NVG Vendor Training for FAR 135

The following guidance is provided by the Federal Aviation Administration as the minimum requirement to provide Part 135 training to NVG personnel for operations using Night Vision Goggles (NVGs) under FAR Part 135. The Order outlines minimum criteria a training vendor must meet to provide NVG training under an FAA approved Part 135 NVG training program. The information contained was taken directly from the FAA Order 8900.1 Volume 4, Chapter 7, Section 4 accessible by visiting http://www.faa.gov.

FAA Order 8900.1 Training Program Requirements (NVG Part 135)

1) HNVGO is an advancing field of civil helicopter operations. Some certificated operators may not have the expertise to effectively conduct an NVG ground curriculum without using a contract-training provider. A training vendor, with special qualifications in HNVGO, may contract with an operator to conduct the ground training in accordance with part 135, § 135.323(a)(2) and Volume 3, Chapter 20, Section 1.

2) Company flight instructors and check airmen must meet the requirements of part 135, §§ 135.337 through 135.340 and Volume 3, Chapter 20, Section 1, paragraph 3 1387. A training vendor cannot conduct any flight training unless the vendor meets the requirements of § 135.324(a).

This section of the regulations states “Other than the certificate holder, only another certificate holder certificated under this part or a training center certificated under part 142 of this chapter is eligible under this subpart to conduct training, testing, and checking under contract or other arrangement to those persons subject to the requirements of this subpart.” Any training vendor who does not hold an operating certificate and OpSpecs for the same type of operation for which training is provided, or does not hold a part 142 training center certificate, with approved courses applicable to the training provided, must be qualified as a pilot and flight instructor for operations by the certificate holder.


Policy pertaining to NVG contract flight instructors and contract NVG check airmen is covered in Volume 3, Chapter 54, Section 5. This section also applies to vendors (other part 135 or 142 certificate holders) who provide outsourced contract training and checking. Additional guidance pertaining to outsource training can be found on the AFS 210 Web site (http://www.faa.gov/pilots/training/part_142/).

3) The POI should observe all ground and flight training curricula with the operator’s initial cadre crewmembers. This procedure allows the responsible inspectors to evaluate and make recommendations for improvements in training in a very timely manner.
4) The final portion of this phase is completion of the qualification segment. An FAA aviation safety inspector (ASI) or NRS will conduct or observe the conduct of the initial cadre pilot qualification checks, including any check airman evaluations for the initial cadre of check airmen. The ASI/NRS must be current in the general helicopter tasks and the HNVGO tasks as required by FAA Order 4040.9 in order to accomplish qualification checks.

Source: FAA

Learn More

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