

**“Flying is the second greatest thrill known to man. Landing is the first.”**

At Southern Maine Aviation, we'll teach you how to do both, safely and with confidence.



Learning to fly can be a life changing experience. The freedom of movement in 3 dimensions and seeing the planet from the vantage point of a small plane will definitely change your perspective of the world around you.

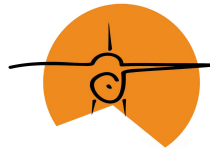
Obtaining a pilot license is not an impossible goal. It is a new world, however, requiring a new set of skills. The rewards for learning those skills are well worth the commitment.

## **HOW DO I SIGN UP?**

Call Southern Maine Aviation and ask to be put on the schedule for a Discovery Flight. It is possible to take a flight the day you call, but it is better to call a few days in advance.

## **HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?**

We love flying and love talking about flying. Come down to Southern Maine Aviation and say hi. Walk-ins are welcome, but it would be better to call ahead and schedule a FREE tour of our facility with an instructor. You can call our Chief Flight Instructor, Andrew Button, at 480-721-7064 with any questions.



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Office open daily from 7am to 5pm (7am to 7pm Memorial Day through Labor Day) or by appointment



# **It's Time You Learned to Fly!**



## **How do you get started?**

### **Step #1: Pick up this Brochure.**



## Frequently Asked Questions!

### WHAT AGE SHOULD I BE TO LEARN TO FLY?

We have had students as young as 12 and as old as 92. It is a good idea to be tall enough to be able to reach the rudder pedals. The FAA requires a pilot to be at least 16 years of age to solo and 17 years of age to take the practical test.

### WHAT IS A “DISCOVERY FLIGHT”?

**A Discovery Flight is your first flight lesson.** It is your introduction to the airplane and the world of flight. Actual flight time is about 30 minutes, during which the student takes the controls for some basic flight maneuvers. The instructor handles the take off and landing, with the student following along on the controls. At the end of the flight there will be a debriefing to go over the flight and to plan for your next lesson. Allow about one and a half hours. The cost is \$99 and includes your first logbook.

### WHAT DAYS AND TIMES ARE LESSONS SCHEDULED?

We are open 7 days a week, 7 am to 5 pm. In the summer we are open until 7pm. You can arrange for a lesson any time in that block, or after hours by prior arrangement with your instructor.

### WHAT DO I NEED TO START FLYING LESSONS?

We supply the airplane and headset. You'll need to be comfortably and appropriately dressed for seasonal weather. Sunglasses are a nice accessory on sunny days, but not required.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET A PRIVATE PILOT CERTIFICATE?

The FAA requires a minimum of 40 hours of instruction and experience for a private pilot certificate. Most pilots require 60 or more flight hours to prepare them for their practical test. A lesson usually includes one hour of flying. We recommend 3 to 4 lessons a week, but some students pace it at one or two lessons a month.

### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Aircraft Rental	\$8,400 60 hrs @140.00/hr
Flight Instructor Time	\$1,500 30 hours @\$50/hr
Books, test fees, misc.	\$800
Total	\$10,700

Note: Cost shown are estimates and are based on typical hours, not minimum requirements. Prices are subject to change.

### WHEN DO I GET TO FLY BY MYSELF?

This will happen after both you and your instructor feel you are ready. The FAA requires you to have passed your flight physical, be 16 years of age, and your instructor has signed an endorsement in your logbook that you are ready. That first flight alone is referred to as your “Solo” and generally happens after 12 to 20 hours of instruction.

### SHOULD I TAKE GROUND SCHOOL BEFORE I START FLYING?

There is no need for any bookwork before you take your first flight. There is some studying involved in flying, to learn the regulations and the inner workings of an airplane, but that can be done as you work on developing your flying skills. The FAA has a required written test, but it's multiple choice and they tell you the questions and possible answers beforehand, so don't sweat it. There are a lot of study aids, videos and classes available to help you learn the material. We can help you find one that works for your learning style.

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PRIVATE PILOT CERTIFICATE?

We make our aircraft available for rent to licensed pilots for anything from a quick flight along the coast to a month long trip to explore the west. There are thousands of public airports in the United States hoping you'll stop by.

### WHAT TYPE OF AIRCRAFT WILL I BE FLYING?

Most of our students start their lessons in one of our Cessna 172's. These high wing four seat aluminum airplanes are known as “Skyhawks”. They are comfortable,

predictable and very well built, making them one of the most popular – and safe – training aircraft ever built.

Some pilots really love to fly tailwheel airplanes and for them we have a Citabria. Ours was built in 2004, though the design dates back to Grandpa's time. It is truly "stick and rudder" flying, with fantastic visibility.

## **WHAT HAPPENS IF THE WEATHER IS BAD?**

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We want flight training to be safe AND fun. It isn't safe if thunderstorms are in the area or the clouds are low. It isn't fun if it is really windy or turbulent or cold. Book your lesson when you can and if the weather is outside your comfort zone (or ours), we'll just cancel the lesson and fly on another day.