

CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTORATE

Transport Malta, Pantar Road, Lija, LJA 2021, Malta. Tel:+356 2555 5000 ams.tm@transport.gov.mt www.transport.gov.mt

1.0 Introduction

This notice shall serve as a procedure for the AME application process. This will include initial AME Certificate applications as well as revalidation, renewal or change of privileges to an AME certificate.

2.0 Requirements for the issue of an AME Certificate

An application for an AME certificate or for an extension of the privileges of an AME certificate shall be made in a form and manner specified below:

Applicants for an AME certificate (Initial, Revalidation or Renewal) shall provide TMCAD with:

- (1) Form TM/CAD/0215
- (2) Personal details and professional address (clinic address where the medical assessments will be performed);
- (3) Documentation demonstrating that they comply with the requirements of point MED.D.010 and ATCO.MED.C.010 (explained in the relevant sections below), including evidence of successful completion of the training course in aviation medicine appropriate to the privileges they apply for;
- (4) Be fully qualified and licensed for the practice of aero-medicine
- (5) A written declaration that, once the AME certificate has been issued, the practice will be performed at the AeMC or private clinic approved by TM-CAD as compliant to the requirements for the proper conduct or aero-medical assessments. The written declaration will also include an affirmation that once the AME certificate has been issued, the AME will issue medical certificates on the basis of the requirements of the Commission Regulation 1178/2011. Commission Regulation 2015/340 as applicable.

When AMEs undertake aero-medical examinations in more than one location, they shall provide TM-CAD with relevant information regarding all practice locations and practice facilities.

When satisfied that the AME is in compliance with the applicable requirements, the AMS shall advise the Director General to issue, revalidate, renew or change the AME certificate for a period of 3 years.

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3.0 Applicants for an AME certificate with the privileges for the initial issue, revalidation and renewal of Class 2 medical certificates

An applicant shall:

- (1) Be fully qualified and licensed for the practice of medicine and hold a Certificate of Completion of specialist training
- (2) Have undertaken a basic training course in aviation medicine. The basic course for AMEs should consist of 60 hours theoretical and practical training, including specific examination techniques.

The learning objectives to acquire the necessary competencies shall include theoretical knowledge, risk management, and decision-making principles in the following subjects. Demonstrations and practical skills shall also be included, where appropriate.

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| (1) Introduction to aviation medicine; | (12) Psychiatry; |
| (2) Basic aeronautical knowledge; | (13) Psychology; |
| (3) Aviation physiology; | (14) Neurology; |
| (4) Cardiovascular system; | (15) Visual system and colour vision; |
| (5) Respiratory system; | (16) Otorhinolaryngology; |
| (6) Digestive system; | (17) Oncology; |
| (7) Metabolic and endocrine systems; | (18) Incidents and accidents escape and survival; |
| (8) Haematology | (19) Medication and flying; |
| (9) Genitourinary system; | (20) Legislation, rules and regulations; |
| (10) Obstetrics and gynaecology; | (21) Cabin crew working environment; |
| (11) Musculoskeletal system; | (22) In-flight environment |
| | (23) Space medicine. |

The course shall be concluded by a written examination on the subjects included in the course content.

Applicants shall demonstrate to TM-CAD that they:

- (i) Have adequate facilities, procedures, documentation and functioning equipment suitable for aero-medical examinations; and
- (ii) Have in place the necessary procedures and conditions to ensure medical confidentiality.
- (iii) Maintained their aero-medical competency in accordance with TM-CAD procedure (Refer to AMS Notice 10-2023 CPD Activity Reporting)

Note: Onsite inspection of the AME practice and/or practices will be conducted to verify that the facility is fully equipped to perform aero-medical examinations within the scope of the AME certificate applied for.

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4.0 Application for the Extension of Privileges for an AME certificate for the revalidation and renewal of Class 1 medical certificates

Applicants for an AME certificate extending their privileges to the revalidation and renewal of Class 1 medical certificates shall hold a valid certificate as an AME, meet the requirements in the previous section and additionally have:

- (a) Conducted at least 30 examinations for the issue, revalidation or renewal of Class 2 medical certificates over a period of no more than 3 years preceding the application;
- (b) Undertaken an advanced training course in aviation medicine. The advanced training course for AMEs should consist of 66 hours of theoretical and practical training, including specific examination techniques.

The learning objectives to acquire the necessary competencies shall include theoretical knowledge, risk management, and decision-making principles in the following subjects. Demonstrations and practical skills shall also be included, where appropriate.

