

FAA EVALUATION FEES AND POLICIES (UPDATED 04/14)

Why is this evaluation necessary?

There are certain medical and psychological conditions that have the potential to interfere with an airman's or air traffic controller's ability to safely conduct the responsibilities of his or her position. Therefore, the FAA may request a neuropsychological evaluation to further evaluate the potential for problems related to various medical or psychological issues. A list of these conditions can be obtained from faa.gov.

What is a neuropsychological evaluation?

A neuropsychological evaluation is a comprehensive assessment of your behavior, emotions, and thinking. It involves the administration of questionnaires and tests of memory, language, attention, problem-solving, thinking speed, visual perception, reaction time, and personality. Pertinent records are reviewed and a comprehensive interview about your medical, psychological, educational, legal, social, and family history will be obtained. All these data are combined to provide you and the FAA with objective and comprehensive information about your strengths and weaknesses. Please review the following document for more information about the neuropsychological evaluation ([Link to AACN pdf](#)).

What is the CogScreen-Aeromedical Edition?

The CogScreen is a computerized test battery that was specifically designed to provide assessment of skills that are predictive of problems related to aviation. Even though it is called a "screen," the CogScreen has been shown to provide information about thinking and motor skills related to flying that other traditional measures do not. Some conditions require only the administration of the CogScreen, as long as performance on the CogScreen is acceptable. Administration, record review, and report writing usually takes about 5 hours.

Will you tell me what you found?

In most cases, you will receive direct feedback regarding the results of your evaluation and empirically-based treatment recommendations to treat any problems that were identified. Occasionally, however, the evaluation is ordered by an employer, insurance company, or other third party. In this event, I may not be able to disclose the results of the evaluation. If this is the case, we will discuss the issues prior to administration of any part of the evaluation.

Why do I have to participate?

You can choose not to participate in this evaluation. However, you should realize that this decision could result in consequences to you, including loss of employment and revocation of medical certificate.

Who will learn of the findings?

In most cases, no information regarding my findings will leave my office without your expressed, written consent. If the evaluation is ordered by an employer, insurance company, or other third party, I may be required to release some information if you proceed with the evaluation. At the time of the evaluation, I will request your permission to communicate my findings with the FAA and your aeromedical examiner. Expect that any information released to the FAA is discoverable (meaning that it can be subpoenaed and obtained in the event of legal actions related to you). Some clients request that I release my findings to their treating physicians or mental healthcare providers as well. I will be happy to do so with your written permission.

How much does this cost?

My fee is \$195/hour. A typical evaluation of this nature takes 15 to 20 hours to complete. This includes our direct face-to-face time during the interview and test administration as well as the time it takes to score and interpret the results, review and integrate your medical records, contact collateral informants, and compile all of the information into the comprehensive report.

Who pays for the evaluation?

In most cases, you pay for the evaluation. The FAA will not pay for your evaluation. In addition, it is not appropriate for me, or any other provider, to accept health insurance to pay for an FAA evaluation. The contracts of health insurance companies state that the benefit is to be used to support your health. In other words, insurance only pays if the evaluation is medically necessary. Pilot's licenses are used for education, enjoyment, or employment; therefore, these evaluations are never considered medically necessary. If the evaluation is ordered by an employer, insurance company, or other third party, this party is responsible for the fees.

When do I pay the fees?

All fees for the FAA evaluation must be paid at least two weeks before the evaluation. If your fees are not paid by that time, the evaluation will be cancelled and all but \$100 of any monies you have paid will be returned to you.

What type of payments do you accept?

You can pay with cash, personal check, or a cashier's check. You may pay the bill by credit card. However, if you do, the evaluation fee will be increased by \$50 to cover the credit card fees.

How do I schedule an appointment?

Call Laura at (858)693-3113 to make an appointment. Tell Laura that you are calling to schedule an aeromedical evaluation. Laura will request that you fax us a copy of your notification letter from the FAA to (858)312-8460. The purpose of this step is to ensure that you are receiving the type of evaluation required by the FAA. This step will help you avoid paying for unnecessary services or omitting crucial information.

What do I do to prepare for the evaluation?

First, try to get a good night's sleep for a few nights before the scheduled evaluation. Second, if you are commuting to the evaluation, arrange your travel so that you do not have to drive a long distance the morning of the evaluation. Third, bring glasses, hearing aids, and snacks for the evaluation. We will take a lunch break so you can opt to bring your own lunch or eat out. Fourth, call and talk to me about the evaluation with your questions and concerns. I recognize that this is a stressful process. My office will do everything in our power to make it less so. Finally, I will instruct you what additional paperwork is needed. Please bring these items with you. In the meantime, I must have a copy of your official medical record.

How do you get my medical records?

I must have your certified FAA Medical File. You can obtain it by calling (405)954-4821 and selecting option 4 then option 3. If there are any other medical or personal records that you feel will help me form an objective opinion of your case, I would appreciate them as well. Please send relevant medical records at least two weeks prior to evaluation. There is no extra charge if records are sent after that time; however, I issue reports within 30 days of the evaluation or medical records receipt, whichever occurs later.

Who makes the final determination regarding my flight/employment status?

The team of doctors at the FAA will make the final determination regarding your flight status based on the findings of the evaluation that I conduct.

Anything else?

It is possible that the FAA will require you to have your urine tested on the day of the evaluation. I am not capable of conducting a urine test. It is your responsibility to obtain the urine testing. I will be happy to help you set up a urine test at a local lab.