



BAILIWICK OF JERSEY

Director of Civil Aviation

Jersey Advisory Circulars (JACs)

Part 61-3

Language Proficiency

Published by Office of the Director of Civil Aviation (Jersey)

First Validation - published for information October 2020

The definitive version of JARs is that on the Jersey Government website
<https://www.gov.je/Travel/MaritimeAviation/CivilAviation/Pages/OfficeDirector.aspx>
which should be viewed to establish the latest validation of each part

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Language Proficiency

Issue 1
October 2020

Effective: on issue

GENERAL

Jersey Aviation Circulars are issued to provide advice, guidance and information on standards, practices and procedures necessary to support Jersey Aviation Requirements. They are not in themselves law but may amplify a provision of the Air Navigation (Jersey) Law or provide practical guidance on meeting a requirement contained in the Jersey Aviation Requirements.

PURPOSE

This Circular provides guidance on the Personnel Licensing Language Proficiency requirements arising from ICAO Annex 1.

RELATED REQUIREMENTS

This Circular relates to JAR Parts 61.

CHANGE INFORMATION

First issue.

ENQUIRIES

Enquiries regarding the content of this Circular should be addressed to the Director of Civil Aviation www.cidca.aero

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 In March 2003, ICAO amended Annex 1 to the International Convention on Civil Aviation to include a requirement for all aeroplane and helicopter pilots, flight navigators and air traffic controllers to be proficient in their command of the languages that they use for radio communication. A proficiency scale of 1 to 6 is specified, with Level 6 being the standard of a native speaker of the language.
- 1.2 ICAO Annex 1 specifies the minimum standard for the holder of a licence to be Level 4. It also specifies that licence holders assessed as Level 4 or 5 shall be re-tested periodically but that a person assessed as Level 6 need not be re-tested. The maximum periods between tests stated in the ICAO documents for Levels 4 and 5 are recommendations only. If the language proficiency of an individual is assessed as being below Level 4 (i.e. 1, 2 or 3) that individual may not hold a licence that includes radiotelephony privileges. The ICAO standards apply to the language “used for radio communication”; ICAO permits languages other than English in circumstances where flight crew and air traffic controllers share another common language.

2 Application

- 2.1 The applicant for a language proficiency endorsement shall demonstrate at least an ICAO level 4 of language proficiency (see Appendix A) both in the use of phraseologies and plain language. To do so, the applicant shall demonstrate the ability to:
- (a) communicate effectively in voice-only and in face-to-face situations.
 - (b) communicate on common and work-related topics with accuracy and clarity.
 - (c) use appropriate communicative strategies to exchange messages and to recognise and resolve misunderstandings in a general or work-related context.
 - (d) handle successfully the linguistic challenges presented by a complication or unexpected turn of events which occurs within the context of a routine work situation or communicative task with which they are otherwise familiar; and
 - (e) use a dialect or accent which is intelligible to the aeronautical community.
- 2.2 Application for a language proficiency endorsement should be made to the Director of Civil Aviation using its application form. An example of the ASSI form can be found at Appendix B.
- 2.3 Except for flight crew or air traffic controllers who have demonstrated language proficiency at an ICAO level 6, the language proficiency endorsement shall be re-evaluated every:
- (a) 4 years, if the level demonstrated is operational level; or
 - (b) 6 years, if the level demonstrated is extended level.

3 Methods of Testing

3.1 Through a Language School

Applicants who choose to be tested by a language school should verify that the school is approved by or is acceptable to the Director for the purpose of language assessment.

3.2 At a Training Organisation

Many approved Training Organisations offer language training modules that meet the requirements of the Personnel Licensing JARs as part of an individual's overall training package. Language proficiency may be determined by this means where the Training Organisation is approved by the appropriate host authority for the purpose.

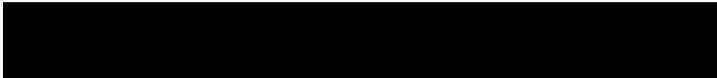
3.3 Other Acceptable Means

Language proficiency may also be assessed by other means acceptable to the host authority. Such means of assessment may be determined by an operator or organisation to make efficient use of their own resources, but in any case, must be approved by the host authority and meet the requirements of JAR Part before being put into effect.

