

CHAPTER 2 RePL TRAINING COURSE

Division 2.1 General

2.01 Purpose

For paragraph (b) of the definition of **RPL training course** in the CASR Dictionary, this Chapter prescribes the standards and requirements for the conduct of training in the operation of RPA for the grant of a RePL.

Note 1 An RPL training course may only be conducted by a person who is certified under regulation 101.335 of CASR and whose operations include conducting training.

Note 2 The requirement to hold a RePL authorising a person to operate an RPA does not apply in relation to the operation of an excluded RPA: see subregulation 101.252 (1) of CASR.

2.02 Application

- (1) The standards and requirements prescribed by this Chapter apply, in accordance with this Chapter, to:
 - (a) the theory component of a RePL training course, as mentioned in subparagraph 101.295 (2) (a) (iii) of CASR (the **aeronautical knowledge component**); and
 - (b) the component of a RePL training course for the manual or automated operation of a category of RPA that an applicant for a RePL proposes to operate, as mentioned in subparagraph 101.295 (2) (b) (i) of CASR (the **practical competency component**).

Note The more commonly used expressions **aeronautical knowledge component** and **practical competency component** are used in this MOS as provided for in subsection 2.02 (1).

- (2) Training which does not comply with the standards and requirements prescribed by this Chapter is not training that is a RePL **training course**.

Note Generally speaking, eligibility for the grant of a RePL is dependent on: (1) passing the theory component of a RePL training course (that is, meeting the aeronautical knowledge standards): see subparagraph 101.295 (2) (a) (iii) of CASR; and (2) completing a RePL training course in the manual or automated operation of a category of RPA that the applicant proposes to operate (that is, satisfying the practical competency standards): see subparagraph 101.295 (2) (b) (i).

2.02A Transitional provisions for pre-18 October 2023 RePL training courses

- (1) The amendments made to this MOS by Schedule 2 of the *Part 101 Manual of Standards (Miscellaneous Revisions) Amendment Instrument 2023 (No. 1)* (the **Schedule 2 amendments**) do not apply to a RePL training organisation for or in relation to a student who:
 - (a) commenced, but did not complete, a RePL training course with the organisation before 18 October 2023 (a **relevant RePL training course**); and
 - (b) completed the course on or after 18 October 2023 but before 4 February 2024.
- Note* The MOS as in force immediately before 18 October 2023, that is, before the Schedule 2 amendments commenced on that date, is, therefore, the applicable version of the MOS for this circumstance.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), for a student mentioned in subsection (1) who fails to complete the relevant RePL training course before 4 February 2024, the Schedule 2 amendments apply to the RePL training organisation for or in relation to the student on and from 4 February 2024.
 - (3) CASA may, in writing, approve a RePL training organisation's bridging course to facilitate, for a student who failed to complete the relevant RePL training course before 4 February 2024, the student's transition to and completion of the RePL training course that is in accordance with the Schedule 2 amendments.

- (4) A student's successful completion of a bridging course is deemed to be successful completion of the RePL training course.
- (5) This section is repealed at the end of 3 March 2024.

CHAPTER 2 RePL TRAINING COURSE

Division 2.2 Aeronautical knowledge and practical competency standards

2.03 General English language proficiency standards under Part 61

- (1) Without affecting any other provision of this Chapter, subject to subsection (4), a RePL training course may include, as part of the practical competency component, training and assessment in general English language proficiency in accordance with this section.

Note An applicant for a RePL must have general English language proficiency. A RePL training course may specifically include general English language proficiency training in accordance with subsections (2) and (3) of this section. Otherwise, RePL applicants must obtain their general English language proficiency by virtue of holding, or having held, a flight crew licence issued by CASA.

- (2) The general English language proficiency standards and evidence for the training are as set out in *Section 1: English Language Proficiency, GEL — General English language proficiency*, in Schedule 2 of the Part 61 MOS, which is hereby incorporated into this MOS.

Note All of the requirements under GEL — General English language proficiency must be met. See the Table of Contents at the front of Schedule 2 of the Part 61 MOS to find unit code GEL.

- (3) Despite subclause 5.1.1 of Section 1 of Schedule 2 of the Part 61 MOS, the assessment mentioned in subclause 5.1.1 must be made by an examiner.
- (4) For this Chapter, an applicant is deemed to have been trained, and assessed as competent, in the practical competency component requirement for general English language proficiency mentioned in *Appendix 1, Practical competency standards — Common units*, in Schedule 3 of this MOS if the applicant:
 - (a) satisfies the standards and assessment of a RePL training course in accordance with subsections (2) and (3); or
 - (b) holds, or has held, a flight crew licence issued by CASA; or
 - (c) holds, or has held, a flight crew qualification granted by the ADF that CASA is satisfied is equivalent to a flight crew licence; or
 - (d) holds an overseas flight crew licence that:
 - (i) CASA is satisfied is equivalent to a flight crew licence; and
 - (ii) states that the applicant meets ICAO level 4, 5 or 6 aviation English language proficiency standards; or
 - (e) both:
 - (i) holds an overseas flight crew licence that CASA is satisfied is equivalent to a flight crew licence; and
 - (ii) has a current aviation English language proficiency assessment.

2.04 Aeronautical radio

Note CASA is developing guidance material for RePL training organisations which will include guidance on aerial radio operator certificates (AROCs) and General English Language Proficiency (GELP).

