



**PROVISION FOR THE HOLDER OF A UK NATIONAL OR UK ISSUED JAR-FCL AEROPLANE LICENCE OTHER THAN A UK NATIONAL PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENCE (AEROPLANES) (NPPL(A)), WHO HOLDS OR HAS HELD A SINGLE ENGINE PISTON CLASS RATING, TO BE ENTITLED TO FLY AEROPLANES WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE NPPL(A) WITH AN NPPL(A) MEDICAL DECLARATION.**

## **1 Introduction**

1.1 Since the 31 January 2008, pilots who have valid Single Engine Piston (SEP) class ratings in their UK National or UK-issued JAR-FCL licences have been licensed to fly SSEA, SLMG or microlight aeroplanes, subject to differences training as appropriate, as they fall within the scope of the SEP rating. A valid SEP rating in this context means that there is a valid Certificate of Revalidation for the SEP class rating and a valid JAR-FCL Medical Certificate in the pilot's licence. The privileges of an SEP rating may only be exercised if the licence holder has a valid JAR-FCL Class 1 or 2 Medical Certificate. An aeroplane licence (other than an NPPL(A)) cannot be issued or re-issued, unless the applicant/holder has a valid JAA Class 1 or 2 Medical Certificate. An SEP rating cannot be revalidated or renewed unless the holder has a Class 1 or 2 Medical Certificate that is valid or, in the case of revalidation, was valid within the 12 months preceding the date of revalidation; (this is to allow for the case where a pilot has complied with the revalidation requirements but becomes temporarily unfit before the SEP rating is revalidated).

1.2 A common circumstance is that the holders of UK National or UK-issued JAR-FCL licences with SEP ratings find that they can no longer comply with the requirements for a JAR-FCL Class 1 or 2 Medical Certificate, but do meet the requirements for an NPPL(A) Medical Declaration. The CAA considers that these licence holders should continue to be able to fly SSEA, SLMG or microlight aeroplanes using their existing licence, supported by an NPPL(A) Medical Declaration. Accordingly, the CAA has issued a general exemption (with conditions set out within it) to allow such activity. The exemption is published on the CAA website under 'Official Record Series 4' (ORS 4 No. 816).

1.3 In this Circular, an NPPL(A) class rating means a rating which may be included in a National Private Pilot's Licence (Aeroplanes). These are the SSEA Class rating, SLMG Class rating and Microlight Class rating. These class ratings were originally created in association with the NPPL(A), and may be obtained and maintained by a person holding a Medical Declaration rather than a JAR-FCL Class 1 or 2 Medical Certificate.

1.4 The purpose of this Circular is to advise the procedure for pilots to become entitled to fly aeroplanes within the scope of a class rating that may be included in an NPPL(A) when they hold a UK National (not NPPL(A)) or a UK-issued JAR-FCL aeroplane licence with an SEP rating but no longer hold a Class 1 or 2 Medical Certificate issued in accordance with JAR-FCL 3.

1.5 A particular purpose of this Circular is also to make clear that expiring licences cannot be re-issued to pilots who hold only a Medical Declaration. An expiring licence in this context is one which has a defined period of validity specified in Section IX of the licence. Similarly ratings that cannot be included in an NPPL(A) cannot be revalidated/renewed unless the licence holder has a JAR-FCL 3 Medical Certificate.

## **2 Procedure for obtaining an SSEA, SLMG or microlight aeroplane class rating**

2.1 The holder of a UK National (non-NPPL(A)) or UK-issued JAR-FCL aeroplane licence, who has an NPPL(A) Medical Declaration, may obtain SSEA, SLMG or microlight aeroplane class ratings by the following routes:

- a. A pilot with an SEP class rating that has not expired (and is included in a licence that has not expired) may exercise the privileges of an SSEA, SLMG or microlight class rating for the remaining validity of the SEP rating (or licence if the licence expires before the SEP rating) subject to having completed differences training as appropriate. When the SEP rating expires the licence holder may apply for an SSEA, SLMG or microlight class rating to be added to their licence, providing that the licence has not expired. The holder of an SEP rating may apply for an SSEA, SLMG or microlight class rating before the current SEP rating expires, in which case the initial period of validity of the ratings will be equal to the remaining validity of the existing SEP.
- b. Where the SEP class rating has expired by not more than 5 years, the licence holder may qualify to have an SSEA, SLMG or microlight class rating added to their (non-expired) licence by completing any training required and passing the NPPL(A) General Skill Test (GST) in an SSEA, SLMG or microlight aeroplane as applicable.
- c. Where the SEP class rating has expired by more than 5 years, the licence holder shall pass the NPPL(A) GST and associated oral theoretical knowledge examination for the desired rating before it may be added to their (non-expired) licence. Ground and flight training to prepare for the GST may be undertaken with an appropriately qualified Flight Instructor or Class Rating Instructor for single pilot aeroplanes and/or in the case of SLMGs and microlight aeroplanes, an appropriately qualified SLMG or microlight aeroplane Flying Instructor or microlight aeroplane Assistant Flying Instructor.

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2.2 If a UK National or UK-issued JAR-FCL licence expires and the licence holder has an NPPL(A) Medical Declaration, application may be made for an NPPL(A) with the appropriate class rating. Application for an NPPL(A) with SSEA or SLMG class rating should be made to NPLG Ltd. Application for an NPPL(A) with microlight aeroplane class rating should be made to the British Microlight Aircraft Association. Alternatively, if the licence holder can regain a Class 1 or Class 2 Medical Certificate they may do so and have their original licence re-issued.

2.3 Where an SSEA, SLMG or microlight aeroplane class rating is to be added to any UK licence or UK-issued JAR-FCL licence, application should be made through the appropriate organisation as set out in LASORS 2010, Section C6.1; not to the CAA.

2.4 The holder of a UK National or UK-issued JAR-FCL licence with an SEP or NPPL(A) class rating and Medical Declaration may only exercise the NPPL(A) class rating privileges for that licence in accordance with the conditions stated in the exemption published in the Official Record Series 4.

### **3 Summary**

3.1 The holder of a UK-issued JAR-FCL or National aeroplane licence (other than an NPPL(A)) with a valid SEP class rating who is unable to (or chooses not to) hold a JAR-FCL Class 1 or Class 2 Medical Certificate, may continue to fly under the terms of the published exemption with an NPPL(A) Medical Declaration; but only for the remaining validity of the SEP class rating, or until the licence expires, whichever occurs first. The licence is restricted to the conditions set out in the exemption and, supported by a Medical Declaration, will be equivalent to an NPPL(A).

3.2 An expired UK-issued JAR-FCL or National aeroplane licence (other than an NPPL(A)) cannot be reissued unless the holder has the appropriate Medical Certificate issued in accordance with JAR-FCL 3. Similarly, an aircraft rating other than SSEA, SLMG, or microlight cannot be revalidated or renewed without a Class 1 or Class 2 Medical Certificate being in force.

3.3 When the SEP rating expires, NPPL(A) ratings may be obtained in accordance with paragraph 2 above

3.4 If the licence expires the holder may apply to for an NPPL(A); (or obtain a medical under JAR-FCL 3 in order to be eligible for the issue or renewal of a JAR-FCL 1 licence).

3.5 The exemption that facilitates the use of a medical declaration instead of a JAR-FCL 3 medical certificate will continue to be re-issued (with a new number) as necessary whilst changes to legislation are considered.