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GENERAL

UPDATE ON THE NEW ONLINE EXAMS - CATEGORY: WCM, CCM, LSA, GYRO, TMG

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Updating the Industry on the progress of the revised On-line exams and the proposed implementation dates.

Originally, it was planned for the exams to be released in phases, however, as suggested by the Industry, all of the exams will be released simultaneously. Instructors and students are informed that the release of the new exams will only take effect after the examination database has been verified by a Quality Control Process which is planned for later this year.

1. The Exams.

1.1 Students will write 6 general exams, namely:

Air Law
Meteorology
Navigation
Principles of Flight
Aircraft Technical and General
Human Performance.

These exams are the same for WCM, CCM, LSA, GYRO and TMG.

1.2 Each student will write a Category Specific Exam for the discipline of flight they are learning, namely:

WCM - For weight shift pilots only,
CCM, LSA - For fixed wing pilots only,
GYRO - For Gyrocopter pilots only,
TMG - For Touring Motor glider pilots only.

The Category Specific exam is a combination of subjects particular to the discipline, namely:

Air Law
Nav
Met
Principles of Flight and
Aircraft Technical subjects.

Instructors and students should note that the (Category Specific) questions would only be relevant to the discipline for which the pilot is learning to fly. E.g:
WCM will only have exam questions for a Weight Shift Pilot.

2. Credit Old Exams

2.1 The validity period of the exams remains unchanged. Any exam a student has completed (passed) prior to the implementation of the new exams will count towards their subjects, and students will not be required to re-write any new exams.

Simply put, if they passed Air Law on the old questions, they will not be required to re-write Air Law using the new questions.

2.2 The Category Specific Exam will be required if the student has completed all six of the old exams. (See point 2.3)

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2.3 What happens if the exams are implemented a few days before a student is due to carry out their skills test?

RAASA appreciates that there may be some confusion and unnecessary frustration after the new exams go live. A grace period of 60 days will be given to all students on the Category Type Exams.

Therefore, if a student has passed all six exams, is about to carry out the Skills Test and the new exams are in effect, then the student will not be expected to write the Category Specific Exams if he/she tests within 60 days of the new exams being implemented.

3. Fees

3.1 The exam fees remains the same, and the annual increase can be expected when these have been approved by the Minister of Finance. The exam fee will be the same whether a student writes a set of 6 old exam subjects or, the 7 new subjects.

4. Quality Control.

4.1 Selected members of Industry (Senior and High Grade Instructors) will screen (Audit) the exam database before the database is released. This will only occur after all the exams sets are completed. Those selected for the Audit will not be permitted to retain any notes or any copies of question sets. Each moderator will review a given number of questions, but will be asked to review the entire question set of new exams.

5. Proposed Implementation Date.

5.1 The Audit is expected to be completed during August 2014 and the release of the exam data bank (on-line) during September 2014. Once the Audit has been completed RAASA will be able to give the Industry an adequate 60 day notice period of the implementation date. The implementation date is subject to the administrator.

6. Syllabus.

6.1 The syllabus remains unchanged.

7. Number of Questions.

7.1 Students will receive approximately 35 questions per subject. Question scoring is weighted, so some questions are more difficult and will therefore receive a higher percentage score.

Instructors and Students should keep checking the RAASA website www.raasa.co.za for updates on the exams and not rely on e-mail updates from RAASA. A number of servers reject e-mails with multiple addressee's, and RAASA experiences some rejected e-mails when circulars are sent out. All users may subscribe for free on the RAASA website to receive regular circulars and news.

Finally, we would like to thank the instructors for the positive support from industry and the assistance for the new exam questions.

RAASA is designated and dedicated to serve the recreational flyer!