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Civil Aviation Authority Bahamas Act, 2021 Civil Aviation Act, 2021 Civil Aviation Regulations, (CARs) 2021 Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017)

FINAL Extension - General Exemption - COVID-19

FINAL Extension of Validity Periods for Licences, Ratings and Certificates

1. In response to the exceptional circumstances that continue to be caused to civil air transport operations by the Covid-19 outbreak and in line with International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) recommended operational measures to ensure safe operations during the Covid -19 pandemic, the Civil Aviation Authority Bahamas ('the CAA-B'), on behalf of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and pursuant to Section 18 of the Civil Aviation Authority Bahamas Act, 2021 and previously pursuant to the Civil Aviation (General) Regulations, 2017 (CAGR 2017) now exempts all aircraft owners and operators, aircrew, air traffic controllers, instructors, examiners, check airmen, aviation maintenance and training licence and certificate holders, for whom the CAA-B is the Competent Authority, wherever normal revalidation facilities are not available, from the requirements detailed in the GENERAL EXEMPTION EXTENSION – COVID-19 issued on the 6th October 2020 (subject to the conditions set out in 2.2 of GENERAL EXEMPTION—COVID-19 issued on the 15th May, 2020) until the 30th June 2021 unless previously revoked.

No further extension of Validity Periods for medical certificates.

2. It is hereby confirmed that the exemption from the standard validity periods for ALL medical certificates expired on the 30th October 2020.

New expiration date for General Exemptions

3. The general exemptions issued on the 6^{th} October 2020 will now have effect until the 30^{th} June 2021, unless previously revoked.

Exemptions from Operating Regulations after 30th June 2021

- 4. (i) Effect 1st July 2021, the Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority Bahamas ('the CAA-B'), pursuant to section 18 of the Civil Aviation Authority Bahamas Act, 2021, may upon application to the Director General exempt an aircraft or person from the provisions of any operating regulations. In granting an exemption to any aircraft or person, the Director General shall ensure that the exemption required is in the public interest and will not adversely affect aviation safety or security.
- (ii) Any aircraft operator or person requiring an exemption from the Operating Regulations for an aircraft or person, should make the appropriate application to the Director General, not less than twenty-one (21) prior to the date that the exemption is required, which application must make specific reference to the provision(s) of the operating regulation from which the exemption is required, along with written justification for the exemption and any supporting documentation.
- (iii) The Director General will use his best endeavours to consider applications for exemptions from the Operating Regulations and make his decision prior to the date the exemption is required. All exemptions granted shall be for the specific purpose required or as may be varied by the Director General and shall be of limited duration, with an expiration date.
- (iv) Applicants should take note that the Director General will not approve any application for an exemption from the Operating Regulations which are not considered to be in the Public Interest, or which will adversely affect aviation safety and security.

Targeted Exemptions (TE) System

5. The CAA-B continues to consider ICAO's Targeted Exemptions (TE) system which ICAO recommends Member States to implement for international operators as of 1st July 2021. The CAA-B intends to implement ICAO's Targeted Exemptions (TE) system in part by or about 1st July 2021.

Michael F. L. Allen

Director General
Civil Aviation Authority Bahamas
28th May 2021