

**Civil Aviation Act, 2016**  
**Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017**  
**Regulation 27**  
**CAGR, 2017 Schedules 2,3,5,6,7,8,9,12,14,20**

**General Exemption – COVID-19**

**Extension of Validity Periods for Licenses, Ratings and Certificates issued pursuant to the Bahamas Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

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1. In response to the exceptional circumstances caused by the Covid-19 outbreak and in line with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and International Air Transport Association (IATA) guidelines, the Civil Aviation Authority of The Bahamas ('the BCAA'), on behalf of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and pursuant to regulation 27 of the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017), exempts all aircraft owners and operators, aircrew, air traffic controllers, instructors, examiners, aviation maintenance and training license and certificate holders, for whom the BCAA is the Competent Authority, wherever normal revalidation facilities are not available, from the requirements detailed in paragraphs 2 to 5 herein, as appropriate, subject to any conditions therein.

**2. Validity period of licenses, ratings and certificates issued in accordance with Schedule 8 to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

2.1 Subject to the conditions in 2.2, aircrew are exempted from the standard validity periods of the following ratings or certificates, that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption:

- (a) class ratings, type ratings and instrument ratings endorsed on commercial pilot licenses (CPL, MCL, ATPL) for operating aeroplanes representing those classes and types within an organization for which Schedule 8 Subdivisions IV, V and VI of CAGR,2017 are applicable;
- (b) valid Schedule 2.015(a)(1) Class 1 medical certificates of holders of the ratings and certificates specified in (a) and (c);
- (c) Schedule 8 Subdivision VII flight instructor and Schedule 14 Subpart I Check Airman certificates the holders of which are involved in training and checking of holders of the class ratings, type ratings and instrument ratings specified in (a) above;
- (d) language proficiency endorsements as per Schedule 8.205; and
- (e) valid medical certificates of cabin crew as per Schedule 2.015(a)(2)(v).

2.2 The conditions mentioned in 2.1 are that:

(a) Schedule 8 Subdivision IV, V and VI Flight Crew license holders shall comply with the following:

- (i) hold a valid class or type rating and instrument rating if applicable;
  - (ii) operate under the management system of an organization for which Schedules 8 and 14 are applicable;
- and

(iii) have received refresher training, followed by the completion of an assessment by means established by the operator to determine that the required level of knowledge to operate the applicable class or type has been maintained. That assessment shall include class or type specific abnormal and emergency procedures.

(b) Upon successful completion of the refresher training and the assessment as per (a)(iii), the license shall be endorsed with the new expiry date preferably by a type rating examiner (TRE) nominated by the operator, or exceptionally the BCAA. (See Note 4)

(c) **Schedule 8 Subdivision VII Flight Crew license instructor and Schedule 14 Subpart I Check Airman certificate holders** shall hold a valid instructor and, if applicable, a valid examiner certificate. An appropriately qualified TRE or Senior Examiner, nominated by the operator, or exceptionally the BCAA, shall endorse the certificate with the new expiry date. (See Note 4)

(d) **Schedule 2.015(a)(1) Class 1 medical certificate holders** who are under additional medical surveillance (e.g. by their AME or the BCAA) should continue to comply with the specified requirements (e.g. provision of reports) imposed by their AME or the BCAA. Failure to do so may invalidate their medical certificate and/or the applicability of this exemption to them. If difficulties arise the certificate holder should contact their AME who may need to be advised by the BCAA. (See Note 4)

(e) **Schedule 2.015(a)(2)(v) cabin crew medical certificate holders** who are under additional medical surveillance (e.g. by their AME or the BCAA) should continue to comply with the specified requirements (e.g. provision of reports) imposed by their AME or the BCAA. Failure to do so may invalidate their medical certificate and/or the applicability of this exemption to them. If difficulties arise the certificate holder should contact their AME who may need to be advised by the BCAA. (See Note 4)

### **3. Validity period of training and checking in accordance with Schedule 14 to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

3.1 Subject to the conditions in 3.2, operators are exempted from the standard validity periods of training and checking, as set out in the applicable training and checking requirements of Schedule 14 Subparts E,F,G,H and I listed below and that expire before **31 October 2020**. Validity periods may be extended to the end of the validity period of this Exemption for all of the following:

