

Sheriff Aircraft Pilot

Definition:

Under direction, operates a rotary-wing and/or fixed-wing aircraft in support of law enforcement operations, search-and-rescue operations, marijuana eradication, surveillance operations and surveillance operations.

Aircraft pilots may fly in urban, desert, and mountainous environments in support of law enforcement operations; may be required to work shifts of varying durations and days as needed; may be required to instruct non-aviation personnel on the safety principles to be observed while working on or around aircraft.

Essential Functions:

- Operates a medium-sized turbine-powered helicopter in urban, desert and mountainous environments in the performance of law-enforcement and rescue operations; including, but not limited to: land-based and swift-water hoist rescue operations, body recoveries, short-haul operations, fast-rope operations, unimproved landing-zone operations, and transport of personnel. Operations may be conducted in low-light environments utilizing Night Vision Goggles (NVG).
- Operates a light-observation turbine-powered helicopter in urban, desert and mountainous environments in the performance of law-enforcement and rescue operations; including, but not limited to: low-level law-enforcement patrol, search-and-rescue operations, vertical-reference operations, unimproved landing-zone operations, and transport of personnel. Operations may be conducted in low-light environments utilizing NVG.
- Operates a fixed-wing aircraft in urban, desert and mountainous environments in support of departmental needs, including, but not limited to: surveillance, prisoner transport, observer training, and transport of personnel and equipment. Operations may be conducted both locally and cross country in Visual Meteorological Conditions (VMC) or Instrument Meteorological Conditions (IMC).
- Operates aviation accessory equipment; including, but not limited to: rescue hoist; rescue equipment and devices; Night Vision Goggles; fast-rope assembly; short lines, long lines, cargo nets and remote hook for external loads; rappel and cargo let-down lines; Nightsun searchlight; aerial computer; video recorder; Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR); aviation radios; emergency services radios; lo-jack receiver.
- Performs reconnaissance and/or provides transportation of personnel in order to assist incident commander and/or ground crews in the coordination of law-enforcement activities and/or emergency resources during critical incidents and disaster management.
- Prepares weight and balance plans or load calculations for flight loads under standard and non-standard operating conditions.
- Ensures compliance with Federal and State regulations, and departmental policies and procedures.
- Attends training sessions and conducts training sessions with Sheriff's Office, Fire Department and Allied Agency personnel.

- Instructs personnel on the safety principles to be observed when working on or around KCSO aircraft.
- Prepares and maintains aircraft flight logs and records for assigned aircraft.
- Researches, develops and writes policies and procedures for the: patrol, rescue and flight training programs.
- Develops, plans and conducts: patrol operations training, and rescue operations training.
- Maintains self and assigned aircraft in constant state of readiness for dispatch.
- Performs daily aircraft inspections and authorized preventive maintenance of departmental aircraft.
- Interacts with maintenance personnel and performs post-maintenance inspections and test flights as required.
- Performs other related duties as required.

Employment Standards:

- High School Diploma, G.E.D. or equivalent AND the following certifications/licenses:
- Valid and current FAA Second Class Medical Certificate issued by an authorized medical examiner (AME).
- Valid California Motor Vehicle Driver's License.

AND

Option I:

Required helicopter flight experience:

1. FAA Commercial or Airline Transport Pilot with Rotorcraft-Helicopter rating.
2. Minimum 2000 hours PIC Helicopter flight time.
3. Minimum 500 hours in medium (Type 2) turbine powered helicopters.
4. Minimum 500 hours PIC in mountainous terrain, routinely making takeoffs and landings to unimproved landing areas at density altitudes exceeding 4500' MSL.
5. Night Vision Goggle endorsement with a minimum of 200 hours PIC flight time utilizing Night Vision Goggle devices.
6. Minimum 500 hours PIC performing low-level missions in law-enforcement patrol, search and rescue, vertical reference operations over mountainous or forested areas, or comparable fire service or military operations.

Desired Helicopter Flight Experience

- Certified Flight Instructor with Rotorcraft-Helicopter endorsement
- Night Vision Goggle Instructor endorsement
- Vertical reference and external load operations experience
- UH-1H or other similar Bell Helicopter

OR

Option II:

Required Fixed-Wing experience:

1. FAA Commercial or Airline Transport Pilot with Airplane-Multi Engine Land (AMEL) rating.
2. Airplane Instrument Rating.
3. Minimum 1500 hours PIC Airplane.
4. Minimum 200 hours in PIC Category and Class (ASEL or AMEL).
5. Minimum 100 hours of PIC night flight time.
6. Minimum 75 hours of PIC flight time solely by reference to instruments (actual/simulated).

Desired Fixed-Wing Experience:

1. Certified Flight Instructor Airplane
2. Instrument Flight Instructor Airplane (CFII)
3. Multi-Engine Instructor (MEI)

PHYSICAL STANDARDS:

Physical Examination: In addition to requiring a Class II Medical Certificate, a rigid medical examination by the County Physician is required. The examination includes spine and chest x-rays, blood chemistry and electro-cardiograph tests. Weight must be proportionate to height and age.

Vision: 20-100 uncorrected in each eye, corrected to 20-20, no color deficiency. No permanent or progressive eye abnormalities.

Hearing: No hearing deficiency.

Character: Applicants must have a reputation for honesty and trustworthiness. Felony law violations will be disqualifying, and, except for a limited number of traffic offenses, misdemeanor offenses may be disqualifying.

Knowledge of: Federal Aviation Administration regulations as contained in applicable parts of Section 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (FAA 14 CFR) and Aeronautical Information Manual; working knowledge of the Incident Command System (ICS); department operational policies and procedures; FAA, departmental and interagency radio procedures; mountainous terrain wind effects; fixed and rotary wing flight control systems and equipment.

Ability to: perform essential functions in compliance with State and Federal laws, county ordinances and departmental procedures; accurately interpret flight operation manuals to determine appropriate flight operation characteristics, limitations and operation/performance capabilities of the aircraft; compute weight-and-balance/load calculations for a variety of standard and non-standard load conditions; properly and safely recover from inadvertent flight into instrument meteorological conditions; safely and correctly operate the aircraft in all terrain conditions including desert, mountain and urban areas, and at or near maximum gross weight; operate and maintain as a member of a team and independently at incidents of uncertain duration; effectively communicate with ground and other air resources on all types of incidents; operate complex aircraft navigational and communications equipment; prepare clear, accurate and concise reports related to air operations; adopt effective and timely courses of action when confronted with hazards or emergency situations; properly perform all emergency procedures associated with the aircraft and anticipate operational needs; work effectively with other agencies, co-workers and the public.

All Kern County employees are designated “Disaster Service Workers” through state and local laws (CA Government Code Sec. 3100-3109 and Ordinance Code Title 2-Administration, Ch. 2.66 Emergency Services.) As Disaster Service Workers, all County employees are expected to remain at work, or to report for work as soon as practicable following a significant emergency or disaster.