



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FAA-S-8081-10E

Aircraft Dispatcher

Practical Test Standards

Flight Standards Service

Washington, DC 20591

Aviation Supplies & Academics, Inc.

Newcastle, WA 98059



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

FAA-S-8081-10E

Aircraft Dispatcher Practical Test Standards

November 2023

Flight Standards Service
Washington, DC 20591

Foreword

FAA-S-8081-10E, Aircraft Dispatcher Practical Test Standards is published by the FAA to establish the standards for the aircraft dispatcher practical test. FAA inspectors and designated dispatcher examiners shall conduct practical tests in compliance with these standards. Instructors and applicants should find these standards helpful in practical test preparation.

FAA-S-8081-10E supersedes FAA-S-8081-10D, Aircraft Dispatcher Practical Test Standards with Changes 1, 2, and 3, dated May 2013.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Introduction

General Information	5
PTS Concept.....	5
PTS Description	5
Acronyms/Abbreviations	8
Use of the PTS.....	10
Special Emphasis Areas	11
Aircraft Dispatcher Certification Prerequisites	11
FAA AELS	11
Documents Required for the Practical Test	12
Examiner Responsibility.....	13
Satisfactory Performance.....	14
Unsatisfactory Performance.....	14
Notice of Disapproval	15
Letter of Discontinuance	15
DRM	15
Aeronautical Decision-Making and Risk Management	16

Areas of Operation:

I. Flight Planning/Dispatch Release	16
Task A: Regulatory Requirements	16
Task B: Meteorology.....	17
Task C: Weather Observations, Analysis, and Forecasts.....	17
Task D: Weather-Related Hazards.....	18
Task E: Aircraft Systems, Performance, and Limitations	18
Task F: Navigation and Aircraft Navigation Systems	20
Task G: Practical Dispatch Applications	20
Task H: Manuals, Handbooks, and Other Written Guidance	21
II. Preflight, Takeoff, and Departure	21
Task A: Air Traffic Control Procedures	21
Task B: Airports, Crew, and Company Procedures.....	22
III. Inflight Procedures	22
Task A: Routing, Re-Routing, and Flight Plan Filing.....	22
Task B: En Route Communication Procedures and Requirements ..	23

IV. Arrival, Approach, and Landing Procedures 23
 Task A: ATC and Air Navigation Procedures..... 23

V. Post-Flight Procedures..... 23
 Task A: Communication Procedures and Requirements 23
 Task B: Flight Documentation 24

VI. Abnormal and Emergency Procedures..... 24
 Task A: Abnormal and Emergency Procedures 24

SAMPLE

Aeronautical Decision-Making and Risk Management

The examiner shall evaluate the applicant's ability throughout the practical test to use good aeronautical decision-making procedures in order to evaluate risks. The examiner shall accomplish this requirement by developing scenarios that incorporate as many Tasks as possible to evaluate the applicant's risk management skills in making safe aeronautical decisions. For example, the examiner may develop a scenario that incorporates weather decisions and performance planning. The applicant's ability to utilize all the assets available in making a risk analysis to determine the safest course of action is essential for satisfactory performance. The scenarios should be realistic and within the capabilities of the aircraft and company operations used for the practical test.

Areas of Operation:

I. Flight Planning/Dispatch Release

Task A: Regulatory Requirements

References: 14 CFR parts 1, 25, 61, 65 subpart C and Appendix A, 71, 91, 121, and 139; 49 CFR parts 175, 830, and 1544; AC 91-70; General Operations Manual; Operations Specifications.

Note: Where appropriate, questions on other Areas of Operation may be based on the assigned flight.

Objective: To determine the applicant:

1. Can explain the regulatory requirements for obtaining an aircraft dispatcher certificate and discuss why air carriers employ dispatchers.
2. Exhibits adequate knowledge of the elements of flight planning and dispatch release(s) by preparing a flight plan, load manifest, takeoff data information, and dispatch release for a flight between designated airports.
3. Is able to plan the flight in accordance with regulatory requirements, operations specifications, and company procedures and provide all required information for that flight to the PIC.
4. Can recognize additional information that may affect the safety of the flight during flight and provide that information to the PIC in a timely manner.

Task B: Meteorology

References: 14 CFR part 65 subpart C and Appendix A and 14 CFR part 121; FAA-H-8083-25, FAA-H- 8083-28; AIM.

Objective: To determine, through oral questioning and the flight plan/dispatch release exercise, the applicant:

1. Understands and can explain elements of basic weather studies and weather theory, such as the Earth's motion and its effects on weather.
2. Demonstrates adequate knowledge of regional and local weather types, structures and characteristics of the atmosphere, application and briefing of the flight plan/dispatch release exercise, including—
 - a. Pressure.
 - b. Wind.
 - c. Clouds.
 - d. Fog.
 - e. Ice.
 - f. Air masses.
 - g. Fronts.

Task C: Weather Observations, Analysis, and Forecasts

References: 14 CFR part 65 subpart C and Appendix A and 14 CFR part 121; FAA-H-8083-25, FAA-H- 8083-28; AC 120-60, AC 120-117; AIM.

Note: Where current weather reports, forecasts, or other pertinent information are not available, this information shall be simulated by the examiner in a manner that adequately measures the applicant's competence. Examples of aviation weather information are indicated within parentheses below, as appropriate.

Objective: To determine, through oral questioning and the flight plan/dispatch release exercise, the applicant:

1. Exhibits adequate knowledge of the elements of aviation weather information by obtaining, reading, and analyzing the applicable items, such as—
2. Aviation weather reports and forecasts (ATIS, METAR, SPECI, TAF, GFA, FB, CWSU, MIS, GTG- 2, CWA, WH, AC, WW, AWW).
3. PIREPS, satellite weather imagery.
4. Surface analysis charts.
5. SIG WX.
6. FB.
7. Freezing level charts (FB, GFA, surface analysis chart, constant pressure charts).
8. Composite moisture stability charts.
9. Weather depiction charts.

Aircraft Dispatcher Practical Test Standards

FAA-S-8081-10E

FAA Certification Standards available from ASA:

Airman Certification Standards

- **Private Pilot** Airplane
- **Private Pilot** Rotorcraft Helicopter
- **Instrument Rating** Airplane
- **Instrument Rating** Helicopter
- **Commercial Pilot** Airplane
- **Commercial Pilot** Rotorcraft Helicopter
- **Flight Instructor** Airplane
- **Flight Instructor** Rotorcraft Helicopter
- **Airline Transport Pilot and Type Rating** Airplane
- **Remote Pilot** Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems
- **Aviation Mechanic** General, Airframe, Powerplant

Practical Test Standards

- **Aircraft Dispatcher**
- **Flight Instructor** Instrument Airplane & Helicopter

Visit asa2fly.com/ptsupdate for FAA revisions affecting this title.



Aviation Supplies & Academics, Inc.
7005 132nd Place SE
Newcastle, Washington 98059 USA
425-235-1500 | asa2fly.com

ASA-8081-10E