

FAQs on the exemption to licence and rating currency requirements

Q. Do I have to apply for a currency extension?

A. No, the extensions to currency are automatically applied.

Q. When does the currency extension system start?

A. The extension period starts from the 15 March 2020 and can be applied to a relevant currency requirement that has lapsed after that date. Extensions will currently not be issued for currencies lapsing after the 24 June 2020.

Q. What checks does the extension apply to?

A. The extension can be applied to all currency requirements defined in Rule Parts 61, 63, 65, 115, 121, 125, 135, and 137. It includes all PPL, RPL, CPL and ATPL BFRs, annual or periodic competency checks, operational competency assessments and line check requirements.

Q. Who does it apply to?

A. The extensions apply to all pilots, flight engineers, cabin crews, ATS controllers, flight/ATS instructors and examiners.

Q. Why are Part 149 activities like microlights, parachuting and hang gliding not included?

A. Organisations operating under Part 149 develop their own qualification and currency requirements through rules defined in their Exposition. These currency requirements are not contained in the Rule itself so cannot be part of this Exemption. Part 149 organisations can apply to the CAA to alter the currency rules through an exposition amendment. Extensions for currency in commercial activity under Part 115 for areas like parachuting is covered.

Q. How is the currency extension recorded?

A. CAA will not hold a record of the extensions. As is the case now, individuals are responsible for maintaining their own currency. It is expected that people operating in organisations will log extensions via the relevant operating or training records and systems.

Q. Do I have to continue to meet the 90-day recent flight experience requirements?

A. Yes, these requirements remain in place.

Q. What happens if I am getting towards the end of a 3 month extension?

A. The Director has the ability to consider a further extension period. This will be advised in the event of the COVID restrictions being extended.

Q. Does the currency extension mean that I can now fly?

A. No. Aviation activity is still limited to 'essential' elements only as defined in government restrictions. Private or recreational flying is not allowed under the current Level 4 conditions.

Q. What if I use my NZ licence overseas?

A. The exemption applies to all holders of a current NZ licence including those operating overseas. For those operating under a foreign authority validation, you will need to check with that authority that they will accept the currency extension.

Q. Are new logbook stickers or entries going to be required or issued for the extension.

A. No, new logbook stickers and entries will not be required.