

Whizzard Helicopters FAQ's

Am I too old

Current regulation mandates that anyone aged 60 or over cannot fly commercially as a single pilot. But you can still teach flying aged over 60

And you can get your CPL at aged 18

I may have medical problem

Speak to the CAA and visit their team of medical examiners to get a definite answer. You need a class 1 medical to fly commercially. Colour-blindness in men is an affliction that is more common than you think and may prevent the issuance of a medical

How much does it cost

It costs £41k* + VAT to get to CPL. You need to have access to funds or financing options to undertake the training.

Do I have to pay all training costs upfront ?

No. You pay in units of £3000.00 at a time to WH

Whats this about treating the whole thing as a business ?

This is a very important point. To learn to fly is quite expensive, so it is important to get set up properly from the start. To collect all receipts for expenses, to find a good accountant, to offset training costs against current and future earnings, to get VAT registered. Doing all this properly effectively makes your flying cheaper.

How long does it take

Normally somewhere between 12 to 24 months

Ive already started training, Ive got my PPL already, can I still join

Yes you can, but in order of priority, flying work is offered first to those who have done all their training with us.

Ive got my CPL already, can I have some flying work ?

The absolute priority is to award flying work to those who have trained with us.

Ive got a foreign PPL, can I join ?

If you have an EASA licence that's fine. Other nationalities may need to comply with EASA guidelines and training requirements to convert

Ive got an FAA licence

As above, a conversion to EASA is required as per CAA guidelines

Do I have to be prepared to travel around

Yes. Both for Whizzard and other employers, being prepared to travel or relocate as appropriate is often a requirement.

Where can I stay around Welshpool Airport/ Mallorca Son Bonet Aerodrome

Bunk barn, caravan sites, various star hotels

I am not a British National

That does not matter. We welcome students from foreign countries

My English is not so good

Your English needs to be graded at least to level 5 as per the EASA guidelines

Can I decide where I work within your company after completing training

No the Company decides.

Can you pay for my accommodation costs

Students are responsible for their own accommodation costs

Am I going to be a salaried employee with WH when I finish my training

No. You will be paid for flying duties on an hourly or day rate. You may also be offered non flying aviation based work. E.g. operations. You may be offered a retainer.

How much will I earn.

This depends on many factors, such as the time of year you qualify relative to seasonal pleasure flying, the type of flying, the strength of the economy even. Here at WH between 16 to 32k per year

How much can I earn as a helicopter pilot

50 to 100k pa as a time served pilot in many areas of work

We don't require you to, but it really is worth attending our Insight Day. A member of staff will spend an afternoon with you, explaining about the industry and how to become a professional pilot.

Helicopter Flying for Real ! – Insight day

1. Introduction
2. The business angle; VAT, CDL's and finance options and the way to set yourself up as a pilot
3. The PPL
4. A 20 minute training flight in an R22
5. The SFH and hour building phase and modules
 - A. Company Ops manual
 - B. Operational procedures

- C. FTL scheme
 - D. SMS
 - E. CAWT and aircraft management
 - F. Pleasure Flying, Ground Handling and Site Management
6. Commercial exams
 7. CPL flight training course
 8. Flight Instructors Course
 9. Work Opportunities

We will give everyone who completes the programme paid flying work. This will be a mixture of Commercial Work such as Pleasure Flights and Helicopter Charter; and Instructional work, teaching people who not that long ago were starting out, just like you.

This work will be UK or Spain or a mixture of both.

The cost of the Insight Day is £149.00 inc VAT