- (a) operator proficiency checks (OPC);
- (b) operator line-oriented evaluation if applicable;
- (c) operator line checks (LC);
- (d) operator emergency and safety equipment training;
- (e) operator crew resource management recurrent training;
- (f) operator recurrent training and checking;
- (g) operator ground and flight training;
- (h) operator cabin crew member recurrent training and checking; and
- (i) operator technical crew member recurrent training;

3.2 The conditions mentioned in 3.1 are that:

- (a) for operator proficiency checks (OPC), line-oriented evaluation, as well as line checks if applicable,

the **operator** shall ensure that flight crew benefitting from this exemption shall comply with paragraph 2.2(a) above and any additional Schedule 14 related exercises, as appropriate; and

(b) for flight crew member operator emergency and safety equipment training, crew resource management recurrent training, ground and flight training, cabin crew member recurrent training and checking, technical crew member recurrent training, crew resource management recurrent training, the **operator** shall ensure all members complete additional training through any means.

**4. Validity of licenses, endorsements and certificates issued in accordance with Schedule 8 Subdivision IX to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

4.1 Subject to the conditions in 4.2, **Air Traffic Controller's (ATCs)** are exempted from the standard validity periods of the following endorsements or certificates that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended to the end of the validity period of this Exemption for all of the following:

- (a) ATC endorsements.
- (b) valid Schedule Class 3 medical certificates.
- (c) ATC language proficiency endorsements.
- (d) ATC on-the-job-training instructor endorsement.;
- (e) ATC synthetic training device instructor endorsement; and
- (f) ATC assessor endorsement.

4.2 The conditions mentioned in 4.1 are that:

- (a) Schedule 2.015(a)(3) **Class 3 medical certificate holders** who are under additional medical surveillance (e.g. by their AME or the BCAA) should continue to comply with the specified requirements (e.g. provision of reports) imposed by their AME or the BCAA. Failure to do so may invalidate their medical certificate and/or the applicability of this exemption to them. If difficulties arise the certificate holder should contact their AME who may need to be advised by the BCAA; (See Note 4)
- (b) for **ATC unit endorsement** in ATC licenses, **Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSP)** should ensure that the potential unavailability of Synthetic Training Devices is mitigated by other means, e.g. computer-based training or the rescheduling of refresher training as soon as possible; and
- (c) for **ATC language proficiency endorsements**, the ANSPs should ensure that in the case of unavailability of a Language Assessment Body (LAB), language training is achieved through other means, e.g. online courses.

**5. Validity of Aviation Maintenance Organizations (AMO) issued in accordance with Schedule 6 Subpart C to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

5.1 Subject to the conditions in 5.2, aviation maintenance organization certificate holders are exempted from the standard validity period of their certificate issued in accordance with Schedule 6 Subpart C and that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption.

5.2 Schedule 6 Subpart C aviation maintenance organization certificate holders shall only exercise the certification privileges associated with their certificate.

**6. Validity of Aviation Maintenance Technician licenses issued in accordance with Schedule 8 Subdivision IV to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

6.1 Subject to the conditions in 6.2, aviation maintenance technician license holders are exempted from the standard validity period of their licenses issued in accordance with Schedule 8 Subdivision IV and that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption.

6.2 Schedule 8 Subdivision IV aviation maintenance technician license holders shall only exercise the certification privileges associated with their license.

**7. Extension of Validity Periods for the registration of aircraft issued in accordance with Schedule 3 Subpart B to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

7.1 Aircraft owners are exempted from the standard validity period of their certificate of registration issued in accordance with Schedule 3 Subpart B and that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption.

**8. Extension of Validity Periods of Certificates of Airworthiness of aircraft issued in accordance with Schedule 5 Subpart B to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

8.1 Subject to the conditions in 8.2, aircraft owners and operators are exempted from the standard validity period of their certificate of airworthiness issued in accordance with Schedule 5 Subpart B and that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption.

8.2 Aircraft owners and operators must ensure that at all times during the operation of their aircraft that they comply with the continuous airworthiness responsibilities and requirements in accordance with Schedule 5 Subpart C.

**9. Extension of Validity Periods of Aircraft Radio Licenses issued in accordance with Schedule 7 Subpart C to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

9.1 Subject to the conditions in 9.2, aircraft owners and operators are exempted from the standard validity period of their aircraft radio licenses issued in accordance with Schedule 7 Subpart C and that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption.

