

TSA Categories

Candidates seeking flight training are separated into one of four different categories. A brief explanation of the categories follows:

Category 1 - Candidates who seek flight training in the operation of aircraft with a maximum certificated takeoff weight (MTOW) greater than 12,500 pounds, but who do not fall into Category 2.

Category 2 - Candidates who seek flight training in the operation of aircraft with a maximum certificated takeoff weight (MTOW) greater than 12,500 pounds, and who:

- Are employed by a foreign air carrier that operates under 14 CFR part 1546; (Foreign Air Carrier Security)
- Have unescorted access authority to a secured area of an airport under U.S.C 44936(a)(1)(A)(ii), 49 CFR 1542.229;
- Are a flight crew member who has successfully completed a criminal history records check in accordance with 49 CFR 1544.230 (which includes a prior Category 1 or 2 TSA approval); or
- Hold an airman's certificate that is recognized by the FAA or appropriate US military agency, with a type rating for a multi-engine aircraft that has a certificated takeoff weight of 12,500 pounds or more.

Category 3 - Candidates who seek flight training in the operation of aircraft with a maximum certificated takeoff weight of 12,500 pounds or less. Higher Power Aviation does not offer training in this category.

Category 4 - Candidates who seek recurrent training in the operation of aircraft with a maximum certificated takeoff weight (MTOW) greater than 12,500 pounds, and are current and qualified on the aircraft for which they are requesting training. These training requests are submitted by the Candidates who must advise the flight training providers of the application -- Candidates need to "Select Providers for Recurrent Training" from the AFSP Candidate account.

For more information, please see the FAQs on the TSA website by clicking here: [What category do I qualify for?](#)