

or any firm, person, corporation, or insurer related to the type certificate data and documents identified in subsection (a)(1).

“(3) AIRWORTHINESS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the holder of a type certificate identified in subsection (a)(1) shall only be responsible for Federal Aviation Administration regulation requirements related to type certificate data and documents identified in subsection (a)(1) for aircraft having a standard airworthiness certificate issued prior to the date the documents are released to a person by the Federal Aviation Administration under subsection (b)(1).”

PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT AND OVERSIGHT OF SYSTEM FOR CERTIFICATION OF DESIGN ORGANIZATIONS

Pub. L. 108-176, title II, §227(b)(1), Dec. 12, 2003, 117 Stat. 2531, provided that: “Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 12, 2003], the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall transmit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a plan for the development and oversight of a system for certification of design organizations to certify compliance with the requirements and minimum standards prescribed under section 44701(a) of title 49, United States Code, for the type certification of aircraft, aircraft engines, propellers, or appliances.”

§ 44705. Air carrier operating certificates

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall issue an air carrier operating certificate to a person desiring to operate as an air carrier when the Administrator finds, after investigation, that the person properly and adequately is equipped and able to operate safely under this part and regulations and standards prescribed under this part. An air carrier operating certificate shall—

- (1) contain terms necessary to ensure safety in air transportation; and
- (2) specify the places to and from which, and the airways of the United States over which, a person may operate as an air carrier.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1189.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
44705	49 App.:1424(b). 49 App.:1655(c)(1).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §604(b), 72 Stat. 778. Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97-449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444.

In this section, the word “Administrator” in section 604(b) of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (Public Law 85-726, 72 Stat. 778) is retained on authority of 49:106(g). Before clause (1), the words “may file with the Secretary of Transportation an application for an air carrier operating certificate” and “the requirements of” are omitted as surplus. The word “rules” is omitted as being synonymous with “regulations”. In clause (1), the words “conditions, and limitations . . . reasonably” are omitted as surplus. In clause (2), the word “places” is substituted for “points” for consistency in the revised title. The words “under an air carrier operating certificate” are omitted as surplus.

§ 44706. Airport operating certificates

(a) GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall issue an airport operating certificate to a person desiring to operate an airport—

- (1) that serves an air carrier operating aircraft designed for at least 31 passenger seats;
- (2) that is not located in the State of Alaska and serves any scheduled passenger operation of an air carrier operating aircraft designed for more than 9 passenger seats but less than 31 passenger seats; and
- (3) that the Administrator requires to have a certificate;

if the Administrator finds, after investigation, that the person properly and adequately is equipped and able to operate safely under this part and regulations and standards prescribed under this part.

(b) TERMS.—An airport operating certificate issued under this section shall contain terms necessary to ensure safety in air transportation. Unless the Administrator decides that it is not in the public interest, the terms shall include conditions related to—

- (1) operating and maintaining adequate safety equipment, including firefighting and rescue equipment capable of rapid access to any part of the airport used for landing, takeoff, or surface maneuvering of an aircraft; and
- (2) friction treatment for primary and secondary runways that the Secretary of Transportation decides is necessary.

(c) EXEMPTIONS.—The Administrator may exempt from the requirements of this section, related to firefighting and rescue equipment, an operator of an airport described in subsection (a) of this section having less than .25 percent of the total number of passenger boardings each year at all airports described in subsection (a) when the Administrator decides that the requirements are or would be unreasonably costly, burdensome, or impractical.

(d) COMMUTER AIRPORTS.—In developing the terms required by subsection (b) for airports covered by subsection (a)(2), the Administrator shall identify and consider a reasonable number of regulatory alternatives and select from such alternatives the least costly, most cost-effective or the least burdensome alternative that will provide comparable safety at airports described in subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2).

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any regulation establishing the terms required by subsection (b) for airports covered by subsection (a)(2) shall not take effect until such regulation, and a report on the economic impact of the regulation on air service to the airports covered by the rule, has been submitted to Congress and 120 days have elapsed following the date of such submission.

(f) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this title may be construed as requiring a person to obtain an airport operating certificate if such person does not desire to operate an airport described in subsection (a).

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1189; Pub. L. 104-264, title IV, §404, Oct. 9, 1996, 110 Stat. 3256.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
44706(a)	49 App.:1432(b) (1st, 2d sentences).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, 72 Stat. 731, §612(b); added May 21, 1970, Pub. L. 91-258, §51(b)(1), 84 Stat. 234; Nov. 27, 1971, Pub. L. 92-174, §5(b), 85 Stat. 492; Sept. 3, 1982, Pub. L. 97-248, §§524(f), 525(b), 96 Stat. 697.
44706(b)	49 App.:1432(b) (3d, last sentences).	
44706(c)	49 App.:1432(c).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, 72 Stat. 731, §612(c); added July 12, 1976, Pub. L. 94-353, §19(a), 90 Stat. 883; Sept. 3, 1982, Pub. L. 97-248, §525(c), 96 Stat. 697.

