



Training Prospectus 2024





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ABOUT US

Helicentre Aviation has been training and supplying professional pilots to industry for more than two decades. As a leading Academy and Air Operator, we are committed to excellence in both our standards and our graduate placement services, which are extended to all our student pilots. This commitment facilitates remarkable job opportunities for newly qualified pilots, while furnishing quality personnel to operators, so that the global crew supply chain onshore and offshore, is maintained.

Presently, we operate a fleet of 17 company-owned helicopters and maintain two distinguished centres of excellence with state-of-the-art facilities located in Leicester and Oxford. We are partnered with leading global offshore operator Bristow Helicopters, which includes collaboration with UK Search and Rescue (SAR) operations.

At the helm of Helicentre Aviation, our senior team comprises of seasoned professionals with a high level of expertise in ab-initio training within the rotary sector. These individuals undertake specific roles, integral to the company's CAA approvals, therefore fortifying the business with unparalleled expertise and competence.



Claire Stoll - IR Scholarship Recipient, Bristow Search and Rescue Pilot





TRAINING PATHWAYS

We offer two routes that enable you to obtain your commercial helicopter pilot licence. Choose from an integrated or modular pathway. Our Integrated CPL(H) is a full-time training programme taking you through to commercial helicopter pilot in one continuous course. The modular pathway is segmented to work around your schedule, offering you flexibility to complete your PPL(H) in your own time, spreading the cost of training, whether you wish to progress to CPL(H) or simply fly recreationally. Once you obtain your professional licence you can train for an Instrument Rating for direct employment into multi-crew operations, or become a Flight Instructor to enhance your career opportunities.



PILOT SELECTION

The first step in pursuing your career as a helicopter pilot is your Pilot Selection Day! You will be taken through a series of assessments to test your mental maths, general aptitude, and non-technical skills, as well as giving you the chance to experience helicopter flight, taking the controls under the supervision of one of our skilled instructors. These assessments are designed to see how you will respond to the challenging but rewarding training that must be undertaken to become a helicopter pilot.

You will also meet the team, have a tour of the facilities and aircraft, and get a feel for the environment you could be studying in to achieve your dream career. There is no experience required for your selection day, only a desire to learn!



Course Prerequisites

- Minimum age 18+
- Class One Flight Crew Medical
- ICAO Level 5 English
- Pass a Pilot Selection Day

UK CAA Approved

Since 2019 we've been providing the Integrated CPL(H) pathway, setting the standard for graduates entering the industry straight from training. The programme is highly regarded by industry leaders such as Bristow Group, including UK SAR, and other offshore and onshore operators.

INTEGRATED TRAINING

The Integrated CPL(H) (with ATPL(H)/IR theory) is a full-time programme delivered at any one of our training facilities. It has been designed for students wishing to obtain their commercial pilot licence (helicopter) on an intensive basis. This is the fastest and most cost-effective way to obtain a CPL(H) in the UK, requiring a high level of commitment and self-discipline.

No experience is necessary to apply, and you train straight through to commercial pilot without the need to gain a private pilot licence first, graduating with 135 hours, based on CAA minimum requirements.

Course Prerequisites

- Class One or Two Flight Crew Medical
- ICAO Level 5 English
- Pass a Pilot Selection Day

Structure

- PPL(H) course
- CPL or ATPL theory
- Hour building
- CPL(H) course



MODULAR TRAINING

An alternative to our Integrated CPL(H) training programme is our Modular CPL(H) programme. Offered and curated to fit around your commitments this course helps you obtain a CPL(H) but on an ad-hoc basis. It gives you, the student, flexibility to choose when you want to train and build your flying hours. It's a great solution for those who are comfortable with distance learning, although we do offer an option to train for the commercial theory in the class on a full-time basis if preferred.

The following pages contain all the elements that make up the modular course to CPL(H) and beyond.



Course Prerequisites

- Class Two Flight Crew Medical
- ICAO Level 5 English

No previous experience necessary!

