



Instructor Internship Program (IIP)

formerly known as ACP

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Instructor Internship Program?

The Instructor Internship Program (IIP) allows a qualified international student to develop the skills of a professional pilot by training to become a flight/ground instructor and act as an intern (paid or unpaid) performing the duties of a flight and ground instructor.

What does the training consist of?

The standard IIP consists of 100 hours of flight training. The flight training consists of an FAA flight review (to validate the Private Pilot Certificate based on a foreign license), an instrument rating, a commercial single-engine pilot certificate, a certified flight instructor-airplane certificate, and the certified flight instructor-instrument rating.

The remaining approximately 800 clock hours consist of class room/ground school theory, briefings (pre/post, expanded, etc.), testing workshops, study sessions, lectures, tutoring, teaching practicums, etc.

Upon successful completion of the training portion of the program the student will be evaluated to determine eligibility for the internship portion of the program. This eligibility is based, but not limited to, how the student performs during the training and the level of success the individual achieved.

When does the internship portion of the program begin?

Prior to being considered eligible for an internship the student must complete a minimum of training. Per 34 CFR 668.3, 900 clock hours of study in a minimum of 26 weeks must be completed before a student will be considered eligible for an instructor internship.

Are these internships paid?

SAA strives to provide paid internships for all program participants. However, paid internship eligibility is based, but not limited to, how the student performs during the training and the level of success the individual achieved. Not all program participants will be eligible for or offered a paid internship.

However, all program participants are eligible for unpaid internships where they may improve their skill set and ultimately be offered a paid internship.

What are the standard entrance requirements for the IIP?

The standard program is for an individual who already holds an ICAO Commercial Pilot's Certificate. Prerequisites include ICAO CPL/IR and a FAA Private Pilot's Certificate.* A minimum of 190 hours total flight time is required; of these 190 hours no more than 36 hours may be in an FAA qualified level 3 flight training device (FTD) and a minimum of 39 hours as pilot-in-command cross-country time is also required. **



What if I don't have all of the certificates, ratings, or experience?

Individuals who do not have all of the certificates, ratings, or experience may apply. These applicants will be considered for the program on a case-by-case basis.

If an applicant who does not have all of the certificates, ratings, or experience is accepted, additional flight and ground training at an additional cost will be necessary. This additional training will be counted toward the 900 clock hour requirement.

What if I already have some of the certificates, ratings, or experience acquired during this program?

Unfortunately, SAA may not give credit for certificates, ratings or experience that an individual applicant may already have. All program participants must complete the entire program.

How do I apply?

Please contact SAA at admissions@scanavia.com to receive an application. Complete the application and return via email to admissions@scanavia.com.

Is everyone accepted into the program?

No, the IIP is competitive and acceptance is limited. All applicants will be required to undergo aptitude testing and an interview.

If accepted when can I start?

The IIP starts 4 times per year, approximately every 3 months. Please visit our website or contact SAA at admissions@scanavia.com for the next start date.

What Visa is required to be issued for this program?

This program requires the issuance of an F-1 Visa. Specific requirements, initially and continually, are required to be met in order to be and remain eligible for the F-1 Visa. Contact your Primary Designated School Officer (PDSO) or the Sevis website at <https://www.ice.gov/sevis> for additional information.

*The student will first apply to the FAA for a private pilot certificate based on a foreign license. The FAA may issue a PPL based on an ICAO Sanctioned pilot's license. The student must obtain a letter of authenticity from the FAA in order to complete this process.

**FAA cross-country definition per FAR 61.1- For the purpose of meeting the aeronautical experience requirements for a private pilot certificate, a commercial pilot certificate, or an instrument rating, time acquired during a flight—(A) Conducted in an appropriate aircraft; (B) That includes a point of landing that was at least a straight-line distance of more than 50 nautical miles from the original point of departure; and (C) That involves the use of dead reckoning, pilotage, electronic navigation aids, radio aids, or other navigation systems to navigate to the landing point.