



Aviation Medicine Aviation Safety Advisory Panel Technical Working Group Tasking Instructions

The Aviation Medicine Technical Working Group is established and operates in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Aviation Safety Advisory Panel (ASAP) dated November 2021 (or as amended).

Background

Aviation medicine consultation was previously managed entirely through a Part 67 TWG, but its scope was seen to be too narrow. The ASAP has decided to convene a new, broader TWG to cover all facets of Aviation Medicine, and better incorporate feedback from end-users and industry groups.

Purpose

The role of the TWG is to provide relevant technical expertise and industry sector insight for the analysis and review the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) policy and regulation developments relating to aviation medicine.

In developing CASA's new approach to recreational and private medical certification, input from stakeholder groups will be critical to ensure the new certificates and processes are fit for purpose. Those purposes, identified through the deliberations and recommendations of the Aviation Medicine TWG are:

- simplified access to medical certification for recreational and general aviation
- certificates that support a broader range of health diversity
- a balance of useful operational permissions to safely accommodate that breadth of health diversity.

The simplification of the approach is to introduce two new classes of medical certification. While this sounds counter-intuitive, a single new certificate will be a very complex one to implement while encompassing the expectations of stakeholders.

Implementing two classes also allows commitment of time and resources to achieve a rapid response to the most pressing need identified by stakeholders, which is that of a self-declared aviation medical certificate (Class 5). This will be the focus of stage 1 of the TWG. Subsequent efforts can then be committed to a non-aviation medical examiner issued medical certificate (Class 4). This will be the focus of stage 2 of the TWG.

Objectives

The Technical Working Group will:

- Provide industry sector insight and understanding of current needs and challenges
- Provide current, relevant technical expertise for the development, analysis and review of legislative and non-legislative solutions to identified issues
- Assist with the development of draft regulations, guidance materials and other supporting materials
- Provide endorsement and/or conditional endorsement of draft regulations, guidance materials and other supporting materials for consideration by the ASAP and CASA
- Provide feedback and insight on:
 - Proposed class 4 medical certificates
 - Proposed class 5 medical certificates (self-declared medical examinations)
 - CASA's pilot mental health strategy

TWG outcomes

1. The TWG is to evaluate whether the proposed strategy and policy framework will achieve the identified intent and are implementable by the Australian aviation industry.
2. The TWG is to provide any further recommendations or advice to the ASAP relating to aviation medicine.

Roles and responsibilities

CASA	Technical Working Group Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organise meetings and workshops, and produce agendas, papers and supporting materials• Facilitate meetings and workshops• Record insights and findings• Communicate openly and consistently with working group members about project status and issues• Respect the time of all working group members by minimising work required to achieve outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commit to supporting the project objectives and timeline• Engage and collaborate constructively at all times• Prepare for working group activities by reviewing agendas, papers and supporting materials• Provide timely and considered advice in meetings, and between meetings as required• Respond to requests for feedback on draft materials within agreed timeframes

Confidentiality

All discussions and materials from TWG meetings should be treated as confidential. Premature dissemination of information may dilute TWG processes, particularly if discussion points remain unsettled or documents are not ready for public consultation.

Reporting arrangements

At the conclusion of the meeting, or soon thereafter, recommendations and reports of the TWG will be provided to the Chair of the ASAP, through the Secretariat.

Consensus

A key aim of the Technical Working Group is that a consensus be reached, wherever possible, in the finalisation and preparation of advice for the Aviation Safety Advisory Panel and CASA.

The Technical Working Group will be guided by the ASAP Terms of Reference (Section 6) with respect to determining and documenting consensus.

Membership

Members of the TWG will be appointed by the ASAP Chair, following ASAP processes. The stakeholder and technical input that is required for these outcomes will be focused on striking an acceptable balance between supporting pilots with health diversity to access recreational and private aviation without excessively limiting the operational permissions of those pilots.

While this is not a purely medical question, it will depend on some elements on clinical aspects of aeromedical risk assessment. The majority of this TWG will be comprised of representatives across stakeholder groups with expertise in recreational and general aviation operations and in aviation operational risk assessment, with medical representation regarding the professional group who will be expected to provide advice and certification for these pilots.

It is recommended that the membership of the Aviation Medicine TWG consist of participants with the

following organisational representation or subject matter experience:

- Working group lead: CASA project representative
- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)
- Australian Airline Pilot's Association (AusALPA)
- Australian Sport Aviation Confederation (ASAC)
- Austroads
- General Aviation Advisory Network (GAAN)
- Gliding Federation of Australia (GFA)
- Honourable Company of Air Pilots (HCAP)
- Recreational Aviation Australia (RAAus)
- RACGP/ACRRM (where appropriate)
- Sport Aircraft Association of Australia (SAAA)
- Representatives with safety expertise
- Representatives with aviation or health risk assessment expertise

Requests for changes to the membership will be made to the Chair of the ASAP, through the Secretariat.

Attendance and travel

Cost-effective and convenient locations for meetings will be selected to reduce the travel and time impacts for working group members.

If participants are unable to attend working group meetings in person, remote attendance may be facilitated using video-conferencing equipment installed at CASA offices. This will be coordinated by the convener.