold programmatic accreditation with the Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI) at this time.

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