



NIGERIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

P.M.B. 21029, 21038, IKEJA-LAGOS.

ALL OPERATORS LETTER (DG 020/20)

Ref: NCAA/DG/AIR/11/16/126
Date: 22nd June 2020
To: All Airlines, All Holders of Nigerian Flight Crew and ATCO Medical Certificates and Authorized Aviation Medical Examiners (AAMEs)
From: Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority
Attn: Accountable Manager / Director of Operations
Subject: **EXEMPTIONS FROM CERTAIN REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMICS: MEDICAL ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATE**

1. BACKGROUND

Under the unprecedented circumstances associated with the COVID-19 pandemic that is ravaging the whole world and has led to the imposition of flight restrictions in global civil aviation industry, the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and Contracting States have found it expedient to put some contingency measures in place to alleviate the impact of the pandemic on the industry.

During the period of these contingency measures, ICAO has requested that particular attention should be given to the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) related to certificates and licenses. In this regard, States are reminded of their obligations under Article 38, 39, 40 of the Convention to notify ICAO of any differences that may arise on the COVID-19 Contingency Related Differences (CCRD/EFOD).


With these considerations in mind, the NCAA finds that limited relief is justified with regards to **medical assessment and certificate** and have consequently decided to grant exemption in accordance with Nig. CARs Part 1.4 on the subject matter as follows:

1. Medical Assessment and Certificate Exemption- NCAA/DOL/GEN012/20/001

2. ACTION REQUIRED

All Holders of Nigerian Aircrew and ATCO Medical Certificates and Authorized Aviation Medical Examiners (AAMEs) are hereby required to note the attached Exemption Document No. **NCAA/DOL/GEN012/20/001** dated **22nd June 2020** here attached and comply with the conditions and limitations contained therein.

Please, be guided accordingly.


Capt. Musa S. Nuhu
Director General/CEO

EXEMPTION DOCUMENT




FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NIGERIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

This exemption is granted by virtue of the powers conferred on the Authority by the Civil Aviation Act 2006 and Nigeria Civil Aviation Regulations Part 1.4

Details of Applicant Seeking Exemption	Name: Holders of Nigerian Aircrew and ATCO Medical Certificates and Authorized Aviation Medical Examiners (AAMEs)
Specific requirements of the regulations for which exemption is being sought	<p>Medical Assessment - Certificate Validity Extension</p> <p>Nig. CARS Part 2.11.1.8.(C) (4) The period of validity of a Medical Assessment may be extended, at the discretion of the Authority, up to 45 days.</p> <p><i>Note.—It is advisable to let the calendar day on which the Medical Assessment expires remain constant year after year by allowing the expiry date of the current Medical Assessment to be the beginning of the new validity period under the proviso that the medical examination takes place during the period of validity of the current Medical Assessment but no more than 45 days before it expires.</i></p> <p>2.11.1.8 (C) (1) (2) (c)</p> <p>Validity :</p> <p>(1) The validity period of the medical certificate shall be:</p> <p>(i) 12 months for the Class 1 for the CPL, MPL and ATPL licences.</p> <p>(ii) 12 months for the Class 2 for the FE licences.</p> <p>(iii) 60 months for the Class 2 for the PPL licences.</p> <p>(iv) 24 months for the Class 2 for the Cabin Crew licences.</p> <p>(v) 24 months for the Class 2 for the SPA.</p> <p>(vi) 48 months for the Class 3 for the air traffic controller licence.</p> <p>(4) The period of validity of a Medical Assessment may be extended, at the discretion of the Authority, up to 45 days.</p> <p>(3) For initial issuance of the medical certificate, the period of validity shall begin on the date the medical examination is performed. The period of validity shall for the last month counted, include the day that has the same calendar number as the date of the medical examination or, if that month has no day with that number, the last day of that month.</p> <p>2.11.1.8 (C) (2) (ii)</p> <p>(b) The 12-month interval specified for the CPL and ATPL who are carrying passengers in single-pilot operations shall be reduced to 6 months.</p> <p>2.11.1.8 (C) (2)</p> <p>(iii) When holders have passed their 60th birthday: (a) The 12-month interval specified for the CPL, MPL, and ATPL who are engaged in commercial air transport operations shall be reduced to 6 months.</p>

