

Wing Tips

THE AEROSPACE EDUCATION NEWSLETTER OF NEW YORK WING SPRING 2012

Westchester County Airport: 24 Loop Road, Bldg 1; White Plains, NY 10604-1218
Lt Col Marilyn Rey, CAP, DAE Lt Col George Fillgrove, CAP, assist. DAE

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TEACHER ORIENTATION PROGRAM FLIGHTS

Those units that want to get involved in this program should be aware of the reasons for the requirements that the Orientation Pilot for TOP Flights must have a Commercial Pilot rating. The new CAPR 60-1 makes it clear that this is a requirement. Here is the explanation of the reasoning behind this new rule from NHQ OPS:

1. Civil Air Patrol's FAA exemption number 6771 to FAR Part 61.113(e) allows CAP members who are private pilots to receive reimbursement for certain expenses incurred while conducting Air Force assigned CAP missions and to log the flight time of these missions. The reimbursement portion of the exemption only applies to Air Force assigned missions (A & B missions) and is not valid for corporate or "C" missions. Commercial pilots are permitted to receive compensation including logging of flight time on all CAP corporate missions.
2. CAP's Teacher Orientation Program (TOP) flights are of specific concern since these corporate flights are typically funded by NHQ, a CAP unit or wing or even an external organization. To ensure that CAP remains within the parameters of FAR 61.113, please be especially aware that TOP sorties must be flown by pilots with a commercial rating unless the pilot is bearing his pro rata share of the cost of the flight.
3. Pilots should review the exemption and applicable FARs anytime they are scheduled for a mission where the pilot is not paying all of the costs of the flight. A copy of exemption 6771 may be found under the CAP Pilots section of capmembers.com. Look for the FAA Exemptions and non-CAP Passenger Requirements link under the Special Operations section.

New York Wing wants to be sure that the teachers that you select for this privilege are genuine AEMs, not just teachers that you recruit with the specific promise that they will get a nice Orientation Flight.

When you do have an eligible teacher, please contact Lt Col Bill Hughes, NY Wing Director of Operations, who will be able to find a pilot with the appropriate qualifications and also request the necessary funding from NHQ.

AEROSPACE EDUCATION EXCELLENCE (AEX)

CAPR 52-16 page 3 requires that: "Each unit that has cadet members will conduct at least one AEX activity per quarter."

CAPP 15 page 13 says: AEX activities come from the five AEX books. "Even though each book was written for a particular audience, the activities can be adjusted for different age groups." . . . "Not all activities have to be taken from the AEX books." . . . "If you are unsure as to whether a particular AEX lesson (not from an AEX book) is acceptable, email HQ CAP/AE at aex@capnhq.gov"

The formal AEX Award Program begins anytime after October 1st and ends by September 30th of the following year. Six Activities must be completed plus a two-hour Aerospace Education Day which can be a model rocket launch, an aerospace museum field trip, etc. The Award consists of a plaque for the unit and a certificate for each participant. To apply and get the book, the AEO or Commander should go to www.capmembers.com and follow Aerospace Education links.

AEX II Volumes I and II are intended for CAP Cadets and secondary school (high school) students. These books use projects based upon games and activities using scratch-built toys in support of STEM concepts. Most projects go with a short narrative of historical or biographical interest.

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