2.05 Aeronautical knowledge standards

- (1) The aeronautical knowledge component of a RePL training course for a particular category of RPA must include training and assessment in the units of aeronautical knowledge from Schedule 4 that are prescribed in subsection (4) for the category.

Note Subsections (2) and (3) are directions to use Schedule 2 to find the applicable units of knowledge in Schedule 4.

- (2) For a Table with the heading “Aeronautical knowledge standards” in an Appendix of Schedule 2, each unit of knowledge mentioned in a cell in column 2 of the Table (the ***unit of knowledge***) has the unit code mentioned in the corresponding cell in column 1 (the ***unit code***).
- (3) The unit coded document containing the requirements of a unit of knowledge is the document in an Appendix of Schedule 4 which has the same unit code.
- (4) A RePL training course for a category of RPA must require an applicant for an initial RePL to complete all of the matters, in all of the items, of the following units of knowledge:
 - (a) for any RPA category — the units in Appendix 1 of Schedule 4, Common units;
Note An initial RePL is one granted to a person who has not previously held any RePL. The Common units are not required when the RePL training course is for a RePL upgrade provided for in section 2.20, 2.21, 2.22, 2.23, 2.24 or 2.25.
 - (b) for an RPA that is in the aeroplane category — the units in Appendix 2 of Schedule 4;
 - (c) for an RPA that is in the helicopter (multirotor class) category — the units in Appendix 3 of Schedule 4;
 - (d) for an RPA that is in the helicopter (single rotor class) category — the units in Appendix 4 of Schedule 4;
 - (e) for an RPA that is in the powered-lift category — the units in Appendix 5 of Schedule 4;
 - (f) for any RPA in any RPA category, whether operated under a manual or an automated flight management system — unit 8 in Appendix 1A of Schedule 4;
 - (g) for any medium or large RPA in any RPA category, with a liquid-fuel system — the units in Appendix 6 of Schedule 4.
- (5) To avoid any doubt, the requirements under the following:
 - (a) paragraph (4) (a);
 - (b) paragraphs (4) (f) and (g);are in addition to any requirements expressed in paragraphs (4) (b) to (4) (e), as the case requires.

2.06 Practical competency standards

- (1) The practical competency component of a RePL training course for a category of RPA (including with a liquid-fuel system or otherwise) must be for 1 of the following:
 - (a) the automated operation mode — for an applicant for a RePL for automated operation mode only;
 - (b) both the automated operation mode and the manual mode — for an applicant for a RePL for the manual operation mode.
- (2) Without affecting anything else in this section, the practical competency component of a RePL training course for a particular medium or large RPA for which the applicant seeks the RePL must be conducted and assessed with respect to the particular medium or large RPA only.
- (3) The practical competency component of a RePL training course for a particular category of RPA must include training and assessment in the units of practical competency from Schedule 5 that are prescribed in subsection (6) for the category.

Note Subsections (4) and (5) explain how to use Schedule 3 to find the applicable units of knowledge in Schedule 5.

- (4) For a Table with the heading “Practical competency standards” in an Appendix of Schedule 3, each unit of competency mentioned in a cell in column 2 of the Table (the ***unit of practical competency***) has the unit code mentioned in the corresponding cell in column 1 (the ***unit code***).
- (5) The unit coded document containing the requirements of a unit of practical competency is the document in an Appendix of Schedule 5 which has the same unit code.
- (6) A RePL training course for a category of RPA must require an applicant for an initial RePL to complete the following units of practical competency:
 - (a) for any RPA category — the units in Appendix 1 of Schedule 5, Common units;
Note An initial RePL is one granted to a person who has not previously held any RePL. The Common units are not required when the RePL training course is for a RePL upgrade provided for in section 2.21, 2.22, 2.23, 2.24 or 2.25.
 - (b) for an RPA that is in the aeroplane category — the units in Appendix 2 of Schedule 5;
 - (c) for an RPA that is in the helicopter (multirotor class) category — the units in Appendix 3 of Schedule 5;
 - (d) for an RPA that is in the helicopter (single rotor class) category — the units in Appendix 4 of Schedule 5;
 - (e) for an RPA that is in the powered-lift category — the units in Appendix 5 of Schedule 5;
 - (f) for any medium or large RPA in any RPA category, with a liquid-fuel system — all of the units in Appendix 6 of Schedule 5.
- (7) For an item mentioned in a Table of an Appendix of Schedule 5 (the ***practical competency units***), the training and assessment of the subject matter mentioned in column 2 of the item must be within the tolerances mentioned in column 3 of the item, and across the range of variables mentioned in column 4 of the item.
- (8) To avoid any doubt, the requirements under the following:
 - (a) paragraph (6) (a);
 - (b) paragraph (6) (f);are in addition to any requirement expressed in paragraphs (6) (b) to (e), as the case requires.

2.06A Alternative practical competency standards for advancing technology in medium and large RPA only

- (1) Despite section 2.06, a practical training course for a particular medium RPA or large RPA may be comprised of some or all of the following (the ***relevant practical competency units and standards***):
 - (a) part only of the units of practical competency that would, but for this subsection, be required under subsection 2.06 (6) to be completed for the RPA;
 - (b) all or part of another set of units of practical competency, being units that would, but for this subsection, otherwise not be required to be completed;
 - (c) alternative practical competency standards, behaviours, and flight test standards, including where appropriate, tolerances and variables, approved by CASA that are specifically devised and applicable in relation to a medium RPA, or a large RPA, that has particular characteristics.