- (1) Pilot working environment;
- (2) Aerospace physiology;
- (3) Clinical medicine;
- (4) Cardiovascular system;
- (5) Neurology;
- (6) Psychiatry/psychology;
- (7) Visual system and colour vision;
- (8) Otorhinolaryngology;
- (9) Dentistry;
- (10) Human factors in aviation;
- (11) Incidents and accidents, escape and survival;
- (12) Tropical medicine.

The course shall be concluded by a written examination on the subjects included in the course content.

- (c) Undergone 2-day practical training or an equivalent of 10 Class 1 aero medical examinations under the direct supervision of the Head of the AeMC or under the supervision of TMCAD, prior to the authorization of the extension of privileges. The successful completion of this shall be demonstrated by a report issued by the Head of AeMC.

Note: Applications shall be made on form TM/CAD/0295 and an onsite inspection/s of the AME practice will be conducted to verify that the facility/ies is/are fully equipped to perform aero-medical examinations within the scope of the AME certificate applied for.

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5.0 Application for an AME certificate with privileges for the revalidation and renewal of Class 3 medical certificates - ATCO.MED.C.015

Following separation of Part-MED and Part-ATCO, reference is being made to the contents of syllabus in particular to certain areas which address better the conditions and environment in which ATCOs operate.

Apart from meeting the requirements set in Section 1.0, AMEs that request to apply for privileges to revalidate and renew Class 3 medical certificates have to complete basic and advanced training courses in aviation medicine including specific modules for aero-medical assessment of air traffic controllers and the specific environment in air traffic control.

Courses in aviation medicine shall be approved by the competent authority of the Member State where the training provider has its principal place of business. The training provider shall demonstrate that the course syllabus contains the learning objectives to acquire the necessary competencies and that the persons in charge of providing the training have adequate knowledge and experience.

The training provider shall issue a certificate of completion to the applicants when they have obtained a pass in the examination.

Except in the case of refresher training, the courses shall be concluded by a written examination on the subjects included in the course content.

5.1 Basic Training Course

The basic training course for AMEs should consist of 60 hours of theoretical and practical training, including specific examination techniques.

The learning objectives to acquire the necessary competences should include theoretical knowledge, risk management and decision-making principles in the following subjects. Demonstrations and practical skills should also be included, where appropriate.

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| (1) Introduction to aviation medicine; | (11) Musculoskeletal system; |
| (2) Basic aeronautical knowledge; | (12) Psychiatry; |
| (3) Aviation physiology; | (13) Psychology; |
| (4) Cardiovascular system; | (14) Neurology; |
| (5) Respiratory system; | (15) Visual system and colour vision; |
| (6) Digestive system; | (16) Otorhinolaryngology; |
| (7) Metabolic and endocrine system; | (17) Oncology; |
| (8) Haematology; | (18) Incidents and accidents, escape and survival; |
| (9) Genitourinary system; | (19) Legislation, rules and regulations; |
| (10) Obstetrics and gynaecology; | (20) Medication and air traffic control |

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5.2 Advanced Training Course

The advanced training course for AMEs shall consist of another 60 hours of theoretical and practical training, including specific examination techniques. The syllabus for the advanced training course shall concentrate on the specific air traffic control environment, and demonstrations and practical skills should be included, where appropriate. The course shall cover at least the following subjects:

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| (1) Air traffic control working environment; | (6) Neurology; |
| (2) Ophthalmology, including demonstration and practical training; | (7) Psychiatry; |
| (3) Otorhinolaryngology, including demonstration and practical training; | (8) Oncology; |
| (4) Clinical medicine; | (9) Metabolic and endocrine systems; |
| (5) Cardiovascular system; | (10) Human factors in aviation with a specific focus on the air traffic control environment; |
| | (11) Problematic use of substances. |

Practical training at an AeMC shall be under the guidance and supervision of the Head of the AeMC. After the successful completion of the practical training, a report of demonstrated competence shall be issued.

