

Department of Commerce • National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration • National Weather Service

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Training and Education

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Forecaster Development Program Training, NWSI 20-103

Central Region Aviation Training

NOTICE: This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/>.

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This supplement update replaces National Weather Service (NWS) Central Region Supplement 02-2005 to NWSI 20-103 dated May 21, 2007. This revised supplement removes all references to TWEBs as they are no longer issued. Hyperlinks on Page 4 were updated to valid URLs.

/signed/

May 26, 2009

Lynn P. Maximuk
Director, Central Region

Date

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1. Introduction. This Supplement establishes Central Region training requirements for newly-hired forecasters and Meteorological (Met) Interns in support of the aviation program.
2. Policy. As a provider of aviation-oriented products, the NWS recognizes the need for forecasters to complete basic meteorological courses pertinent to aviation forecasting, and also to receive training in how certain weather phenomena affect both aircraft performance and pilot decision-making. Central Region Met Interns must complete these courses before issuing TAF products.
3. Purpose. The courses required below provide information and training pertinent to aviation flight operations, concerns, and requirements of the various users/customers of the aviation community. The courses are designed to provide Met Interns with minimal base-line knowledge. It is expected that NWS meteorologists will build on this training through additional training and forecast experience.
4. Regional Training Requirements.

The Distance Learning Aviation Course #1 (DLAC1) “Forecasting Fog/Low Stratus for Aviation Operations” - available at URL:

<http://meted.ucar.edu/dlac/website/index.htm>

(Also available via e-learning)

The Impact of Weather on Air Traffic Management course – available at URL:

<http://meted.ucar.edu/nas/>

(Also available via e-learning)

The following courses available via E-Learning (<http://e-learning.doc.gov/>)

Aviation Stats on Demand

AvnFPS Conditional Climatology Tools (AWIPS OB7.1)

Basic Terminal Forecast Strategies (First unit of DLAC Course 2)

NOAA's NWS Aviation Operations

Forecasting Aviation Icing: Icing Type and Severity

In addition, the following documentation/materials should be reviewed:

Aviation Forecast Preparation System (AvnFPS)

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mdl/AvnFPSBuilds>

NWS Directive 10-813 – “Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts”

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/sym/pd01008013curr.pdf>

5. Local Training Requirements. In addition to the regional requirements, the completion of a local aviation-oriented training program, provided by the Aviation Program Leader and/or SOO is required. The local aviation training should include mesoscale/local meteorology and climatology, and include the needs and requirements of local customers/users (large air carriers, general aviation, etc.). Such training should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- How local weather phenomena impact performance, operations and decision-making on the various types of users in the local aviation community
- Local studies and climatology, as appropriate
- An understanding of WSR-88D techniques and ASOS algorithms
- LLWS local studies/research
- Satellite interpretation
- Review of NWS policy and directives associated with the NWSI 10-8 series
- Demonstrate proficiency in the preparation and dissemination of all locally-issued aviation products for the local forecast area and the back-up forecast area.

Use of training material and presentations archived in the National Aviation Resource Center is encouraged and available on the URL:

<https://ocwws.weather.gov/afp/index.shtml>

6. Documentation and Certification of Training. The local SOO and/or Aviation Program Leader will document all materials presented to, and courses completed by, each Met Intern (or Forecaster). At the completion of this training, the Met Intern (Forecaster) will sign a certification that regional and local aviation training has been successfully completed. The certification is conducted by the SOO, the Aviation Program Leader, or other person as designated by the MIC.