- (2) However, subsection (1) does not apply unless, for the relevant practical competency units and standards, CASA approves that their completion:
- (a) is necessary for establishing the competency of a person to hold a RePL for the RPA because unique, unusual, or other characteristics in the system design or other features of the RPA (the ***innovative RPA system design***) make completion of the units of practical competency otherwise prescribed for the RPA under subsection 2.06 (6) impossible or impracticable to meet; and
 - (b) will enable the person to achieve an acceptable level of competency for the operation of the RPA; and
 - (c) will not have any adverse effects on aviation safety.
- (3) CASA may grant an approval under subsection (2):
- (a) on written application by an approved RePL training organisation that:
 - (i) conducts a RePL training course; and
 - (ii) provides CASA with a detailed safety case; or
 - (b) on CASA's own initiative.

Note For these CASA approvals, see Division 2.04A.

CHAPTER 2 RePL TRAINING COURSE

Division 2.3 Examinations — RePL training course theory component

2.07 Aeronautical knowledge examinations for a RePL training course

This Division is for subparagraph 101.295 (2) (a) (iii) of CASR and the definition of *RPL training course* in the CASR Dictionary, in relation to the issue of an initial RePL.

2.08 Aeronautical knowledge examinations for a RePL training course

- (1) To pass the theory component of a RePL training course (the *aeronautical knowledge component*), an applicant must pass an examination (the *aeronautical knowledge examination*, or the *examination*).
- (2) The examination must be a closed-book examination except for any documents concerning the RPAS:
 - (a) authored by CASA and published on its website; or
 - (b) authored by AA and published on its website.

Note The examination is one in which the candidate must not use any RePL training course document or material, separate from the examination text, to assist in answering examination questions. However, official, online CASA and AA documents may be used.

2.09 Examination pass mark, examiner and resits

- (1) The pass mark for the examination is 85%.
- (2) The examination must be assessed by:
 - (a) a RePL training instructor; or
 - (b) the chief remote pilot for the RePL training organisation.
- (3) If an applicant does not pass the examination at the first attempt, or at a second attempt, or at a third attempt, the applicant must not make a fourth attempt to pass the examination unless:
 - (a) the applicant has repeated the aeronautical knowledge component of the RPL training course; and
 - (b) at least 14 days have elapsed since the third attempt.

2.10 Examination questions

- (1) The examination must be a set of multiple-choice questions covering all of the aeronautical knowledge units in Schedule 4 that are for the relevant category of RPA, including for automated flight management systems and liquid-fuel systems if required (the *relevant units*), for which the applicant is applying for a RePL (the *relevant RePL*).
- (1A) If the number of correctly answered questions that would be exactly 85% of the total number set would otherwise involve a decimal point, the number must be rounded upwards or downwards to the nearest whole number, as the case requires, to achieve 85% for the purposes of this MOS.

Note For example: to achieve a pass mark of 85%, the applicant must have at least 69 correct answers for an examination of 81 questions; at least 73 correct answers for an examination of 85 questions; at least 77 correct answers for an examination of 90 questions (despite the fact that 85% of 90 is 76.5) and so on.

- (2) The examination questions must be compiled as follows, based on the items in the relevant units for the relevant RePL:
 - (a) for each Priority A item in the relevant units for the relevant RePL — there must be at least 2 questions;
 - (b) for each Priority B item in the relevant units for the relevant RePL — there must be at least 1 question;
 - (c) for every 2 Priority C items in the relevant units — there must be at least 1 question.
- (3) The number of examination questions must be such as to ensure that the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) are met.

Note Depending on the relevant RePL sought a sufficient number of questions have to be formulated to ensure that the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) are met.

2.11 Examination duration

The examination must be a continuous examination that is to be completed within the period that is the sum of 15 minutes and the number of the set of questions as if that number were also minutes.

2.12 Examination question sets

- (1) The examination must be 1 of at least 4 unique sets of questions used by the RePL training organisation and, subject to subsection (5), approved in writing by CASA.
- (2) For subsection (1), each unique set of questions must:
 - (a) be comprised of multiple-choice questions in accordance with section 2.10; and
 - (b) be such that, while the same topics may be the subject of questions in some or all of the sets, no questions may appear in a set:
 - (i) in exactly the same form or presentation as in any other set; or
 - (ii) as requiring exactly the same answer, from exactly the same range of choices, as in any other set.
- (3) Each set of the 4 unique sets of questions must have a unique identification code number.
- (4) Examinations, each comprising one of the unique sets of questions, must be randomly rotated:
 - (a) for each RePL training course; and
 - (b) for each examination which an applicant is resitting.
- (5) Despite subsection (1), a RePL training organisation may, without CASA approval, modify not more than 10% of the total number of multiple-choice questions in any unique set in any 12-month period, to make the questions more effective for the examination.
- (6) CASA may, in writing, direct a RePL training organisation to modify any question, including a question modified by the organisation under subsection (5).

2.13 Examination results

Not later than 1 week after an examination, the RePL training organisation must inform each applicant in writing of their examination mark and whether or not they have passed the examination.