The below proposal as suggested by Eurocontrol should serve as guidance:

Subject	Duration hh:mm
Organisation of air traffic control (including but not limited to: flow management, en route, approach, tower; centres and sectors organisation, single versus multi ATCO position; civil and military; international traffic) Including risk assessments	1:00
Selection and training of ATCO's (licenses, ratings, different tasks)	1:00
Medical certification of ATCO's (including differences with class 1 pilots); forms, medical and operational conditions, limitations	2:00
Certification rules of Eurocontrol, EASA, ICAO (including the differences between them)	1:00
Differences in ophthalmologic criteria and link to OPS environment (tower work versus displays; colour vision, mesopic vision, contrast vision, glare)	1:00
Differences in ENT criteria and link to OPS environment	1:00
Differences in psychological criteria (including but not limited to: stress, burn-out, boredom, posttraumatic stress, legal investigations after incidents) and link to OPS environment	2:00
Influence of work (including but not limited to: stress, sedentary job, isolation from natural environment) on health and risk factors (health promotion)	1:00
Human factors and team resource management in air traffic control	1:00
Influence of environmental / ergonomic issues (including but not limited to: rostering, lighting, noise, airco, furniture, shift work, pauses)	1:00
Statistical data on ATCO morbidity and reasons for unfitness; use of medication	1:00
Visit to OPS-room and Tower	2:00 x 2
Simulation exercise	2:00

Course in total: 13hours theoretical + 6 hours practical.

The course shall be concluded by a written examination on the subjects included in the course content.

Note 1: Applications shall be made on form TM/CAD/0295 and an onsite inspection/s of the AME practice will be conducted to verify that the facility/ies is/are fully equipped to perform aero-medical examinations within the scope of the AME certificate applied for.

Note 2: In cases where holders of AME certificates apply for Class 3 revalidation and renewal privileges, s/he will need to conduct Basic and Advanced training either in full or at least in the subjects that are specific modules for aero-medical assessment of air traffic controllers and the specific environment in air traffic control. In these cases, the prior approval of the Chief Medical Assessor is to be sought.

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6.0 Validity of AME certificates

MED.D.030, ATCO.MED.C.025

Revalidation of AME Certificates

An AME certificate shall be issued for a period not exceeding 3 years. It shall be revalidated subject to the holder:

- (a) Continues to fulfill the general conditions required for the medical practice and maintaining registration as a medical practitioner according to national law;
- (b) For AMEs with ATCO privileges, also has undertaken refresher training in aviation medicine and in the working environments of air traffic controllers within the last 3 years consisting of not less than 20 hours including training with regards to the environment of Air traffic control;
- (c) For AMEs with FCL privileges, undertaking refresher training in aviation medicine within the last 3 years consisting of not less than 20 hours (AME exercising Class 1 privileges shall attend refresher training for at least 10 hrs per year)
- (d) perform at least 10 medicals yearly
- (e) remains in compliance with the terms of their AME certificate and excises the AME privileges according to the applicable regulations;
- (f) AMEs with FCL privileges meet the requirements in accordance with TM-CAD procedure (Refer to AMS Notice 10-2023 CPD Activity Reporting)

Renewal of AME Certificates

Upon application by the holder, the certificate shall be renewed, provided that the holder complies with either the requirements for revalidation set out above or with all of the following requirements:

- (a) Continues to fulfill the general conditions required for the medical practice and maintaining registration as a medical practitioner according to national law;
- (b) undertakes refresher training in aviation medicine within the previous year
- (c) remains in compliance with the terms of their AME certificate and excises the AME privileges according to the applicable regulations;
- (d) has successfully completed practical training within the previous year, either at an AeMC or under the supervision of the competent authority (this must include at least 10 aeromedical assessments in accordance with the type of the AMEs certificate);
- (e) Meets the requirements meet the requirements in accordance with TM-CAD procedure (Refer to AMS Notice 10-2023 CPD Activity Reporting)
- (f) Submit Application TM/CAD/0349

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Guidance regarding refresher training

Scientific meetings that may be credited by the competent authority, with a maximum of 10 hours towards the requirements of refresher training hours are:

- International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine Annual Congresses (ICASM);
- Aerospace Medical Association Annual Scientific Meetings (AsMA);
- European Conference of Aerospace Medicine (ECAM)
- Other Scientific meetings (a minimum of 6hrs) under the direct supervision of the medical assessor of the competent authority

Other refresher training may consist of Flight crew compartment experience (a maximum of 5 hours credit per 3 years) as follows:

- Jump seat 5 sectors — 1 hour credit.
- Simulator 4 hours — 1 hour credit.
- Aircraft piloting 4 hours — 1 hour credit.

An AME exercising class 1 revalidation/renewal privileges should attend international aviation medicine scientific meetings or congresses at regular intervals.

Aero-medical examinations of military pilots may be considered as equivalent in accordance with [MED.D.030\(a\)\(3\)](#), subject to approval by the medical assessor of the competent authority.

A minimum of 2 hours of refresher training hours should be provided by or conducted under the direct supervision of the competent authority or the Medical Assessor.

AEROMEDICAL SECTION