EXEMPTION FROM PARAGRAPHS 404.17(a) AND 404.18(a) OF THE CANADIAN AVIATION REGULATIONS AND PARAGRAPH 424.17(1)(a) AND SUBSECTION 424.17(4) OF STANDARD 424 — MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to subsection 5.9(2) of the *Aeronautics Act*, and after having taken into account that the exemption is in the public interest and is not likely to adversely affect aviation safety or security, I hereby exempt **Civil Aviation Medical Examiners (CAMEs)** performing medical examinations to renew medical certificates (MC) from the requirements of paragraphs 404.17(a) and 404.18(a) of the *Canadian Aviation Regulations* (CARs) and paragraph 424.17(1)(a) and subsection 424.17(4) of Standard 424 –*Medical Requirements* subject to the conditions set out below.

The above-mentioned provisions are reproduced in **Appendix A**.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this exemption is to enable telemedicine as an option for aviation medical certificate renewals.

More specifically, the purpose of this exemption is to permit CAMEs to renew existing MCs via telemedicine consultation when the CAME deems it sufficient.

This exemption extends, for five (5) additional years, the regulatory relief previously granted under exemption NCR-061-2020, CAME-001-2021, CAME-001-2022, and CAME-001-2023 issued on May 21, 2020, February 25, 2021, March 2, 2022, for twelve (12) months, and March 1, 2023, for twenty-four (24) months, respectively.

APPLICATION

This exemption applies to **CAMEs** referred to in paragraphs 404.16(a) and (b) of the CARs.

This exemption is applicable solely for the renewal of MCs that were last renewed through an inperson medical examination.

This exemption ceases to apply to a CAME that does not respect a condition of this exemption.

CONDITIONS

This exemption is subject to the following conditions:

- 1. CAME shall conduct medical examinations via telemedicine to renew medical certificates only.
- 2. CAME shall conduct the medical examination in accordance with telemedicine practices recognized by the physician's medical licensing authority only when the CAME deems a telemedicine consultation sufficient to determine that the medical certificate holder is fit.
- 3. Subject to Conditions 4 and 5, below, the medical standards for the renewal of medical certificates of a category, where an in-person assessment is required in accordance with subsection 424.17(4) of Standard 424 *Medical Requirements*, shall be met by following a sufficiently thorough telemedicine examination conducted by the physician.
- 4. Where the CAME is incapable of reaching a conclusion regarding the fitness of an applicant and their ability to satisfy the medical requirements of their category of medical certificate based only upon the telemedicine examination conducted in accordance with this exemption, the CAME shall conduct an in-person medical examination in accordance with Standard 424 *Medical Requirements* prior to making any determination of the applicant's medical fitness.
- 5. When a telemedicine consultation is deemed sufficient to renew a medical certificate, the CAME shall provide the applicant with the Civil Aviation Fit Certificate: https://www.apps.tc.gc.ca/Corp-Serv-Gen/5/forms-formulaires/download/26-0862A_BO_PX.
- 6. When a telemedicine consultation is deemed sufficient to renew a medical certificate, the CAME shall provide TCCA Medicine with a Telemedicine Medical Examination Report (MER) (https://www.apps.tc.gc.ca/Corp-Serv-Gen/5/forms-formulaires/download/26-0010A_BO_PX) or using the electronic Medical Examination Report (eMER).

VALIDITY

This exemption is in effect from March 4, 2025, at 00:00 (EST), until the earliest of the following:

- a. March 3, 2030, at 23:59 (EST); or
- b. The date on which this exemption is cancelled in writing by the Minister where he is of the opinion that it is no longer in the public interest or that it is likely to affect aviation safety or security.

DATED at Ottawa, Ontario, this 24th day of February 2025, on behalf of the Minister of Transport.

"Original signed by"

Félix Meunier, Director General, Civil Aviation Transport Canada

Appendix A

Pertinent provisions of the Canadian Aviation Regulations

Responsibilities of Medical Examiner

- **404.17** Where a physician referred to in paragraph 404.16(a) or (b) conducts a medical examination of an applicant for the issuance or renewal of a medical certificate, the physician shall
 - (a) conduct the medical examination in accordance with the procedures set out in the personnel licensing standards; and

(b) [...]

AND

Examination for Renewal of a Medical Certificate or for Permission to Continue to Exercise the Privileges of a Permit, Licence or Rating

- **404.18** When the holder of a medical certificate undergoes a medical examination by a physician referred to in paragraph 404.16(a) or (b) for the purpose of renewing his or her certificate or obtaining permission to continue to exercise the privileges of his or her permit, licence or rating, the physician shall
 - (a) sign and date the medical certificate and stamp it with his or her official stamp indicating that the holder is "fit" and return the medical certificate to the holder; or (b) [...]

Pertinent provisions of Standard 424 – Medical Requirements

424.17 Responsibilities of Medical Examiner

- (1) When conducting a medical examination of an applicant for the issuance or renewal of a medical certificate, the CAME shall:
 - (a) examine the applicant in accordance with:
 - (i) medical practice recognized by the medical profession, and
 - (ii) the personnel licensing standards;
 - **(b)** [...]

(4) Physical and Mental Requirements for Medical Categories

An applicant shall be granted the highest assessment possible on the basis of the finding recorded during the medical examination. An applicant desiring a medical category higher than that necessary for the type of permit, licence or rating requested shall so inform the Civil Aviation Medical Examiner. Where specialist examinations or laboratory tests are required to determine fitness for a higher assessment, these may be arranged by the Civil Aviation Medical Examiner, with the concurrence of the applicant.

The following indicates the standard an applicant must attain for the issuance of a Medical Certificate for each medical category:

Physical and Mental Requirement