2.15 Examination security

- (1) To deliver a RePL training course, a RePL training organisation must comply with this section.
- (2) The RePL training organisation must ensure that the 4 unique sets of questions for examinations, and each examination question within a set:
 - (a) is subject to secure handling and custody procedures set out in the organisation's documented practices and procedures (***examination security procedures***); and
 - (b) before and after an examination commences — is not disclosed to:
 - (i) any applicant sitting the examination; or
 - (ii) any person who has not undertaken in writing to comply with the examination security procedures; and
 - (c) immediately after the examination — cannot be physically retained or electronically recorded by the applicant; and
 - (d) subject to subsection (3), at all times after the examination — cannot be obtained by any person who has not undertaken in writing to comply with the examination security procedures.
- (3) Paragraph (2) (d) does not apply in respect of a request for a copy of the examination or any question, made in writing by CASA.
- (4) The RePL training organisation must ensure that each examination is conducted in accordance with subsection (5).
- (5) For subsection (4), the conduct of the examination must:
 - (a) comply with the procedures set out in the organisation's documented practices and procedures for the conduct of examinations (***conduct of examination procedures***); and
 - (b) prevent a student who is taking the examination from:
 - (i) using any means to answer a question that is not:
 - (A) in accordance with section 2.08; or
 - (B) approved in the conduct of examination procedures; or

Note See subsection 2.08 (2): apart from documents concerning the RPAS authored by CASA or AA and published on their website, the examination is not an open-book examination.
 - (ii) being coached or prompted by any person during the examination.

2.16 Post-examination knowledge deficiency reports (KDRs)

- (1) This section applies if a candidate for an aeronautical knowledge examination passes the examination, but with a score of less than 100%.

Note The pass mark is 85%: see subsection 2.09 (1).

- (2) The RePL training organisation must, as soon as practicable:
 - (a) inform the candidate of the items of the aeronautical knowledge units with respect to which the candidate answered examination questions incorrectly (the ***knowledge deficiency***), with a view to the candidate remedying the knowledge deficiency; and
 - (b) prepare a written report (the ***knowledge deficiency report*** or ***KDR***) confirming the knowledge deficiency; and
 - (c) give a copy of the KDR to the candidate.

Note The actual questions must not be provided to the candidate — see paragraph 2.15 (2) (b).

- (3) Knowledge deficiency is remedied only if, after an oral examination:
- (a) the student has satisfied either the RePL training course instructor or the chief remote pilot (the *examiner*) that the knowledge that was the subject of the KDR has been remedied; and
 - (b) this satisfaction has been recorded in writing by the examiner.

Note A person will not be issued with a RePL unless and until the knowledge deficiency is remedied: see section 2.29.

2.17 Documented practices and procedures for examinations, KDRs etc.

The RePL training organisation must set out in its documented practices and procedures, the procedures, including timeframes where relevant, to be followed to ensure compliance with this Division.

CHAPTER 2 RePL TRAINING COURSE

Division 2.4 Practical competencies — completion of RePL training course for manual or automated operation component

2.18 Assessment of practical competencies for a RePL training course

- (1) This Division is for subparagraph 101.295 (2) (b) (i) of CASR and the definition of *RPL training course* in the CASR Dictionary, in relation to the issue of an initial RePL.
- (2) Subject to sections 2.18A and 2.19AB, to complete the RePL training course component for the operation of a category of RPA (the *practical competencies*), the applicant must be assessed as competent in each of the units in Schedule 5 (the *relevant practical competency units*) that is:
 - (a) for the relevant RPA category (including with or without a liquid-fuel system, as the case requires); and
 - (b) conducted:
 - (i) for the automated operation mode; or
 - (ii) for both the automated operation mode and the manual mode; as the case requires for the RePL that the applicant is applying for (the *relevant RePL*).
- (3) To be assessed as competent, the applicant must:
 - (a) demonstrate to a RePL training instructor all of the behaviours mentioned in each item of the relevant practical competency unit; and
 - (b) satisfy the RePL training instructor that each of the behaviours referred to in paragraph (a) has been demonstrated within the relevant tolerances, and across the range of variables, (if any), mentioned for the item; and
 - (c) having satisfied the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b), pass a RePL training course flight test in the relevant RPA, conducted in accordance with the RePL training organisation's documented practices and procedures by an examiner.
- (4) Subject to subsection (5), for subsection (3), a behaviour must be demonstrated:
 - (a) for the relevant RPA category and the relevant RePL; and
 - (b) across as many of the range of variables as the operating conditions reasonably permit.
- (5) If a variable was not selected for demonstration because operating conditions made it impossible in practice to demonstrate the variable, the RePL training instructor must:
 - (a) require the applicant to provide:
 - (i) a satisfactory computerised simulation of the flight characteristics of the RPA under the variable, using a computerised simulation system that meets the standards and requirements set out in the operator's documented practices and procedures; or
 - (ii) a detailed oral explanation of the variable, accompanied by indicative manual use of the RPA's functional elements, or a description of such use; and

- (b) certify in writing to the RePL training organisation, in accordance with the organisation's documented practices and procedures, that:
 - (i) operating conditions made it impossible in practice to demonstrate the variable; and
 - (ii) for reasons stated in the certification, it would be unreasonable to require that the variable be demonstrated on another occasion.
- (6) For paragraph (3) (b), a behaviour demonstrated outside a relevant tolerance may be considered to have been demonstrated within the tolerance if the RePL training instructor:
 - (a) is satisfied that:
 - (i) the only reason for failure to demonstrate the behaviour is the unavoidable impact of the relevant operating conditions; and
 - (ii) in the circumstances, the behaviour that was demonstrated was not so far outside the tolerance as to indicate a lack of competence in the relevant operating conditions; and
 - (b) certifies to the RePL training organisation, in accordance with the organisation's documented practices and procedures, that paragraph (a) was the case.
- (7) The training course flight test for the relevant RPA mentioned in paragraph (3) (c) must be in accordance with the flight test standards in Schedule 6.