Choose your Aircraft

At Helicentre Aviation we can offer you a choice of aircraft for you to train in, to obtain your Private Pilot Licence:

- Guimbal Cabri G2 or,
- Robinson R44

PPL(H)

Learning to fly helicopters is the world's best kept secret! The Private Pilots Licence, or PPL(H), grants you a licence to fly recreationally, but not for hire or reward (so you can take your friends and family flying as long as you're not getting paid to fly). It can also be the first step towards a professional licence, allowing you to work towards your modular CPL(H) if you so desire.

Obtaining your PPL(H) with Helicentre Aviation also means you are eligible to apply for our Commercial Pilot Scholarship, providing the successful applicant with full-funding for the commercial course up to the point you qualify as a professional pilot.

Residential

Give yourself the best chance of achieving the best results you can. Our expert theoretical knowledge instructors will guide you through full-time training in the classroom.

Distance Learning

If you are training around work or family commitments, we provide a solution that fits around you. With a computer-based distance learning course, reinforced by classroom consolidation days, you have the flexibility to study in your own time.



ATPL(H)/IR THEORY

Once you've completed your PPL(H), the next step to achieving your CPL(H) is passing 13 ATPL(H)/IR theoretical knowledge examinations. Usually done alongside your hour building, you are now delving deeper into the subjects you learnt about during your PPL Theory. This course dramatically widens your knowledge of all the areas that affect you as a pilot, such as meteorology, aircraft general knowledge, and principles of flight, resulting in you becoming a far more competent pilot, and importantly, being ready for the Commercial environment.



Why Hour Build?

To be eligible to commence a modular CPL(H) course you need to meet certain experience requirements - in other words, have logged sufficient flight time. This also applies to courses like the flight instructor certificate. As well as being a requirement, it also provides valuable experience.

Hour Building Ideas

When hour building you can plan a variety of trips including:

- London Heli Lanes
- Wales, Scotland and Ireland
- UK South Coast
- France

HOUR BUILDING

Structured hour building is the number one way for you to develop both your skills as a helicopter pilot and your confidence. We offer hour building on an ad-hoc basis, or in 10 or 20 hour packages giving you the flexibility to choose when you want to come and fly and log those all important hours towards your CPL(H).

We offer both instructional flying, where you're accompanied by one of our highly trained and experienced instructors, or self-fly hire, giving you the freedom to get up in the air by yourself, or with your friends and family as passengers.

Course Prerequisites

- Minimum age 18
- Class One Flight Crew Medical
- Hold an ICAO PPL(H)
- CPL(H) or ATPL(H)/IR TK exams
- 155 hours helicopter flight time

Required Experience

To commence the modular CPL(H) flying course, you must have logged a minimum of 155 flying hours, including your PPL(H).

Holders of a PPL(A) or CPL(A), or ICAO licence holders, are eligible for credits towards the total flying hours required.



MODULAR CPL(H)

A Commercial Pilot Licence empowers you to turn your passion for flying into an incredible profession whilst showcasing your ability to operate helicopters at an exceptional level. Our comprehensive course goes beyond basic flight skills, transforming you into a proficient and capable professional pilot. You'll learn to operate helicopters with precision and professionalism, honing your expertise.

Moreover, the programme includes a night qualification, adding to the depth of your training experience. Prepare to embark on one of the most dynamic and rewarding journeys in your aviation career!



Course Prerequisites

Guimbal Cabri G2 and Robinson R44:

- Hold a UK CAA PPL(H) or CPL(H)
- Class Two Flight Crew Medical
- 70 hours PIC flight time (AW109 only)

Our Helicopters

Our fleet of company-owned helicopters comprises of:



TYPE RATINGS

Once you've learnt to fly, why not get qualified in more than just one type of helicopter? We are UK CAA Approved to offer type rating courses in the Guimbal Cabri G2, the Robinson R44 and the multi-engine Leonardo AW109 helicopter. Add these to your current private or commercial licence enabling you to broaden your skills and grow your flying experience.

