

Foreign Pilots Course – Questions and Answers

How long does it take to process a license conversion? Allow 6-8 weeks processing time after you started the application. Since your local aviation authority is also involved in the approval process processing time might vary from country to country.

Is my aviation medical of my home country good enough to fly with a converted license? Yes it is. But you have to show us the needed document either the medical itself or the license, which states that the medical exam has been passed and is valid.

Can I convert an IFR rating? Yes you can. You have to go through the application process plus passing an IFR written test -> IFP Instrument Rating Foreign Pilot, 50 questions.

Can I add a rating such as night flying to my converted license? No. You have to add this rating in your home country. It has to be entered in your original license. Your converted license is only good for what you have in your original license. The only exceptions are endorsements that do not require changing a license type such as G1000 flying, complex rating or high performance rating.

Do I need a TSA clearance to rent an aircraft and pass a BFR? No.

How long is a converted license for? As long as your home license is valid.

The numbers of my home license have been changed. Do I have to re-apply? Yes, you have to go through the validation process again.

What's the closest FSDO? Our closest FSDO is Tampa. It's currently remotely managed from the FSDO Orlando. Please enter 'Tampa' in the application form when asked for the closest FSDO. (FSDO = Flight Standards District Office).

How do I get the converted license? Once your paperwork is processed you will get a *Letter of Authentication*. Take this letter with you and make an appointment at the Tampa FSDO. In the meantime you can train with one of our instructors and pass your BFR. At the FSDO the examiner will examine your English and in rare cases he even might ask you some questions about airspace, radio communication or flight procedures. For this reason we recommend to be prepared well.

Can I leave the US with a converted license e.g. flying to the Bahamas? Yes as long as all other restrictions and rules are met. See the section of 'flying to the Bahamas', 'Mexico' and 'Canada'.