2.18A Assessment of alternative practical competency standards for advancing technology in medium and large RPA

- (1) Despite section 2.18, to complete the RePL training course component for the operation of an RPA to which section 2.06A applies, the applicant must be assessed as competent in the relevant practical competency units and standards.
- (2) The assessment must be as follows:
 - (a) for the relevant RPA category (including with or without a liquid-fuel system, as the case requires);
 - (b) conducted:
 - (i) for the automated operation mode; or
 - (ii) for both the automated operation mode and the manual mode;
 as the case requires for the RePL that the applicant is applying for (the *relevant RePL*).
- (3) To be assessed as competent, the applicant must:
 - (a) demonstrate to a RePL training instructor all of the behaviours for the relevant practical competency units and standards, unless CASA approves in writing that the innovative RPA system design makes demonstration for a particular item impossible or impracticable; and
 - (b) satisfy the RePL training instructor that each of the behaviours referred to in paragraph (a) has been demonstrated within the relevant tolerances, and across the range of variables (if any), mentioned for the item, unless CASA approves in writing that the innovative RPA system design makes demonstration for a particular tolerance or variable impossible or impracticable; and
 - (c) having satisfied the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b), pass a RePL training course flight test in the relevant RPA, conducted, in accordance with

the documented practices and procedures of the RePL training organisation, by an examiner.

- (4) For subsection (3), a behaviour must be demonstrated:
 - (a) for the relevant RPA category and the relevant RePL; and
 - (b) across as many of the range of variables as the operating conditions and innovative RPA system design reasonably permit.
- (5) If a variable was not selected for demonstration because operating conditions made it impossible in practice to demonstrate the variable, the RePL training instructor must:
 - (a) require the applicant to provide:
 - (i) a satisfactory computerised simulation of the flight characteristics of the RPA under the variable, using a computerised simulation system that meets the standards and requirements set out in the operator's documented practices and procedures; or
 - (ii) a detailed oral explanation of the variable, accompanied by indicative manual use of the RPA's functional elements, or a description of such use; and
 - (b) certify in writing to the RePL training organisation, in accordance with the organisation's documented practices and procedures, that:
 - (i) operating conditions made it impossible in practice to demonstrate the variable; and
 - (ii) for reasons stated in the certification, it would be unreasonable to require that the variable be demonstrated on another occasion.
- (6) For paragraph (3) (b), a behaviour demonstrated outside a relevant tolerance may be considered to have been demonstrated within the tolerance if the RePL training instructor:
 - (a) is satisfied that:
 - (i) the only reason for failure to demonstrate the behaviour is the unavoidable impact of the relevant operating conditions; and
 - (ii) in the circumstances, the behaviour that was demonstrated was not so far outside the tolerance as to indicate a lack of competence in the relevant operating conditions; and
 - (b) certifies to the RePL training organisation, in accordance with the organisation's documented practices and procedures, that paragraph (a) was the case.
- (7) The training course flight test for the relevant RPA mentioned in paragraph (3) (c) must be in accordance with some or all of the relevant flight test standards in Schedule 6 as CASA approves in writing, and any other relevant standards that CASA specifically approves for a medium RPA, or a large RPA, that has particular characteristics.

CHAPTER 2 RePL TRAINING COURSE

Division 2.4A Approvals for alternative practical competency standards and assessments — innovative RPA system designs for medium and large RPA

2.18B Approvals for innovative RPA system designs for medium and large RPA

- (1) A CASA approval under subsection 2.06A (2) (including subsection 2.06A (2) as applied by section 2.19AB) must be in writing, and must identify the relevant practical competency units and standards that must be completed.
- (2) An approval under paragraph 2.18A (3) (a) or (b) (including paragraph 2.18A (3) (a) or (b) as applied by section 2.19AB) must identify (as the case requires):
 - (a) each item of the relevant practical competency units that it is impossible or impracticable to demonstrate; and
 - (b) each tolerance or variable that it is impossible or impractical to demonstrate.
- (3) An approval under subsection 2.18A (7) must identify any relevant flight test standards that it is impossible or impracticable to meet.
- (4) An approval mentioned in this section may be expressed to apply in relation to a RePL training organisation, in respect of a particular RePL applicant, or a class of such applicants, for the medium RPA or large RPA for the operation of which the relevant applicant proposes to seek a RePL.
- (5) Each approval mentioned in this section that is for a particular RePL training organisation, must:
 - (a) be contained in a single instrument for the organisation; and
 - (b) may only be granted if CASA considers that it will preserve an acceptable level of aviation safety.

Note A CASA decision to grant or refuse to grant an approval is subject to judicial review under the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977*. A decision to refuse to grant an approval is subject to merits review by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal under section 31 of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988*.

CHAPTER 2 RePL TRAINING COURSE

Division 2.5 RePL training course to upgrade a RePL

2.19AA Aeronautical knowledge examinations and assessment of practical competencies for a RePL training course to upgrade a RePL

This Division is for subparagraphs 101.295 (2) (a) (iii) and 101.295 (2) (b) (i) of CASR and the definition of *RePL training course* in the CASR Dictionary, in relation to the issue of an upgraded RePL.

