

# Check Your Expiry Dates!

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Pilot documents have periodic renewal requirements. Included in the document list are the Aviation Document Booklet, the medical certificate, and any ratings you hold. The status of your Recency and Currency is also important. As well, make sure your third party liability insurance is in effect.

I've had recent requests to reprint the following information on renewing licenses, permits, ratings and medicals. Transport Canada does not send out reminders that your documents are about to expire. It is totally up to you to remember to renew on time. It is not legal to fly if either your Aviation Document Booklet or your medical certificate has expired.

## Aviation Document Booklet

Your Aviation Document Booklet must be renewed every five years from date of issuance. It is now over 5 years since these booklets were first issued. Your booklet expiry date is on the picture page.

Your medical certificate and all of the licenses, permits and ratings you hold are in your pilot booklet. This is where you will find the dates of your last medical and the date any ratings were issued. You have to determine for yourself when they expire.

For information on renewal procedures visit the Aviation Document Booklet website at [www.tc.gc.ca/ADB](http://www.tc.gc.ca/ADB). The form and the process is the same as when you initially got your Pilot Booklet. Transport Canada personnel recommend that you apply 60-90 days before the expiry date.

There is no charge for renewing the pilot booklet.

## Medical Certificate – Ultralight Pilot Permit – No Passengers

The medical for the ultralight pilot permit is a Category 4, self declared medical. It is good for 5 years regardless of your age.

To figure out the exact date your medical expires, you need to find the date of your last medical in your Aviation Booklet. The expiry date is the first day of the month following the date of your last medical plus 5 years.

For example, if the date of your last medical was April 1, 2013, then your medical is valid until May 1, 2018. Another example: if the date of your last medical was December 15, 2009, it was valid to January 1, 2014; it has expired and you cannot legally fly until you send in a new medical declaration.

To renew a Category 4 Medical Declaration, fill out Transport Canada form 26-0297. For the ultralight pilot permit, you need to have your signature witnessed. Send the completed form to your Regional Transport Canada office. The fee is \$55 and you will be billed at a later date.

The form is available on Transport Canada's website at <http://bit.ly/1W2pRH7>.

Carry a copy of the form that you sent to Transport and use it as an interim medical until you get your medical certificate label to put in your Aviation Booklet.

## Medical Certificate – Ultralight Passenger Carrying Rating

The Ultralight Passenger Carrying Rating requires the same Category 4 Medical Declaration as for the UL permit. The form is available on Transport Canada's website at <http://bit.ly/1W2pRH7>

For Passenger Carrying, the Category 4 medical form must be signed by a medical Doctor, usually your family doctor or a designated Canada Civil Aviation Medical Examiner (CAME).

This medical is good for only two years for the Passenger Carrying Rating. If you do not renew your medical at the end of 2 years, your Passenger Carrying Rating is not valid and

you cannot legally carry a passenger. You can, however, still fly ultralight aeroplanes without a passenger until the 5 year expiry date.

This same medical will validate a Recreational Pilot Permit - Aeroplane for 5 years if you're under 40 years of age and for only 2 years if you are 40 or older.

To figure out the exact date your medical expires, find the date of your last medical in your Aviation Booklet. The expiry date is the first day of the month following the date of your last medical plus 2 years.

For example, if your medical was in September 12, 2011, your passenger carrying privileges expired on Oct 1, 2013. You can still fly ultralights until Oct 1, 2016, but you can no longer carry a passenger.

To renew the medical for your Passenger Carrying Rating, use the same Category 4 Medical Declaration as the ultralight pilot. In this case, you need to get Part C signed by a medical doctor. Send it to your Regional Transport Office just as you would for the Ultralight Pilot Permit.

### **Medical –Ultralight Instructor Rating**

If you hold an Ultralight Instructor Rating, you are required to have a Category 3 Medical from a Civil Aviation Medical Examiner (CAME). This medical validates the ultralight instructor rating for 5 years (until the first day of the month following the date of the last medical plus 5 years) regardless of age.

This same medical will also validate a Private Pilot License - Aeroplane if you have one for 5 years if you're under 40 years of age and for 2 years if you are 40 or older.

To renew your Category 3 medical, make an appointment to see a Civil Aviation Medical examiner in your area. There is a list of CAMEs on Transport's website at <http://bit.ly/1NkDLwG>.

### **Ultralight Instructor Rating Renewal**

Besides the medical, the Ultralight Instructor

Rating also has a renewal requirement. According to CAR 401.89, every 5 years the ultralight instructor must do something to re-validate his instructor rating. The list of what is required can be found in CAR 421.89(2). Odds are that the renewal date for the rating will not coincide with the medical certificate renewal.

### **Recency**

There are Recency requirements for all pilots, including ultralight pilots. These can be found in CAR 401.05(1).

If you have not acted as Pilot in Command of an aeroplane (this includes ultralights) within the 5 years preceding the flight, there are some things you must do to become Recent.

Check your pilot log book to see when you last acted as Pilot-In-Command.

### **Currency**

There are also Currency requirements for all pilots including ultralight pilots. These are listed in CAR 401.05(2). To be current you have to do something every two years. The list of options is in CAR 421.05(2). One option is the Self Paced Study Program that you can download from Transport Canada's website, fill out, date, and carry in your logbook.

Another option is to attend a seminar given or approved by Transport Canada. Note the topic, date, and the presenter of the qualified seminar in your log book. Some presenters give out log book stickers.

### **Carrying a Passenger**

If you carry a passenger either with the Ultralight Passenger Carrying Rating or another license or permit, there is an additional requirement. Before you can carry a passenger, you must have done 5 take-offs and landings within the 6 months preceding the flight.

If you want to carry a passenger on a float equipped plane and you learned on a land plane, you must have completed some flight training, including dual instruction and solo flight, on

floats before you can carry a passenger in the float plane. See CAR 401.21 (b) (iii).

### **Insurance**

Transport Canada requires at least \$100,000 third party liability insurance for every flight. Insurance policies usually run for a year, so you need to check to see when you need to renew your insurance.

While we love flying, it's also important to remember the paperwork. Keep your documents up to date. You never know when you might be subject to an inspection.

Now that the really busy flying season is over, take time to check your aviation documents so you'll be ready for next year.