



## Commercial Helicopter Pilot, CPL (H)

A commercial pilot license opens up multiple helicopter career paths and permits you to fly commercially for a certified flight operator.

### Overview

There are two variants to obtain a Commercial Pilot License (CPL) either by completing a modular or an integrated course. Either course can be completed on piston or turbine helicopters. Both courses require no prior experience to get started with.

### Modular course

As the name states, multiple modules are completed to obtain the commercial license on an individual basis. The first step is to obtain a Private Pilot License (PPL). You then gain valuable experience while you are able to charter our helicopters. When reaching 155 flight hours of experience, you start with the CPL module. The advantage of this course is its flexibility and the possibility to integrate a Swiss mountain rating or complete interesting training in-between the PPL and CPL courses. Further details can be found below.

### Integrated course

The integrated course skips the PPL step and aims directly for the 135h long CPL integrated course. The practical and theoretical training is completed on a full-time basis on-site and will take place on a prescheduled time and place. This course variant does not foresee a mountain rating or another type rating. Further details can be found on the next page.

### Modular Course

In Switzerland, the most common way to acquire a CPL is through a modular course. This variant starts with a Private Pilot License (PPL) as the basis and ends up with the CPL course module.

This course offers a high degree of flexibility and enables students to train on a part time basis or equally on a fulltime basis if required by the student. During the «hour building» phase you can charter our helicopters and receive training-modules towards the CPL, e.g. night flight time or other recommended trainings such as an additional type rating or the Swiss mountain rating. Furthermore, the flexibility of this course allows you to work in another profession at the same time, schedule your sessions as it suits you or to take breaks. Therefore, this is the most popular of your courses.

### Theoretical training within the modular course

Most of the pilots complete their theoretical training on the ATPL-level (Air Transport Pilot License). As the theoretical training is based on a distance learning schedule, you mainly study individually as well as attend a few mandatory presence learning seminars. To obtain a CPL, the theoretical examinations must be passed before the practical exam. This course and the examinations are in English only and are all completed within Swiss Helicopter ATO. The theory contains the same subjects as the PPL but in greater detail and are split into multiple subchapters; up to 13 subjects in total, each with its own examination, cover the total course. Additionally, the subject KSA (Knowledge, Skills



and Attitude) will be completed during these seminars. All subjects must be passed within 18 months, 4 attempts per subject and a maximum of 6 exam-sessions.

#### Practical training within the modular course

The practical training can be commenced with a total flight experience of 155 h and consists of 30 flight hours. To attend the practical examination a total of 185h flight experience, 50h as Pilot in Command (PIC) and 5h of night flight time must have been completed. Additionally, a pilot needs 10h of instrument flight time, none of which are credited from the PPL course. The entire training can be completed on a piston or turbine engine helicopter.

#### Integrated Course

During this training, you will study for the CPL or ATPL theory and CPL practical training in a presence learning course which requires your presence for the entire course. The 50h of solo flight time besides that are completed as solos only and no passengers are allowed on board.

The minimum flight experience for the integrated CPL is 135h. The course will take place on one of our training bases and will take roughly 14 – 24 months on a fulltime schedule. The night flying experience, which is part of the CPL, is integrated in this course. The Swiss mountain rating or an additional type rating however will need to be obtained after the integrated course. Considering all training elements, pilots end up with a similar number of flying hours as within the modular course variant.

#### Requirements for both course variants

- Medical Class 1
- At least 18 years of age at the time of exam registration
- Good knowledge of the English language

#### To start the module CPL(H):

- PPL (H)
- 155h total flight time, of which at least 50 hours as pilot in command (PIC) are required

#### Locations

Would you like additional information on specific training or a personal consultation? Contact us without obligation at one of our flight school locations:

##### Bern – Western Switzerland:

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