2.19AB Approvals for upgrades for medium and large RPA with innovative RPA system designs

- (1) Despite sections 2.22, 2.23, 2.24 and 2.25, section 2.06A applies, with appropriate changes, to a practical training course for an upgrade to a particular medium RPA or large RPA, in accordance with subsection (2).
- (2) In paragraphs 2.06A (1) (a) and (2) (a), for the mention of “subsection 2.06 (6)”, read “Division 2.5”.
- (3) Despite section 2.18, section 2.18A applies, with appropriate changes, to a practical training course for an upgrade to a particular medium RPA or large RPA in accordance with subsection (4).
- (4) In subsection 2.18A (1), for each mention of “section 2.06A”, read “section 2.22, 2.23, 2.24 or 2.25, as affected by the application of section 2.06A,”.

Note The expression “with appropriate changes” is used as a plain English translation for the application of the legal interpretation concept embodied in the former legal phrase “*mutatis mutandis*”.

2.19 Meaning of relevant RPA

- (1) In a section of this Chapter, reference to a *relevant RPA* means the particular type of RPA for which the applicant seeks an upgraded RePL.
- (2) Without affecting anything else in this Division, for a particular type of medium or large RPA for which the applicant seeks the upgraded RePL, the following:
 - (a) the practical competency component of a RePL training course;
 - (b) the training course flight test;must be for the particular type of medium or large RPA only.

2.20 RePL training course — upgrade a RePL for a small RPA whose gross weight is less than 7 kg to include another small RPA of the same category whose gross weight is 7 kg or more

- (1) This section prescribes the standards and requirements for a RePL training course for the holder of a RePL:
 - (a) in a category of small RPA whose gross weight is less than 7 kg; and
 - (b) who applies to be a RePL holder for another small RPA in the same category whose gross weight is 7 kg or more (the *relevant RPA*).

Note There are no additional aeronautical knowledge requirements.

- (2) If the holder is applying for the first time to be a RePL holder for an RPA with a liquid-fuel system, the relevant practical components of the RePL training course must require the applicant to complete training in, and demonstrate the practical competencies required for, the relevant RPA with a liquid-fuel system under Schedule 5.

- (3) Without affecting subsection (2), the practical competency components of the RePL training course must require the applicant to pass the training course flight test for the relevant RPA, conducted by an examiner in accordance with the relevant flight test standards in Schedule 6.
- (3) The person who supervises the flying mentioned in paragraph (2) (a) must be the same person who performs the assessment of competence for paragraph (2) (b).
- (4) The person who supervises flying and assesses competency for subsections (2) and (3) must be:
 - (a) for an RPL training organisation — 1 of the following who has a RePL which permits operations in the RPA category with a gross weight of 7 kg or more:
 - (i) the chief remote pilot;
 - (ii) a RePL training instructor; or
 - (b) if not for an RPL training organisation — the chief remote pilot of a certified RPA operator who has documented practices and procedures for the purposes of this section.

2.21 RePL training course — upgrade a RePL for a small RPA to include a different category of small RPA

- (1) This section prescribes the standards and requirements for a RePL training course for the holder of a RePL in a category of small RPA who applies to be a RePL holder for a different category of small RPA (the *relevant RPA*).

Note CASA will issue a RePL with a condition that limits operations in a new category to RPA with a gross weight of less than 7 kg unless the practical component of the RePL training course is completed on an RPA in the relevant category that has a gross weight of more than 7 kg.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the aeronautical knowledge component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to complete training, and pass an examination, in all of the units of knowledge that are required for the relevant RPA under Schedule 4, except the Common units.
- (3) An applicant who holds 1 of the following:
 - (a) a flight crew licence;
 - (b) an overseas flight crew licence, or a flight crew qualification granted by the ADF, that CASA is satisfied is equivalent to a flight crew licence;

that is for a category of manned aircraft that is similar to the category of the relevant RPA, is taken to satisfy the aeronautical knowledge component of the training mentioned in subsection (2).
- (4) For subsection (2), the examination must comply with the requirements set out in the operator's documented practices and procedures dealing with the following for the examination:
 - (a) the content, including the variation and security of relevant questions;
 - (b) the pass mark, including procedures for knowledge deficiency reporting and re-examination;
 - (c) notifications and certifications for applicants, and record keeping.

Note Examinations may be oral or written but must be supported by appropriate records in accordance with the operator's documented practices and procedures.
- (5) The practical competency component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to complete training, and be assessed as competent, in all of the units of practical competency that are required for the relevant RPA under Schedule 5

(including in the manual mode of operation if the case so requires), except the Common units.

- (6) For subsection (5), the practical competency component of the RePL training course must also require the applicant to pass the training course flight test for the relevant RPA, conducted by an examiner in accordance with the relevant flight test standards in Schedule 6.

2.22 RePL training course — upgrade a RePL for a small RPA to include a medium or large RPA of the same category

- (1) This section prescribes the standards and requirements for a RePL training course for the holder of a RePL in a category of small RPA who applies to be a RePL holder for a medium or large RPA in the same category (the *relevant RPA*).
- (2) If the holder is applying for the first time to be a RePL holder for an RPA with a liquid-fuel system, the relevant aeronautical knowledge and practical components of the RePL training course must require the applicant to:
 - (a) complete training in, and pass the examination for, the units of knowledge required for the relevant RPA with a liquid-fuel system under Schedule 4; and
 - (b) complete training in, and demonstrate the practical competencies required for, the relevant RPA with a liquid-fuel system under Schedule 5.
- (3) Without affecting subsection (2), the RePL training course (including examination and assessment) must comply with the requirements in subsections (4) and (5).
- (4) The examination must comply with the requirements set out in the operator's documented practices and procedures dealing with the following for the examination:
 - (a) the content, including the variation and security of relevant questions;
 - (b) the pass mark, including procedures for knowledge deficiency reporting and re-examination;
 - (c) notifications and certifications for applicants, and record keeping.
- (5) The relevant practical competency component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to pass the training course flight test for the relevant RPA, conducted by an examiner in accordance with the relevant flight test standards in Schedule 6.