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “may file with the Administrator an application for an airport operating certificate” are omitted as surplus. In clause (3), the words “the requirements of” are omitted as surplus. The word “rules” is omitted as being synonymous with “regulations”.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the words “conditions, and limitations . . . reasonably” are omitted as surplus. In clause (2), the words “grooving or other” are omitted as surplus.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-264, §404(a), added par. (2), redesignated former par. (2) as (3), substituted “if” for “(3) when” in former par. (3) and adjusted the margins of that par. to make it a flush provision following par. (3).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 104-264, §404(b), added subsec. (d).
 Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 104-264, §404(c), added subsec. (e).
 Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 104-264, §404(d), added subsec. (f).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Except as otherwise specifically provided, amendment by Pub. L. 104-264 applicable only to fiscal years beginning after Sept. 30, 1996, and not to be construed as affecting funds made available for a fiscal year ending before Oct. 1, 1996, see section 3 of Pub. L. 104-264, set out as a note under section 106 of this title.

DEEMED REFERENCES TO CHAPTERS 509 AND 511 OF TITLE 51

General references to “this title” deemed to refer also to chapters 509 and 511 of Title 51, National and Commercial Space Programs, see section 4(d)(8) of Pub. L. 111-314, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

IMPROVEMENT OF RUNWAY SAFETY AREAS

Pub. L. 109-115, div. A, title I, Nov. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2401, provided in part: “That not later than December 31, 2015, the owner or operator of an airport certificated under 49 U.S.C. 44706 shall improve the airport’s runway safety areas to comply with the Federal Aviation Administration design standards required by 14 CFR part 139: *Provided further*, That the Federal Aviation Administration shall report annually to the Congress on the agency’s progress toward improving the runway safety areas at 49 U.S.C. 44706 airports.”

SMALL AIRPORT CERTIFICATION

Pub. L. 106-181, title V, §518, Apr. 5, 2000, 114 Stat. 145, provided that: “Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 5, 2000], the Administrator [of the Federal Aviation Administration] shall issue a notice of proposed rulemaking on implementing section 44706(a)(2) of title 49, United States Code, relating to issuance of airport operating certificates for small scheduled passenger air carrier operations. Not later than 1 year after the last day of the period for public comment provided for in the notice of proposed rulemaking, the Administrator shall issue a final rule on implementing such program.”

§ 44707. Examining and rating air agencies

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may examine and rate the following air agencies:

(1) civilian schools giving instruction in flying or repairing, altering, and maintaining aircraft, aircraft engines, propellers, and appliances, on the adequacy of instruction, the suitability and airworthiness of equipment, and the competency of instructors.

(2) repair stations and shops that repair, alter, and maintain aircraft, aircraft engines, propellers, and appliances, on the adequacy and suitability of the equipment, facilities, and materials for, and methods of, repair and overhaul, and the competency of the individuals doing the work or giving instruction in the work.

(3) other air agencies the Administrator decides are necessary in the public interest.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1190.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
44707	49 App.:1427 (1st sentence). 49 App.:1655(c)(1).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §607 (1st sentence), 72 Stat. 779. Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97-449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444.

In this section, the word “Administrator” in section 607 (1st sentence) of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (Public Law 85-726, 72 Stat. 779) is retained on authority of 49:106(g). In clauses (1) and (2), the word “overhaul” is omitted as surplus. In clause (1), the words “course of” are omitted as surplus. In clause (3), the words “in his opinion” are omitted as surplus.

AIRCRAFT REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE ADVISORY PANEL

Pub. L. 106-181, title VII, §734, Apr. 5, 2000, 114 Stat. 170, provided that:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PANEL.—The Administrator [of the Federal Aviation Administration]—

“(1) shall establish an aircraft repair and maintenance advisory panel to review issues related to the use and oversight of aircraft and aviation component repair and maintenance facilities (in this section referred to as ‘aircraft repair facilities’) located within, or outside of, the United States; and

“(2) may seek the advice of the panel on any issue related to methods to increase safety by improving the oversight of aircraft repair facilities.

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The panel shall consist of—

“(1) nine members appointed by the Administrator as follows:

“(A) three representatives of labor organizations representing aviation mechanics;

“(B) one representative of cargo air carriers;

“(C) one representative of passenger air carriers;

“(D) one representative of aircraft repair facilities;

“(E) one representative of aircraft manufacturers;

“(F) one representative of on-demand passenger air carriers and corporate aircraft operations; and

“(G) one representative of regional passenger air carriers;

“(2) one representative from the Department of Commerce, designated by the Secretary of Commerce;

“(3) one representative from the Department of State, designated by the Secretary of State; and

“(4) one representative from the Federal Aviation Administration, designated by the Administrator.