



**STARLITE**  
AVIATION GROUP

*Fly with us!*

**SACAA  
ACCREDITED  
TRAINING**

# DRONE PILOT TRAINING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Committed. Experienced. Passionate.

# DO I NEED A LICENCE TO FLY MY DRONE?

***You will need to apply for a drone licence if you aim to fly:***

- a drone for commercial use or if you are remunerated directly or indirectly.
- outside the drone safety rules for Model Aircraft.
- on a remotely piloted aircraft operator's certificate (ROC).

A drone or model aircraft that is used as a hobby does not require a licence, but the basic rules and regulations must be adhered to as laid down by the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA). Refer to SACAA CARs Part 101 and Part 94.

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## I HAVE NO EXPERIENCE, CAN I STILL DO THIS COURSE?

Absolutely, yes. Anyone can do the course as long as you meet the minimum requirements.

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## WHAT ARE THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO OBTAIN A DRONE LICENCE?

- You must be 18 years of age.
- You must have a Class 3 Medical Certificate from an aviation doctor, which must be obtained before you start your course. We can assist with arrangements for your medical.
- All examinations require pass mark of above 75%.
- You require at least a level 4 English Language proficiency.

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## WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE COST OF THE COURSE?

- Course material
- Online support
- Mock examinations
- Final examination fees (for the first attempt
  - all rewrites are for your own account)
- Practical flight training
- RPL test with the Designated Flight Examiner
- SACAA licensing fees
- Courier costs for your licence
- English Proficiency Exam if required
- Lunch and refreshments during practical training days

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## DO I NEED ANY SPECIAL SOFTWARE ON MY COMPUTER AND HOW DO I ACCESS THE COURSE MATERIAL?

No special software is required. You will receive a link via email where you will enter your unique username and a password to access the course material and mock examinations.

# IS THE COURSE PART TIME OR FULL TIME AND HOW DOES THE COURSE WORK?

**We have 2 course options available:**

## **1. Online / Part Time Drone Licence**

Once you have made your payment:

- you receive access to the online course material consisting of 10 subjects and mock examinations.
- you will work at your own pace.
- when ready to write examinations, schedule 1-2 days of ground school with an instructor for revision purposes.
- once you passed your examinations you will need approximately 3 days to complete the practical flight lessons and the flight test.

## **2. Full Time / Classroom Based Course:**

Once you have made your payment:

- select your course date.
- you will receive access to the online course material consisting of 10 subjects and mock examinations.
- you will be required to attend ground school lectures at your campus of choice, either in Durban or Mossel Bay.
- upon arrival at the campus you will receive two textbooks.
- ground school lectures will take approximately 7 working days to complete.
- during the lectures we will prepare you for your examinations.
- once you passed your examinations you will need approximately 3 days to do the practical lessons and the flight test.

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## CAN I USE MY TABLET OR PHONE FOR THE ONLINE GROUND SCHOOL?

Absolutely, yes. You can access the course on any device that has an internet connection.

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## DO YOU REQUIRE A DEPOSIT OR THE FULL AMOUNT UPFRONT?

We require a 50% deposit upfront, of which R 5000.00 is non-refundable. This will give you access to your course material.

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## HOW LONG DOES ONLINE GROUND SCHOOL TAKE – WHAT IS THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF TIME I CAN TAKE TO COMPLETE THE THEORY?

The online course duration depends on your availability. If you work at your studies every day at a steady pace you should complete the theory in 2 weeks. Once you have passed your final theory examinations you must complete your practical flying and flight test within 90 days.



## AM I REQUIRED TO DO ANY ASSIGNMENTS?

No, there are no assignments but you will receive mock examinations which have to be completed before you can proceed to the next section of the subject you are working on.

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## CAN I WRITE MY EXAMINATIONS ONLINE?

No, final examinations must be written at our SACAA approved test centres.

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## WHAT HAPPENS IF I FAIL MY FINAL EXAMINATIONS?

If you fail an examination, you will be able to rewrite that exam after 7 days. If you obtain less than 50% for your final examination, you will need to wait 2 months before you can rewrite. All rewrites are for your own account.

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## WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP, IS THERE ONLINE TUTOR/INSTRUCTOR SUPPORT?

Should you need help, we are always available via e-mail, WhatsApp or Skype to answer any questions.

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## I ALREADY HAVE A PPL/CPL/ATPL. DO I STILL NEED TO DO THE GROUND SCHOOL AND WHICH SUBJECTS DO I NEED TO DO?

**Yes. You are only required to complete following subjects:**

- Principles of Flight
  - RPAS Technical and General
  - Operational Procedures
  - Flight Performance and Planning
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## AFTER I HAVE PASSED MY EXAMINATIONS AND PRACTICAL FLIGHT TEST, HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE TO RECEIVE MY LICENCE.

Once the SACAA receive your application documents it normally takes 7-10 working days. We will assist with this process.

# DO I NEED TO HAVE MY OWN DRONE TO COMPLETE THIS COURSE?

Absolutely not. We have our own fleet of drones available for you to complete the practical flying and test.

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# MAY I USE MY OWN DRONE TO DO THE COURSE?

No, the SACAA requires that you make use of a drone that is registered on our Aircraft Training Organisation (ATO).

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# NOW THAT I HAVE A DRONE LICENCE, CAN I EARN REMUNERATION?

No, once you are qualified you will need to work on a registered Remote Operators Certificate (ROC).

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# WHAT CAREERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR DRONE PILOTS?

***The career possibilities for a drone pilot are endless. Here are a few examples:***

- Aerial photography and videography for real estate: housing developments, malls, resorts, golf courses.
  - General aerial photography: private or public events, holiday resort advertising.
  - Surveillance for security companies.
  - Anti-poaching support services.
  - Construction: pre-building site inspections, progress monitoring, safety monitoring.
  - Film making: location scouting and scene footage.
  - Public safety: crime scene mapping, search and rescue, traffic management, evaluation of damage after a disaster, emergency deliveries.
  - Insurance inspections.
  - Journalism and investigative reporting.
  - Farming and agricultural mapping, crop and livestock monitoring, crop spraying, perimeter and fencing inspection.
  - Aerial surveying.
  - Powerline and pipeline inspections.
  - Drone instruction.
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## CONTACT US



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