2.23 RePL training course — upgrade a RePL for a small RPA to include a medium or large RPA of a different category

- (1) This section prescribes the standards and requirements for a RePL training course for the holder of a RePL in a category of small RPA who applies to be a RePL holder for a medium or large RPA in a different category, with or without a liquid-fuel system, as the case requires (the *relevant RPA*).
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the aeronautical knowledge component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to complete training, and pass an examination, in all of the units of knowledge that are required for the relevant RPA under Schedule 4, except the Common units.
- (3) An applicant who holds 1 of the following:
 - (a) a flight crew licence;

(b) an overseas flight crew licence, or a flight crew qualification granted by the ADF, that CASA is satisfied is equivalent to a flight crew licence;

that is for a category of manned aircraft that is similar to the category of the relevant RPA, is taken to satisfy the aeronautical knowledge component of the training mentioned in subsection (2).

(4) For subsection (2), the examination must comply with the requirements set out in the operator's documented practices and procedures dealing with the following for the examination:

(a) the content, including the variation and security of relevant questions;

(b) the pass mark, including procedures for knowledge deficiency reporting and re-examination;

(c) notifications and certifications for applicants, and record keeping.

Note Examinations may be oral or written but must be supported by appropriate records in accordance with the operator's documented practices and procedures.

(5) The practical competency component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to complete training, and be assessed as competent, in all of the units of practical competency that are required for the relevant RPA under Schedule 5 (including in the manual mode of operation if the case so requires), except the Common units.

(6) Without affecting subsection (5), if the holder is applying for the first time to be a RePL holder for RPA with liquid-fuel system, the relevant aeronautical knowledge and practical components of the RePL training course must require the applicant to:

(a) complete training in, and pass the examination for, the units of knowledge required for RPA with a liquid-fuel system under Schedule 4; and

(b) complete training in, and demonstrate the practical competencies required for, RPA with a liquid-fuel system under Schedule 5.

(7) The relevant practical competency component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to pass the training course flight test for the relevant RPA, conducted by an examiner in accordance with the relevant flight test standards in Schedule 6.

2.24 RePL training course — upgrade a RePL for a medium or large RPA to include another medium or large RPA of the same category

(1) This section prescribes the standards and requirements for a RePL training course for the holder of a RePL in a category of medium or large RPA who applies to be a RePL holder for another medium or large RPA of the same category (the *relevant RPA*).

(2) If the holder is applying for the first time to be a RePL holder for RPA with liquid-fuel system, the relevant aeronautical knowledge and practical components of the RePL training course must require the applicant to:

(a) complete training in, and pass the examination for, the units of knowledge required for RPA with a liquid-fuel system under Schedule 4; and

(b) complete training in, and demonstrate the practical competencies required for, RPA with a liquid-fuel system under Schedule 5.

(3) Without affecting subsection (2), the RePL training course (including examination and assessment) must comply with the requirements in subsections (4) and (5).

- (4) The examination must comply with the requirements set out in the operator's documented practices and procedures dealing with the following for the examination:
 - (a) the content, including the variation and security of relevant questions;
 - (b) the pass mark, including procedures for knowledge deficiency reporting and re-examination;
 - (c) notifications and certifications for applicants, and record keeping.
- (5) The relevant practical competency component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to pass the training course flight test for the relevant RPA, conducted by an examiner in accordance with the relevant flight test standards in Schedule 6.

2.25 RePL training course — upgrade a RePL for a medium or large RPA to include another medium or large RPA of a different category

- (1) This section prescribes the standards and requirements for a RePL training course for the holder of a RePL in a category of medium or large RPA who applies to be a RePL holder for medium or large RPA in a different category, with or without a liquid-fuel system (the *relevant RPA*).
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the aeronautical knowledge component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to complete training, and pass an examination, in all of the units of knowledge that are required for the relevant RPA under Schedule 4, except the Common units.

Note The aeronautical knowledge component would include training and examination in a liquid-fuel system if the holder is applying for the first time to be a RePL holder for RPA with a liquid-fuel system.

- (3) An applicant who holds 1 of the following:
 - (a) a flight crew licence;
 - (b) an overseas flight crew licence, or a flight crew qualification granted by the ADF, that CASA is satisfied is equivalent to a flight crew licence;
 that is for a category of manned aircraft that is similar to the category of the relevant RPA, is taken to satisfy the aeronautical knowledge component of the training mentioned in subsection (2).
- (4) For subsection (2), the examination must comply with the requirements set out in the operator's documented practices and procedures dealing with the following for the examination:
 - (a) the content, including the variation and security of relevant questions;
 - (b) the pass mark, including procedures for knowledge deficiency reporting and re-examination;
 - (c) notifications and certifications for applicants, and record keeping.

Note Examinations may be oral or written but must be supported by appropriate records in accordance with the operator's documented practices and procedures.

- (5) The practical competency component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to complete training, and be assessed as competent, in all of the units of practical competency that are required for the relevant RPA under Schedule 5 (including in the manual mode of operation if the case so requires), except the Common units.

Note The practical competencies component would include training and demonstration of competence in a liquid-fuel system if the holder is applying for the first time to be a RePL holder for RPA with a liquid-fuel system.