The Cabri G2 and R44 type ratings are available at both our Leicester and Oxford training centres. The AW109 type rating training is undertaken at our Oxford facility.

Course Prerequisites

- Hold a CPL(H)
- Class One Flight Crew Medical
- 70 hours PIC flight time
- CPL(H)/IR or ATPL(H)/IR exams

State-of-the-art

Housed at our London Oxford Airport training facility, is our immersive state-of-the-art Leonardo AW109 training simulator. This equips trainee pilots with the necessary skills to fly on instruments as part of their IR Course.



INSTRUMENT RATING

The Multi-Engine Instrument Rating is an intensive full-time course, delivered at our London Oxford Airport facility. It is designed for pilots who wish to advance their careers into multi-crew roles such as offshore energy, Search and Rescue, HEMS, and other positions requiring an instrument rating.

Training is delivered in the sim and the AW109. Applicants do not require a type rating prior to starting the course as it is included in the training package. Pilots with an existing type rating, fixed-wing IR, or non-UK IR(H) may be eligible for an abridged training course.



Course Prerequisites

- Minimum age 18
- Hold a CPL(H) or PPL(H)
- 100/200 hours PIC respectively
- CPL(H) or ATPL(H) theory exams
- Class One or Two Flight Crew Medical

Choose your Aircraft

At Helicentre Aviation we can offer you a choice of aircraft for you to train in for your Flight Instructor certificate:

- Guimbal Cabri G2 or,
- Robinson R44

FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR COURSE

Being a Flight Instructor is incredibly rewarding, and the work you will do is both fulfilling and exciting every day. The diverse range of training you deliver on a day-to-day basis is a way to both build experience and develop your flying skills as you teach students to fly.

As a newly qualified Commercial Pilot, the Flight Instructor Certificate is a brilliant addition to your licence and provides a highly successful and proven route to a full-time flying career. With the Academy investing in multiple scholarships every year for graduates of our CPL courses, this route provides incredible career prospects.

100% Employment Rate

All graduates of our instrument rating and flight instructor courses have transitioned into full-time flying roles straight out of training. We are proud of our 100% employment rate, and relationships with industry operators, which furnish our students with fantastic opportunities.

Partnered with:



CAREERS

As the UK's leading 'ab-initio to commercial' helicopter pilot training academy, we have a proven track record, with graduates flying all over the world in all sectors. With career pathways offering direct entry to offshore energy, search and rescue, flight instruction, and with routes into police, air ambulance, utility, tourism and the corporate sector, our graduates are flying high!

We're proud to be partnered with Bristow Helicopters through an MoU, as their provider of choice for ab-initio cadet courses. A high number of our CPL graduates have also been awarded sponsorship for either IR or FI courses from Birstow or ourselves.



Will and Sam - CPL(H) Scholarship winner's 2020

Over £1.2m Awarded

Since the launch of our scholarship programme in 2012, we have awarded over £1.2m of funded training to support the next generation of helicopter pilots. Our CPL(H) scholarships, and sponsorships of Flight Instructor courses, have fast-tracked our students into rewarding careers.

Eligibility

Applicants for our CPL(H) scholarship take part in a rigorous selection process held each August. To be eligible, applicants must have completed the PPL(H) with Helicentre Aviation by the end of July. The CPL(H) scholarship award is fully-funded post-PPL and does not need to be repaid!



Scan me!

SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 2012, we have supported entry into the helicopter industry by awarding selected students with life-changing scholarships to help them achieve their dream of becoming a professional helicopter pilot. We have invested in pilot training through to CPL(H) and have sponsored numerous pilots to become flight instructors, teaching and mentoring the future pilots of our industry. Many of these pilots have progressed onto achieving further training sponsorships, or have transitioned straight into employment.

This year we will award over £100,000 worth of training, adding to the total investment we have made, which to date is over £1.2m.



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