9.2 Aircraft owners and operators must ensure that at all times during the operation of their aircraft that they comply with the operational requirements for aircraft radio communication in accordance with Schedule 7.095.

**10. Validity of Approved Training Organizations (ATO) issued in accordance with Schedule 9 Subpart B to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

10.1 Subject to the conditions in 10.2, approved training organization certificate holders are exempted from the standard validity period of their certificate issued in accordance with Schedule 9 Subpart B and that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption.

10.2 Schedule 9 Subpart B approved training organization certificate holders shall only exercise the certification privileges associated with their certificate.

**11. Extension of Validity Periods of Air Operator Certificates (AOC'S) issued in accordance with Schedule 12 Subpart B to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

11.1 Subject to the conditions in 11.2, air operator certificate holders are exempted from the standard validity period of their Air Operator Certificate (AOC) issued in accordance with Schedule 12 Subpart B and that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption.

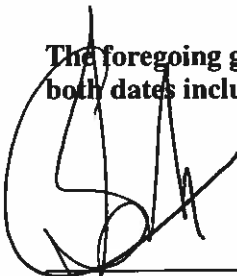
11.2 Air operator certificate holders must ensure that at all times during the operation of their aircraft that they comply with the AOC terms and conditions of issuance and maintenance requirements in accordance with Schedule 12.015.

**12. Extension of Validity Periods of Foreign Air Operator Certificates (AOC'S) issued in accordance with Schedule 20 Subpart F to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017).**

12.1 Subject to the conditions in 12.2, foreign air operator certificate holders are exempted from the standard validity period of their Foreign Air Operator Certificate (AOC) issued in accordance with Schedule 20 Subpart F and that expire before **31 October 2020**, which may be extended until the end of the validity period of this Exemption.

12.2 Foreign air operator certificate holders must ensure that at all times during the operation of their aircraft that they comply with the Foreign AOC terms and conditions of issuance in accordance with Schedule 20.180.

**The foregoing general exemptions have effect from the date they are signed until 30 October 2020, both dates inclusive, unless previously revoked.**



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**Captain Charles B. Beneby**  
Director General  
Civil Aviation Authority of The Bahamas

15<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Notes:

1. The BCAA is aware that operators and individual license holders may have difficulties in completing training and checking during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic and issues this exemption in line with guidance from ICAO, IATA and templates devised and provided by other Member States.
2. Any questions or queries regarding the application of this exemption should be made, in the first instance, to the relevant POI, Medical Examiner or Air Traffic Regional Office. Alternatively, contact the BCAA for general queries or for licensing or medical specific queries at [daxton.bethell@bcaabahamas.com](mailto:daxton.bethell@bcaabahamas.com).
3. This Exemption will be kept under constant review by the BCAA who will react as required as the circumstances in regard to COVID -19 change.
4. Recording of extension of privileges:
  - (a) License holders: Recording the extension of the validity period of the rating privileges for license holders is to be inserted on the Certificate of Revalidation page of the license, the Rating Certificate Endorsement to show the relevant endorsement as would normally be entered. At the Date of Rating Test and/or Date of IR Test as applicable, enter "BCAA COVID -19", at 'Valid' enter the new expiry date as permitted by this exemption, the Examiner's Certificate Number and Examiner's Certificate and signed entries will be completed as normal.
  - (b) Examiner certificate holders: Recording the extension of the validity period of privileges for examiner certificate holders, the authorized person is to enter on the Examiner's Certificate 'Extended to DD/MM/YYYY as permitted by "BCAA COVID -19" stating their Examiner's Certificate Number and signed.
  - (c) Operators: Organizations using this exemption for their license holders are to provide a spreadsheet monthly to the BCAA via [daxton.bethell@bcaabahamas.com](mailto:daxton.bethell@bcaabahamas.com) detailing the revalidations.
  - (d) To demonstrate compliance with CAGR, 2017 all Aircrew and ATC's should carry their (expired) medical certificate and a copy of the exemption notice as part of their license.
  - (e) Every individual, operator or organization that takes advantage of this general exemption must notify the BCAA, for recording purposes, indicating the type of exemption, the individual, operator or organization affected for recording purposes.