- (6) The relevant practical competency component of the RePL training course must require the applicant to pass the training course flight test for the relevant RPA, conducted by an examiner in accordance with the relevant flight test standards in Schedule 6.

CHAPTER 2 RePL TRAINING COURSE

Division 2.6 RePL training course — administration

2.26 Student class time

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), to deliver the *aeronautical knowledge component* of a RePL training course for a category of RPA, a RePL training organisation must ensure that each student has not less than 15 hours of contact time with a RePL training instructor.
- (2) For a student who is receiving the *aeronautical knowledge component* of a RePL training course simultaneously for 1 category of RPA and for 1 or more additional categories, the RePL training organisation must ensure that the student has not less than the following hours of contact time with a RePL training instructor:
 - (a) 15 hours; and
 - (b) 4 additional hours for each additional category.
- (3) For subsections (1) and (2), *contact time* with a student for the aeronautical knowledge component of a RePL training course is accumulated through 1 or both of the following, namely, the instructor being:
 - (a) physically present, instructing and responding in a class room; or
 - (b) virtually present, online in real time, instructing and responding visually and with sound.
- (4) The practical competency component of a RePL training course must be delivered by a RePL training instructor who is in the physical presence of the student being trained.

2.27 Student ratios

- (1) To deliver a RePL training course, a RePL training organisation must ensure that the ratio of students to RePL training instructors is not greater than:
 - (a) for the theoretical component (aeronautical knowledge component) — 10 students to 1 instructor, unless CASA approves otherwise, in writing, in accordance with subsection (2); and
 - (b) for the practical component (practical competency component):
 - (i) subject to subparagraph (ii), 10 students to 1 instructor; and
 - (ii) for students each actually flying an RPA — 3 students to 1 instructor.
- (2) For paragraph (a), CASA may approve otherwise only if CASA is satisfied, on application, that:
 - (a) the relevant instructor has the qualifications and experience to ensure the effective delivery of the theoretical component to a larger number of students; and
 - (b) the RePL training organisation's structure and management is appropriate to support the instructor's delivery of the component to the larger number of students.

2.28 Means of achieving or simulating the flight conditions

To deliver a RePL training course for any type of RPA, including with a liquid-fuel system as the case requires (the *relevant RPA*), a RePL training organisation must ensure that there is available to each student a means of achieving or simulating the flight conditions and variables:

- (a) mentioned in each item of the practical competency units in Schedule 5 that are for the relevant RPA; and
- (b) that cannot otherwise be reasonably demonstrated.

Note The applicant must accumulate sufficient practical flying experience on the relevant category of RPA, commensurate with the size of the RPA and the complexity of the RPAS, but, in any case, not less than 5 hours' flight time under standard RPA operating conditions (in accordance with paragraph 101.295 (2) (c) of CASR). The amount of flying required for a category, size or complexity of RPA is to be as specified in the training organisation's documented practices and procedures.

2.29 Certification of RePL training course completion

- (1) An RPA training organisation must give each student who successfully completes a RePL training course a certificate of course completion which:
 - (a) identifies the RPA training organisation and the student; and
 - (b) identifies the RePL training course, and when it was completed by the student; and
 - (c) is signed and dated by the chief remote pilot of the organisation.
- (2) An RPA training organisation must not give a student a certificate of course completion until the student has, for the relevant RPA:
 - (a) passed the aeronautical knowledge examination; and
 - (b) been assessed as competent in the relevant practical competency units; and
 - (c) passed the relevant flight test; and
 - (d) remedied any knowledge deficiency.

Note For knowledge deficiency, see section 2.16.

- (3) A RePL training course, on the basis of which a person applies for a RePL, is not completed until the relevant RPA training organisation notifies CASA, in the form and manner approved in writing by CASA, that the certificate of course completion, has been issued.

Note CASA will not issue a RePL to an applicant unless CASA has received the notification.

CHAPTER 2 RePL TRAINING COURSE

Division 2.7 RePL training course instructors

2.30 Requirements for RePL training instructors

- (1) A RePL training course for a type of RPA may only be conducted by a RePL training instructor who satisfies the requirements of this section.
- (2) The RePL training instructor must comply with the following requirements:
 - (a) be employed by the RPA training organisation which is delivering the RePL training course;
 - (b) hold a RePL for the type of RPA for which they instruct;

Note Under regulation 202.455 and subregulation 202.461 (3) of CASR, if before 29 September 2016, a person was certified as a UAV controller, the certification has effect as if it were the grant of a RePL.

- (c) have 1 or more of the following:
 - (i) a pilot instructor rating issued under Part 61 of CASR;
 - (ii) a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment issued by an approved educational institution;
 - (iii) a tertiary level qualification in teaching that is recognised as such by a State or Territory government.
- (d) for delivery of the practical competency component of an RPL training course — have at least the number of hours of experience in the operation of unmanned aircraft required for the RePL training course under the RPA training organisation's documented practices and procedures;

Note Unmanned aircraft include model aircraft but not rockets, fireworks or balloons. See regulation 101.005 of CASR.
- (e) for delivery of the practical competency component of an RPL training course — have satisfied any currency and recency requirements for operation of the relevant RPA in accordance with the RePL training organisation's documented practices and procedures;
- (f) for delivery of the practical competency component of an RPL training course — have at least 20 hours of non-training operational experience in RPA operations, for an ReOC holder, in the same category of RPA as that for which the practical competencies are to be delivered.