

Dear AME Colleagues,

Following a number of questions from the community, please find some additional guidance so that we are all clear on what the regulations mean for class 2 and LAPL medical applicants.

1. We repeat that we believe that acting as an AME for persons attending a medical examination to support an aviation licence which is required for work, is a work activity and can continue. E.g. Class 2 pilots who are undertaking paid flying instruction or Commercial balloon activities, can continue to have their medicals.
2. Class 2 and LAPL leisure/sport pilots cannot decide that it is up to them whether to have a Class 2 or LAPL medical, despite being made aware or reminded by you of the Government guidelines. Our advice to you as AMEs is that such pilots should not be attending medicals during this time. Where available, the pilots whose Class 2 and LAPL medicals have expired (and beyond the present exemption extensions) should avail themselves of the alternative that allows them to fly, albeit possibly in a somewhat limited capacity.
3. There are a very small number of exceptions that apply that are referred to in the DfT guidance on GA activities such as urgent flight/engine tests. We would not want any AMEs being accused of colluding with anyone seeking to breach the regulations so if a pilot wishes to make a formal request via medicalweb@caa.co.uk for the CAA to determine whether they meet the criteria for the 'urgent' activity to occur that requires them to have a medical, then they will need to provide the CAA with written evidence/proof of
 - a. the urgent need for the activity to occur during the lockdown period rather than after,
 - b. why they cannot use the self-declaration system, and
 - c. why another pilot who does have a valid licence/medical cannot undertake this activity instead.

The CAA will then have a discussion between the GAU and Medical Departments and decide and advise the pilot.

4. As we have been doing during this COVID period, we continue to monitor weekly AME activity by volume and medical class and will be able to identify cases where the applicant appears to have breached the current Government lockdown regulations.

With kind regards,

Stuart

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