

Aviator Pain & Spine
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Aviation Medical Information

Dr. Prabhakar and the team at Aviator Pain & Spine are thrilled to be able to participate in your aviation journey. Here is some information about the aviation medical exam process. You are also welcome to call or email us for any further general information.

1. You are required to complete your medical certification application (Form 8500-8) online by going to <https://medxpress.faa.gov> and following the instructions.

Be sure to bring in your **Confirmation Number** and a **Printed Copy of the 8500-8** to your appointment.

2. If you have a **Special Issuance letter or waiver**, please remember to bring it with you as required to do so by the FAA, along with any documentation outlined in your letter.

A fee will be charged for processing Special Authorization paperwork to the FAA:

\$50 for physician review and forwarding; \$100 for a current status report or written narrative covering outside medical records. This step may not occur on the day of your appointment. It will be discussed at the time of the appointment.

3. Arrive well-rested, and avoid alcohol, caffeine, sodium, sugar, and large amounts of carbohydrates eight hours prior to your exam. **Please do not urinate at least 1 hour prior to the exam, as you will be required to leave a urine sample to check the status of your kidneys. This is NOT for drug testing purposes.**

PLEASE NOTE: WE DO NOT OFFER ON-SITE EKGs. This will be need to be done with your primary care doctor or specialist, and brought to your appointment. Normally, Class 2 and Class 3 medical certificates do not require EKGs.

4. If you routinely take medication, know the brand or generic name and your dosage. Please take all daily medications as scheduled the day of your appointment. Please make sure you list them in your application.

5. **Please bring your glasses or contact lenses with you to your exam.** If you think you might need corrective lenses in order to pass the vision test, please make an appointment with your optometrist or ophthalmologist for your new prescription (if any) to come in. If you already wear contact lenses, you will not need to remove them for the vision test, although you may need them for the near-vision portion. When in doubt, bring in a completed 8500-7 FAA Eye Evaluation:

https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Form/FAA_Form_8500-7_Exp_10.31.24.pdf

6. **Blood Pressure.** If you are being treated for high blood pressure, please be sure to take your medication the night before or the morning of your exam. We recommend testing your blood pressure tested prior to your exam. Blood pressures over 155/95 may require further evaluation.

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7. **Recent Medical History.** Know the name, address, and date of all your physician visits in the last three years. Note also that a record of DUI or substance abuse may prevent your certification. This information can be filled out ahead of time using MedXpress online.

8. **Flight Physical Cost:** \$190 for Class 2 and Class 3 physicals. **The new guidelines require a one-time computerized vision test for candidates who are applying for their medical certification for the first time, and for pilots with existing color vision issues.** The cost of this computerized test, administered in the office, is **\$40**.

Please note: Payment is expected at the time of the exam. We accept cash, checks, and most major credit cards. We will not file with your insurance provider.

9. We offer aviation medical consultations for individuals with medical conditions that may preclude immediate certification. This is a good option for those who are unsure as to whether or not their conditions require further workup/documentation prior to certification. This can save a significant amount of time and stress prior to the actual exam. The cost of this is **\$150 per** session. This is independent of the flight physical cost.

You are required to present Photo Identification, pilot license, and previous medical certificate (if renewal exam) at the time of the exam.

The Airman Medical Exam is NOT a substitute for an annual preventive physical by your primary care physician.

Airman applicants must be at least 16 years of age and be able to read, speak, write, and understand the English language.

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