4 Recognition of Language Proficiency Endorsements from other National Aviation Authorities

The requirement for obtaining a language proficiency endorsement can be satisfied through an appropriate language proficiency endorsement issued by an ICAO Contracting State which has confirmed compliance with ICAO; a full list is available at <http://legacy.icao.int/anb/fls/lp/lpcompliance1.cfm>

Appendix A



**Air Traffic Controller Licence
Flight Crew Licence
Language Proficiency Assessment**

1 PERSONAL DETAILS										
Licence Number										
Surname										
Forename(s)										

2 LICENCE TYPE HELD										
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please tick as appropriate										
<input type="checkbox"/> Air Traffic Control licence					<input type="checkbox"/> Flight Engineer licence					
<input type="checkbox"/> Air Transport Pilot licence (A) or (H)					<input type="checkbox"/> Private Pilot licence (A) or (H)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Pilot licence (A) or (H)										

3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENT											
This section is only required to be completed for those Licence holders who have not previously been assessed as having proficiency in the English Language to Level 6 of the ICAO language proficiency rating scale.							Examiner signature** 				
The Licence holder named above has been assessed for English language proficiency in accordance with the ICAO language proficiency rating scale. The Licence holder has been assessed as Level 6.					YES*						
* Delete as appropriate					NO*						
Examiner (PRINT NAME)											
Date	D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y			
<i>**ATC Competence Examiner or other person authorised by the Regulatory Authority</i>											

4 SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS										
The completed form should be sent to: Personnel Licensing Section (ATS/Flight Crew*) Director of Civil Aviation Jersey (as appropriate)										

Licence Endorsement	YES/NO*	Date/Signed	D	D	M	M	Y	Y			
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Attachment A

REQUIREMENTS FOR PROFICIENCY IN LANGUAGES USED FOR RADIOTELEPHONY COMMUNICATIONS (ICAO Annex 1, Chapter 1, Section 1.2.9, refers)

1. General

Note — The ICAO language proficiency requirements include the holistic descriptors at Section 2 and the ICAO Operational Level (Level 4) of the ICAO Language Proficiency Rating Scale in Attachment A. The language proficiency requirements are applicable to the use of both phraseologies and plain language.

To meet the language proficiency requirements contained in Chapter 1, Section 1.2.9, an applicant for a licence or a licence holder shall demonstrate, in a manner acceptable to the licensing authority, compliance with the holistic descriptors at Section 2 and with the ICAO Operational Level (Level 4) of the ICAO Language Proficiency Rating Scale in Attachment A.

2. Holistic descriptors

Proficient speakers shall:

- a) communicate effectively in voice-only (telephone/radiotelephone) and in face-to-face situations.
- b) communicate on common, concrete and work-related topics with accuracy and clarity.
- c) use appropriate communicative strategies to exchange messages and to recognize and resolve misunderstandings (e.g. to check, confirm, or clarify information) in a general or work-related context.
- d) handle successfully and with relative ease the linguistic challenges presented by a complication or unexpected turn of events that occurs within the context of a routine work situation or communicative task with which they are otherwise familiar; and
- e) use a dialect or accent which is intelligible to the aeronautical community.

Level	6 - Expert
PRONUNCIATION <i>Assumes a dialect and/or accent intelligible to the aeronautical community.</i>	Pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation, though possibly influenced by the first language or regional variation, almost never interfere with ease of understanding.
STRUCTURE <i>Relevant grammatical structures and sentence patterns are determined by language functions appropriate to the task.</i>	Both basic and complex grammatical structures and sentence patterns are consistently well controlled.
VOCABULARY	Vocabulary range and accuracy are sufficient to communicate effectively on a wide variety of familiar and unfamiliar topics. Vocabulary is idiomatic, nuanced, and sensitive to register.
FLUENCY	Able to speak at length with a natural, effortless flow. Varies speech flow for stylistic effect, e.g. to emphasize a point. Uses appropriate discourse markers and connectors spontaneously.
COMPREHENSION	Comprehension is consistently accurate in nearly all contexts and includes comprehension of linguistic and cultural subtleties.
INTERACTIONS	Interacts with ease in nearly all situations. Is sensitive to verbal and non-verbal cues and responds to them appropriately.

For further information on Language Proficiency, refer to ICAO Doc 9835, "Manual on the Implementation of ICAO Language Proficiency Requirements".

