

# Biennial Flight Review – BFR

The **flight review** (previously the FAA referred to this as a biennial flight review, usually abbreviated **BFR**) is a review required of every active holder of a US pilot certificate (regardless if a stand-alone or converted license) at least every two years. The flight review consists of at least 1 hour of ground instruction and 1 hour in-flight with a qualified CFI, CFII or CFII.

Before being able to act as pilot-in-command (PIC) a pilot must have completed a flight review within the previous 24 calendar months. The FAA and instructors are quick to point out that it is **not** a test. There is no pass or fail criteria, although the instructor giving it *can decline* to endorse your log-book that a flight review has been completed.

A *flight test* (administered by an FAA representative or Designated Pilot Examiner) that leads to a new certificate or rating may be substituted for the flight review. Completing a phase of the FAA's safety-oriented "Wings" program can also be used, as can completion of a proficiency check administered by a check airman (typically air carrier pilots).

**What kind of questions can I expect in the oral?** You can expect questions relating to weather, weight and balance, aircraft performance, VFR charts and airspace, aeromedical factors, and the applicable sections of both CFR Parts 61 and 91.

**What will be covered during the flight?** The maneuvers and procedures covered in flight are dependent on the type of certificate held by the pilot. The instructor may ask to see some or all of the following maneuvers demonstrated: Normal, short field, or soft field takeoffs and landings, flaps up landing, steep turns, slow flight, stalls with power on and off, basic instrument maneuvers and unusual attitude recovery, ground reference maneuvers, commercial maneuvers, systems and equipment failures, emergency procedures, slip to a landing, and go-around from an aborted landing.

**What happens after the Biennial Flight Review is complete?** After the Flight Review is complete your instructor will endorse your logbook stating that the review was satisfactory. If for some reason more practice is needed, the instructor will not endorse your logbook. You may complete the Flight Review with any instructor you wish.

**What can I do to prepare for the Biennial Flight Review?** Planning ahead for the Flight Review will save you time and money and ensure that you are prepared. In this brochure is a plan of action that will be used as the basis for the oral and flight portions of the review. Study the sections listed in the oral guide and fly proficiency flights based on the maneuvers and procedures in the flight portion. Plan to fly at least twice per month starting at least 2 months prior to your Flight Review. Consult the FAA Practical Test Standards that are appropriate for your certificate in order to see what the proficiency standards are.

The completion of the Biennial Flight Review is something that all of us must accomplish to act as the Pilot in Command of an aircraft. With proper preparation the Review will be a rewarding and educational experience.