	<p>2.11.1.8 (C) (2) (iii) When holders have passed their 60th birthday: (a) The 12-month interval specified for the CPL, MPL, and ATPL who are engaged in commercial air transport operations shall be reduced to 6 months.</p> <p>2.11.1.8.(C) (2) (ii) When holders have passed their 50th birthday:</p> <p>(a) The 24-month interval specified for the PPL and air traffic controller licence shall be reduced to 12 months.</p> <p>2.11.1.3. Authorised Aviation Medical Examiners (AAMEs).</p> <p>(d) The authorisation of an AAME is valid for one year. The AAME shall have completed at least 10 examinations for a medical certificate per year. Re-authorisation shall be at the discretion of the Authority.</p>
Purpose of Exemption/Exemption	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in drastic travel restrictions and closure of borders between many States.</p> <p>Holders of Medical certificates who are required to undergo a recurrent medical examination to revalidate their Medical certificates to continue to exercise their licence or certificate privileges on behalf of their operator are not able to timely reach or gain access to an Authorised Aviation Medical Examiner (AAME) to complete the necessary medical examination.</p> <p>Due to requirements of AAMEs to provide clinical care to COVID-19 patients, implementation of social distancing practices, closure of workspaces and implementation of other preventive measures we are unable to ensure that AAMEs are available to conduct medical examinations. Also affected aviation professionals are unable to travel to medical facilities for a medical examination as mentioned above.</p> <p>Holders of AAME certificates who are required to perform Classes 1, 2 and 3 Medical Examinations, in order to revalidate their AAME privileges are not able to do so, timely reach or gain access to the NCAA, or undergo refresher training required to maintain an adequate level of knowledge. Sufficient oversight by the NCAA is also impaired due to travel restrictions and other difficulties being encountered because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This would result in expiry of said AAME certificates.</p> <p><i>The Validity of the exemption on all Holders of Nigerian Aircrew and ATCO Medical Certificates and Authorised Aviation Medical Examiners (AAMEs) which was earlier issued on 1st April 2020 to expire on 30th June 2020 is hereby extended for a further Six (6) Months.</i></p>
Entity(ies) to whom Exemption applies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holders of the following classes of medical certificates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class 1 Medical certificate - ATPL, MPL and CPL - Class 2 Medical Certificate – FE, PPL, SPA and CC - Class 3 Medical Certificate - ATCO • Certificates, which were valid at the point of time as determined by the NCAA, defined in the published alleviation measure. • Authorized Aviation Medical Examiners (AAMEs) conducting Medical examination for the issuance of Classes 1, 2 and 3 aircrew medical certificates. • AAME Authorizations which were valid at the point of time as determined by the NCAA, defined in the published alleviation measure.

<p>Conditions and Limitation of the Exemption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational limitations due to medical factors have been considered as part of the risk assessment when decisions are made regarding the extension of medical assessment. • Continued provision of intercurrent medical reports in cases where reports are required by NCAA. <p>During this period (and possibly beyond), there will be medical certificate holders who need to provide reports (e.g. annual cardiology review for coronary artery disease, six-monthly and annual diabetic follow -up reports, HIV six-monthly and annual reports, annual psychiatry report, annual ophthalmologist report etc) to their AAME and/or the NCAA in the normal way but preferably by email to maintain their certificatory status. These actions should continue, and medical certificate holders should ensure they provide the reports as required in a timely manner. Medical Certificate holders are advised to carry out these required medical reviews and tests early to avoid subsequent difficulties.</p> <p>Where medical certificate holders experience difficulties with their private doctors or consultant specialists, their AAME may be able to advise them of alternative providers, doctors or specialists who can provide them with the clinical reports and/or tests.</p> <p>In situations where a medical certificate holder has difficulties that cannot be easily overcome, they are to contact the Authority to discuss on the possibility of extending the deadline for the submission of the report and /or test.</p> <p>Failure of a Medical certificate holder who has a medical condition or limitation to submit the required medical report and/or test or seek extension to the deadline for submission of the report or test from the Authority, the Authority may withdraw the exemption granted him/her.</p>
<p>Validity of the Exemption</p>	<p>31st December 2020.</p>
<p>Cancellation of previous Exemption (if any)</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p>Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP). If the exemption affects a significant population of the aviation community of Nigeria (If applicable)</p>	<p>The exemption shall be published in the AIP because it affects a significant population of the aviation community.</p>
<p>Date of issue: 22nd June 2020</p>	<p>Name: CAPT. MUSA NUHU</p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Title: Director General</p>
<p>Exemption Document No: NCAA/DOL/GEN012/20/001</p>	