


<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTH AFRICAN</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY</p>	<p><b>REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</b></p> <p>CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY</p> <p><b>AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR</b></p>	<p>CAA Private Bag x73 Halfway House 1685</p>
<p>Tel: (011) 545-1000 Fax: (011) 545-1465 E-Mail: mail@caa.co.za</p>		<p><b>AIC</b> <b>Series C</b> 016/2015 15 OCT 2015</p>

**PERSONNEL LICENSING**

**GENERAL**

**REMOTE PILOT LICENCE: REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING OF MEDICAL CERTIFICATE**

**1. APPLICABILITY**

- 1.1 This AIC prescribed the requirements relating to the obtaining of a Class 4 medical certificate by Remote Pilot Licence (RPL) applicants.
- 1.2 This AIC serves as a notice of a practice which the Director finds acceptable for compliance with the provisions of Regulation 67.00.5 read with Regulation 101.03.2(b) of the Civil Aviation Regulations, 2011.

**2. EFFECTIVE DATE**

15 October 2015.

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Part 101 of the Civil Aviation Regulations, 2011 (CAR, 2011) was promulgated by the Minister of Transport and came into operation on 1 July 2015. Regulation 101.03.2(b) stipulates as follows:

“(1) An applicant for an RPL shall –

- (b) (i) hold at least a valid Class 4 medical certificate for B-VLOS operations involving RPAS classified as Class 3 or higher; or
- (ii) for all other classes or types of operation, applicants are required to submit a self-declared medical assessment report as prescribed in Document SA-CATS 101 for operations involving RPAS classified as Class 2 or lower: Provided that an applicant who cannot meet the requirements of the medical assessment shall submit a Class 4 medical certificate.

3.2 Regulation 67.00.5 (1) affords any medical practitioner who is registered in terms of Section 17 of the Medical, Dental and Supplementary Health Service Professions Act, 1998 (Act No.1 of 1998), the discretion to perform a medical examination for the purpose of the issuing of a Class 4 medical certificate.

**4. ISSUING OF CLASS 4 MEDICAL CERTIFICATES FOR REMOTE PILOTS**

- 4.1 The ICAO Guideline on Remotely Piloted Aircraft systems (RPAS), Doc 10019; AN/507 recommends that applicants obtain a Class 3 medical certificate similar to that of an Air Traffic Controller. The guideline also makes reference to medical standards prescribed in Annex 1, Chapter 6, which are applicable to Pilots and Air Traffic Controllers, which in SA are prescribed in Part 67 of the Civil Aviation Regulations.
- 4.2 Annex 1, Chapter 6 stipulates that Designated Aviation Medical Examiners, who are trained in aviation medicine shall conduct medical assessment and submit medical documentation to the Medical Assessor of the Authority for verification. Annex 1, Chapter 6 also makes reference to the application of flexibility by the Designated Aviation Medical Examiner (DAME), which applies in favour of applicants who do not meet the requirements prescribed in Part 67 of the CAR, 2011.

4.3 The above mentioned ICAO document connotes that the medical examination of an RPL applicant be conducted by a DAME who is trained in aviation medicine and is familiar with the medical standards prescribed in the Civil Aviation Regulations and who, therefore, is able to exercise flexibility in the issuing of the medical certificate. This requirement is based on the fact that the RPL applicants are assessed according to the operations considerations, which includes but not limited to height, altitude, and other concepts that a general medical practitioner may not be conversant with.

4.4 Therefore, due to the reasons advanced above, the medical practitioner referred to in Regulation 67.00.5 (1) in so far as RPL applicants are concerned must be a DAME appointed by the Director.

5. **CONCLUSION**

5.1 All Class 4 medical examinations for RPL must be conducted by a DAME and an aviation medical report must be submitted to the SACAA's Aviation Medical Department for verification.

6. **QUERIES**

Any query regarding the contents of this AIC must be addresses to:

South African Civil Aviation Authority: Aviation Medicine Department  
Ikhaya Lokundiza 2  
Waterfall Park  
Bekker Street  
Midrand  
Email Address: [aviationmedicine@caa.co.za](mailto:aviationmedicine@caa.co.za)



**DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION**