

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDEBOOK



YOUR  
FLIGHT TO  
SUCCESS: A  
COMPREHENSIVE  
GUIDE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS OF  
BRANDON  
FLIGHT CENTRE

WINTER 2024 EDITION

# WELCOME TO THE BRANDON FLYING CLUB



The Brandon Flying Club was established on November 28th, 1936 and as early as 1939, was very highly regarded by both inspectors of the Department of National Defense and Flying Club Association officials. As a result, the Brandon Flying Club was selected as the first club in Canada to train pilots for the Royal Canadian Air Force. Service Flight Training School Number 12 operated out of the local aerodromes and many of the buildings erected at that time are still in use today.

While we remain a training centre, our operations have expanded substantially over the years. As the only full service FBO and AMO at the Brandon Municipal Airport, we provide our students with opportunities to immerse themselves in the works of civil and military aviation. Flight crews make routine stops and frequently allow students to get a behind the scenes look at the real world of aviation and make valuable career connections. With in house maintenance and fueling, our fleet currently consisting of a combination of Cessna 172's, Piper Cherokees and a Multi Engine Piper Comanche are always at the ready with minimal down times. We also have a Certified Flight Training Simulator in the event of inclement weather, and it's a fantastic general training tool.

*It's no  
coincidence that  
Brandon has  
one of the  
longest running  
flight training  
units in  
Manitoba!*

# SUCCESS STARTS AT BRANDON FLIGHT CENTRE

*Brandon Flight Centre offers many personalized training programs designed to fit your goals and learning needs. With monthly start dates for most of our programs, a great training environment and supportive atmosphere, your success starts at BFC.*

## Weather:

The dry prairie skies make for sunny weather year round, and Canada's four distinct seasons means pilots get experience in most weather conditions over the course of one program. Winter weather doesn't hold us back, we fly year round!



## Air Traffic:

Brandon is a low traffic airport but with a great mix of aircraft types to be exposed to. From Commercial airliners to agricultural spray planes, Medevacs, military transports, gliders and drones you will see it all at BFC.

## Personal Instruction:

Small class sizes and a low instructor-to-student ratio means you are able to get your license quickly and efficiently. Our staff work around your schedule, and flexible timelines mean you can focus on the areas you need to work on to meet your personal goals.

## Cost of Living:

It's no secret Manitoba has one of the lowest costs of living in the country. Coupled with a low exchange rate, high employment opportunities and a welcoming immigration policy - you have a winning combination in western Manitoba.



# LIFE IN BRANDON

Brandon is a friendly community of over 51,000 people offering the opportunities and sophistication of metropolitan life just minutes from quiet country living. As Manitoba's second-largest city, providing services to nearly 200,000 people, Brandon boasts amenities, services, educational and employment opportunities generally found in much larger centres, including daily direct passenger air service via WestJet to Calgary, in a small, easy to navigate city.

An oasis for outdoor enthusiasts with the Assiniboine River providing 17 km of meandering river through the heart of the city, 44 km of paved [walking & hiking trails](#), and countless parks, forests, rivers, and lakes all within a short drive of Brandon. Brandon has a reputation as a sports oriented city full of top-notch recreation facilities including one of the largest convention, entertainment, agricultural & recreation complexes of its kind in Western Canada. With fun for all seasons, there is never a shortage of activities.

Arts and culture are a very important part of what makes Brandon such a great place to live. The [Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium](#) is a hub for professional and amateur musical and drama performances. The [Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba](#) showcases the work of international, national, regional and local artists, and has been providing hands on art instruction for over 75 years. Brandon University is home to the renowned [School of Music](#) and serves as a magnet for a diverse range of musical talent, with local musicians regularly performing in local restaurants and lounges. With countless volunteer and professional theatre, arts, dance and musical groups, Brandon offers metropolitan culture with small town heart.



# ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

*Each program has its own entrance standards, but there are some basic requirements to set you up for success.*



## English Language Proficiency:

All students undergo language proficiency testing as part of the licensing standards to ensure uniform pronunciation and clarity during radio communications. International students and Canadian students who did not attend an English speaking high-school complete this test before their first solo, so students must arrive ready to pass this test. Refer to the program pages for minimum entrance requirements for each program, and the appendix for more information.

## Category 1 Aviation Medical:

A Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA) Medical certificate is mandatory to validate any pilot license or rating. (Immigration medicals cannot be substituted.) Students are encouraged to complete this medical from an approved Canadian medical examiner in your home country before applying, but a commercial level aviation medical or a Category 4 medical attestation can be used to apply. Students without the TCCA medical should arrive early to complete their new medical as soon as possible to avoid costly training delays.

See the Appendix for an approved doctor near you.



## Age Requirements:

BFC requires all international students to be at least 18 years of age before their first day of classes. There is no upper age limit as long as you can pass the medical you are fit to fly!

## Grade 12 Secondary School Diploma:

A grade 12 diploma or equivalent is the minimum entrance requirement for all programs. Please ensure that you send a copy of your transcript, not just your diploma. Advanced Math (calculus or higher) and English (or other language grammar class and English proficiency) are required. While physics is strongly recommended, it is not required.



# TRAINING PATHWAYS

1

## PRIVATE PILOT LICENSE

The start of any aviation career, build on from here for the career of your dreams.

2

## NIGHT RATING

Traditionally the first step in your commercial training, but the best time to complete it is between November and April due to the shorter days. Your instructor may move this training later in your commercial license to accommodate.

## COMMERCIAL FLIGHT TRAINING

The remainder of the CPL curriculum is completed at this point. Make sure to have your ground school done, and your written exam and flight test can be completed after 150 flight hours.

## SINGLE ENGINE IFR RATING

With the Commercial Flight Test completed, now is the time to focus on new skills while you reach your minimum hours. The Instrument rating requires 50 hours of cross country time and 40 hours of instrument flying to complete, but can be done while time building.

3

## COMMERCIAL PILOT LICENSE

Once all hour requirements have been met and exams are done, we can issue temporary license privileges right here at BFC instead of waiting on Transport Canada. Start working right away, or continue training for even more career options.

4

## MULTI IFR

Twice the fun, meant for students interested in careers in medevac, cargo or charters (or of course the commercial airlines). Our Twin Comanche is equipped with auto pilot and an advanced instrument panel to get you ready to take your career to new heights.

5

## INSTRUCTOR RATING

Get a deeper understanding of flight while jumpstarting your flight hours. Top students may be offered a job with BFC upon graduation, or receive assistance locating a position if we are not able to add you to our team.

# CHOOSING YOUR PROGRAM



Three different training pathways available to ensure you find the best way forward no matter what you have planned for the future. Check out our college track Aviation Management, or the professional pilot pathways for a more streamlined approach. If you already have a license, we still have you covered. With our modular training you can pick and choose just what you need.

## Aviation Management Diploma

Program Length: 24 months

PGWP Eligible: YES

English Proficiency Requirements: IELTS 6.5 minimum

Application Deadline: March 30, 2024

Program Start Date: September, 2024

Tuition Cost\*: 85,000.00 (+ optional courses)

Being a pilot means knowing more than just how to fly a plane. Set yourself on the path of career success with additional educational courses through our partner Assiniboine Community College. Students graduate with a Diploma in Aviation Management and a Commercial Pilot license, but plenty of opportunities exist to add additional ratings to meet your career goals.

### Year One:

- Private Pilot License
- Restricted Radio Operator Certificate
- Personal Management for Professionals
- Math for Pilots 1
- Software Navigation
- Principles of Project Management
- Intercultural Awareness/ Citizenship
- Stress Management and Mindfulness
- Leadership and Delegation

### Year Two:

- Commercial Pilot License
- Math for Pilots 2
- Airline Management
- Basics of Engines and Electronics
- French for Flight Services
- Marketing Principles and Analysis
- Personal and Business Ethics
- Aviation Policy Application
- PR and Community Relations
- Multi - Engine Rating\*
- Instructor Rating\*
- Instrument Rating\*

\*optional courses, additional costs apply

# Professional Pilot Program

Program Length: 18 months

PGWP Eligible: YES

English Proficiency Requirements: IELTS 6.0 minimum

Application Deadline: 4 months before desired start date

Program Start Date: Monthly

Tuition Cost\*: 71,700.00

From your first flight to your first job, the Professional Pilot Program contains everything you need to get started in the aviation industry. Perfect for students who have already completed post secondary education, or combine this with a degree from Brandon University. Program includes Private Pilot License, Night Rating, Commercial Pilot License and Single Engine IFR in one easy to navigate package.

## Professional Pilot Program - Multi IFR

Program Length: 18 months

PGWP Eligible: YES

English Proficiency Requirements: IELTS 6.0 minimum

Application Deadline: 4 months before desired start date

Program Start Date: Monthly

Tuition Cost\*: 76,250.00

Do you have a need for speed? Adding the Multi IFR to your training can open up many doors, including paving your way towards the airlines. Our Twin Comanche is fully equipped with GPS and Autopilot to ensure that students get familiar with this system.

## Professional Pilot Program - Instructor

Program Length: 24 months

PGWP Eligible: YES

English Proficiency Requirements: IELTS 7.0 minimum

Application Deadline: 4 Months before desired start date

Program Start Date: Monthly

Tuition Cost\*86,500.00

Develop a deeper understanding of the principles of flight while fast tracking your way to the hours you need to reach the airlines. Instructors are in high demand and top performing students may be offered a job with us upon graduation.



# EARN YOUR BACHELOR DEGREE WITH BRANDON UNIVERSITY AND LET YOUR CAREER FLY!

Elevate your flight training at BFC with Prior Learning And Recognition credits through Brandon University. Up to 33 credit hours are available towards your degree program- the highest currently awarded for aviation training anywhere in Canada.

PLAR credits can be integrated into a number of degree programs at Brandon University. We suggest that students who are interested in adding a Bachelor degree to their training meet with an Academic Advisor at Brandon University for information about courses and program requirements. Students need to meet all Brandon University entrance standards and may need a separate study permit if pursuing these courses after completing Brandon Flight Centre's program.

For more information please contact the BU PLAR coordinator at [PLAR@Brandonu.ca](mailto:PLAR@Brandonu.ca)

**Private  
License  
15 Credits**

**Commercial  
License  
15 Credits**

**Multi - IFR  
Rating  
3 Credits**



# MODULAR TRAINING



Do you already hold a TCCA pilot license you want to build on, or maybe are looking at transferring in from another school? Have a license from the US or other ICAO member state you want to convert? If you don't fit into the previous programs, there is still an opportunity to continue to learn here at BFC.

## Commercial Pilot License

Program Length: 4 months  
PGWP Eligible: Yes, if part of a longer program  
Application Deadline: 1 month before desired start date if in Canada, 4 months if overseas  
Program Start Date: Monthly  
Tuition Cost\*: 21,275

**Does not include PPL or time building**

## Instructor Rating

Program Length: 3 months  
PGWP Eligible: Yes, if part of a longer program.  
Application Deadline: 1 month before desired start date if in Canada, 4 if overseas  
Program Start Date: Monthly  
Tuition Cost\*: 14,925.00

## Night Rating

Program Length: 1 Month  
PGWP Eligible: No  
Application Deadline: 1 month before desired start date if in Canada, 4 months if overseas  
Program Start Date: Monthly between September and March  
Tuition Cost\*: 5,450.00

## Multi Engine Instrument Rating

Program Length: 3 Months  
PGWP Eligible: No  
Application Deadline: 1 month before desired start date if in Canada, 4 if overseas  
Program Start Date: Monthly  
Tuition Cost\*: 14,700.00

# ABOUT TRAINING COSTS

Flight training is by its nature highly unpredictable, and these variations can lead to several thousand dollars in differences in training costs between students. As we have no way of knowing what those variations will be in advance for each student, most schools provide students with quotes based on the Transport Canada minimum license requirements for consistency and often fail to mention miscellaneous fees. Those minimum hours are typically well below the actual hours students will need to reach test standards and can leave students very underfunded, particularly if there are language or cultural barriers to their success.

BFC believes in honest and fair billing. All cost break downs included in this guide are based off BFC's AVERAGE student hours and expenses, not the Transport Canada minimums and include taxes.

See the Appendix for a cost breakdown of minimum, average and above average training costs for your program. Always budget with the average cost as your minimum.

**Your personal costs will vary.**



## PRIVATE PILOT LICENSE COST BREAKDOWN

	TC Minimum Hours	BFC Average Student	Below Average/ Part Time Students
<b>Total Hours at Graduation</b>	45 hours	60 hours	85 hours
International Student Fees	600.00	600.00	600.00
BFC Student Member Fees	62.40	93.60	202.80
Flight Kit & ASA Headset	671.75	671.75	671.75
PPL Ground School (In Class)	450.00	450.00	450.00
PPL Ground Briefings	15 hours = 1,170.00	<b>24 hours = 1,872.00</b>	30 hours = 2,340.00
PPL Dual Flight Hours	33 hours = 9,504.00	<b>48 hours = 13,824.00</b>	70 hours = 20,160.00
PPL Solo Flight Training	12 hours = 2,520.00	<b>12 hours = 2,520.00</b>	15 hours = 3,150.00
PPL Written Exam & Flight Test	730.00	<b>730.00</b>	800
PPL License Sign Off	100.00	<b>100.00</b>	100.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	15,808.15	20,861.35	28,474.55
<b>Total with Taxes Included</b>	<b>16,645.58</b>	<b>21,951.44</b>	<b>29,945.30</b>

# APPENDIX:

## PROFESSIONAL PILOT PROGRAM COST BREAKDOWN

	TC Minimum Hours	BFC Average Student	Below Average/ Part Time
Total Hours at Graduation	200 hours	210 hours	255 hours
<b>PPL Total (see above)</b>	<b>16,645.00</b>	<b>21,951.00</b>	<b>29,945.00</b>
Textbooks & Supplies	288.00	288.00	288.00
CPL & Instrument Rating Ground School (online, in person rates vary)	440.00	440.00	440.00
CPL & IFR Ground Briefings	20 hours = 1610.00	30 hours = 2390.00	42 hours 3,258.00
CPL & IFR Dual Flight Hours	45 hours = 13,060.00	60 hours = 17,480.00	85 hours = 24,780.00
CPL Solo Flight Hours	30 hours = 6,300	30 hours = 6,300	30 hours = 6,300
Instrument Simulator Time	20 hours = 2,300	20 hours = 2,300	20 hours = 2,300
CPL & INRAT Written Exams	260.00	260.00	390.00
CPL & Group 3 Flight Tests	1100.00	1100.00	1600
Time Building (to reach 100 PIC hours and 200 Total time)	80 hours = 16,800.00	60 hours solo = 12,600.00	55 hours solo = 11,550.00
Student & Administration Fees	460.00	560.00	720.00
<b>CPL &amp; Group 3 Instrument Subtotal</b>	<b>42,543.00</b>	<b>47,643.00</b>	<b>51,551.00</b>
Taxes	2060.00	2,110.00	2466.00
<b>Total Estimate</b>	<b>61,248.00</b>	<b>71,704.00</b>	<b>83,962.00</b>

## PROFESSIONAL PILOT PROGRAM - MULTI IFR COST BREAKDOWN

	TC Minimum Hours	BFC Average Student	Below Average/ Part Time
Total Hours at Graduation	200 hours	223 hours	273 hours
<b>PPL Total (see above)</b>	<b>16,645.00</b>	<b>21,951.00</b>	<b>29,945.00</b>
Textbooks & Supplies	312.00	312.00	312.00
CPL & Instrument Rating Ground School (online, in person rates vary)	440.00	440.00	440.00
CPL & IFR Ground Briefings	20 hours = 1610.00	30 hours = 2390.00	42 hours 3,258.00
CPL & IFR Dual Flight Hours	45 hours = 13,060.00	60 hours = 17,480.00	85 hours = 24,780.00
CPL Solo Flight Hours	30 hours = 6,300	30 hours = 6,300	30 hours = 6,300
Instrument Simulator Time	20 hours = 2,300	20 hours = 2,300	20 hours = 2,300
CPL & INRAT Written Exams	260.00	260.00	390.00
CPL & Group 3 Flight Tests	1100.00	1100.00	1600
Multi Dual Flight Hours	8 hours = 4,792.00	15 hours = 8,985.00	18 hours = 10,782.00
Multi Solo Flight Hour	1 hours = 500.00	2 hours = 1,000.00	2 hours = 1,000.00
Time Building (to reach 100 PIC hours and 200 Total time)	71 hours = 14,910.00	56 hours solo = 11,760.00	53 hours solo = 11,130.00
Student & Administration Fees	460.00	560.00	720.00
<b>CPL &amp; Multi IFR Subtotal</b>	<b>45,344.00</b>	<b>51,747.00</b>	<b>63,012.00</b>
Taxes	2301.00	2,570.00	3,037.00
<b>Total Estimate</b>	<b>64,290.00</b>	<b>76,268.00</b>	<b>95,995.00</b>

# PROFESSIONAL PILOT PROGRAM - INSTRUCTOR COST BREAKDOWN

	TC Minimum Hours	BFC Average Student	Below Average/ Part Time
Total Hours at Graduation	230 hours	242 hours	295 hours
<b>PPL Total (see above)</b>	<b>16,645.00</b>	<b>21,951.00</b>	<b>29,945.00</b>
Textbooks & Supplies	288.00	288.00	288.00
CPL & Instrument Rating Ground School (online, in person rates vary)	440.00	440.00	440.00
CPL & IFR Ground Briefings	20 hours = 1610.00	30 hours = 2390.00	42 hours 3,258.00
CPL & IFR Dual Flight Hours	45 hours = 13,060.00	60 hours = 17,480.00	85 hours = 24,780.00
CPL Solo Flight Hours	30 hours = 6,300	30 hours = 6,300	30 hours = 6,300
Instrument Simulator Time	20 hours = 2,300	20 hours = 2,300	20 hours = 2,300
CPL & INRAT Written Exams	260.00	260.00	390.00
CPL & Group 3 Flight Tests	1100.00	1100.00	1600
Time Building (to reach 100 PIC hours and 200 Total time)	80 hours = 16,800.00	60 hours solo = 12,600.00	55 hours solo = 11,550.00
Student & Administration Fees	460.00	560.00	720.00
<b>CPL &amp; Group 3 Instrument Subtotal</b>	<b>42,543.00</b>	<b>47,643.00</b>	<b>51,551.00</b>
Flight Instructor Ground school + PGIs	25 hours = 2,655.00	35 hours = 3,645.00	50 hours = 5,130.00
Dual Flight Time	30 hours = 9,270.00	32 hours = 9,888.00	40 hours = 12,360.00
Flight test & written exam	580.00	580.00	830.00
<b>Instructor rating subtotal</b>	<b>12,505.00</b>	<b>14,113.00</b>	<b>18,320.00</b>
Taxes	2656.00	2,787.00	3340.00
<b>Total Estimate</b>	<b>77,950.00</b>	<b>86,495.00</b>	<b>103,155.00</b>

# ENGLISH PROFICIENCY TEST REQUIREMENTS

	Aviation Management Certificate	Professional Pilot Program	Professional Pilot Program - Multi	Professional Pilot Program - Instructor	Modular Training* Except Instructor Rating	Instructor Rating	License Conversion
ICAO English	Not accepted	4	4	6	4	6	4
IELTS Academic	6.5 with no band under 6.0	5.5 with no band under 5	5.5 with no band under 5	7 with no band under 6	5.5 with no band under 5	7 with no band under 6	5.5 with no band under 5
IELTS general	not accepted	5.5 with no band under 5	5.5 with no band under 5	7 with no band under 6	5.5 with no band under 5	7 with no band under 6	5.5 with no band under 5
TOEFL ibt	79 overall no subsection under 15 - reading 15 listening 18 Speaking 21 writing	79 overall no subsection under 15 - reading 15 listening 18 Speaking 15 writing	79 overall no subsection under 15 - reading 15 listening 18 Speaking 15 writing	79 overall no subsection under 15 - reading 15 listening 21 Speaking 21 writing	79 overall no subsection under 15 - reading 15 listening 18 Speaking 15 writing	79 overall no subsection under 15 - reading 15 listening 21 Speaking 21 writing	79 overall no subsection under 15 - reading 15 listening 18 Speaking 15 writing
CanTest	4.5 in all subjects	4.0 in all subjects	4.0 in all subjects	4.5 in all subjects	4.0 in all subjects	4.5 in all subjects	4.0 in all subjects
CEAL	60	50	50	60	50	60	50
PTE Academic	58 overall with no subscore less than 53 - reading 50 listening 50 speaking 62 writing	51 overall with no sub score less than 48 - reading 48 listening 46 speaking 51 writing	51 overall with no sub score less than 48 - reading 48 listening 46 speaking 51 writing	58 overall with no subscore less than 53 - reading 50 listening 50 speaking 62 writing	51 overall with no sub score less than 48 - reading 48 listening 46 speaking 51 writing	58 overall with no subscore less than 53 - reading 50 listening 50 speaking 62 writing	51 overall with no sub score less than 48 - reading 48 listening 46 speaking 51 writing
Cambridge English	176 with no skill under 169	169 with no skill under 162	169 with no skill under 162	176 with no skill under 169	169 with no skill under 162	176 with no skill under 169	169 with no skill under 162
Duolingo	Not accepted	100 minimum	100 minimum	125 minimum	100 minimum	125 minimum	100 minimum

## **Transport Canada Medical Information:**

Canadian Aviation Medical Examiner contacts:

<https://tc.canada.ca/en/aviation/medical-fitness-aviation>

Category 4 medical attestation form

[https://wwwapps.tc.gc.ca/Corp-Serv-Gen/5/forms-formulaires/download/26-0297\\_BO\\_PD](https://wwwapps.tc.gc.ca/Corp-Serv-Gen/5/forms-formulaires/download/26-0297_BO_PD)

## **Financial Information:**

Preparing your budget

<https://www.educanada.ca/live-work-vivre-travailler/prepare-budget-preparer.aspx?lang=eng>

<https://itools-ioutils.fcac-acfc.gc.ca/BP-PB/budget-planner>

## **City of Brandon Relocation Guide:**

<http://economicdevelopmentbrandon.com/index.php>

## **Immigrate Manitoba:**

<https://immigratemanitoba.com/>

## **Housing Resources:**

Brandon University student housing

<https://www.brandonu.ca/residence/>

E-Brandon community classifieds

[https://ebrandon.ca/browseads.aspx?cat\\_id=71](https://ebrandon.ca/browseads.aspx?cat_id=71)

Rhino Rental Agencies

<https://www.rhinopropertymgmt.com/>

TDel Holdings

<https://apartmentsinbrandon.ca/>

Vionell Holdings

<https://www.vhproperties.ca/>

## **Rental Insurance**

Guild Insurance

<https://www.guild.ca/personal-products/tenants-insurance/>

Western Financial Group

<https://westernfinancialgroup.ca/Renters-Insurance>

## **Health Insurance**

Manulife Cover Me

<https://www.coverme.com/travel-insurance/students.html?province=ON&agecode=0>

## **Job Search**

E-Brandon Community classifieds

[https://ebrandon.ca/browseads.aspx?cat\\_id=103](https://ebrandon.ca/browseads.aspx?cat_id=103)

Job Bank

<https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/findajob/newcomers>