

Beta Test Information

1. Thank you for your willingness to assist the FAA in Beta testing our new and revised FAASafety.gov web site. Your help is appreciated and will ensure we launch the best possible site. Not only are we releasing a completely re-designed website, but we are also launching revisions to the **WINGS** Program at the same time.
 - a. You may find it valuable to review the comments located in the **WINGS** Blog at FAAwings.blogspot.com
 - b. You don't have to promise a lot of time, so whatever you can do is appreciated.
2. Beta Test URL = beta.faasafety.gov (Note that there is no www in this Internet address)
3. The beta server requires a security username and password; this may be required 3-4 times before you can log in to the Beta Test server.
 - a. The user name = FAABeta, and
 - b. The password = beta (all lower case)
4. You should then be able to use your normal FAASafety.gov login information to proceed.
 - a. If you have trouble logging in with your normal login, please send Bryan Neville an email message at Airmen@FAASafety.gov. Your account will be reset and a reply email with log in information will be sent to you.
 - b. If you don't have an account on FAASafety.gov or cannot remember the log in details, send an email as above and your account will be reset, or a new account will be created for you on the Beta server.
 - c. You can Beta test many pages without logging in, so try them as well.
5. As you test, review the text on a page and decide if it meets the requirements of being clear and concise.
 - a. this is not the live site and any changes, credits, courses taken, Etc. are for testing purposes and will not show up on the live site. Emails will be sent to an offline mailbox, so you won't see any emails. So feel free to issue credit, request credit, and test all functions. Don't be afraid, you won't break it; and if you do, let us know and we will fix it.
 - b. If you find a misspelling or believe the grammar could be improved, please let us know
6. Another goal is to reduce the amount of text on a page and make it clear what a user needs to do to accomplish his or her objective on that page.
 - a. Confirm that the size of the text is appropriate
 - b. Look at the placement of the elements on the page for ease of understanding, ease of use, and necessity on that page
7. A further goal is to reduce the number of "clicks" necessary to accomplish a task, so please comment on the new site navigation, as well.

8. While a page may be new to you, after a 2nd or 3rd look at that page, it should be obvious what is available and how to use all elements on that page. Please comment if you think the steps could be simplified.
9. Please review the attached document, *Summary of Changes*, before starting your Beta testing.
10. Remember, nothing you complete on the Beta server will be reflected in your live account!
11. The new web site should work in all versions of Internet Explorer and Firefox.
 - a. Comment if something seems incorrect, and include the name of your Internet browser.
12. Please send your comments in an email to: Airmen@FAASafety.gov.
 - a. If you reference a specific page, please copy and paste the URL from your Internet browser for that page into your email. That will help us find the correct web page.
 - b. Because of the anticipated response, we may not be able to respond to every comment. However, rest assured, every comment will be reviewed and considered.
 - c. **Please DO NOT call or email the Customer Support Desk**; send all questions to the email address above.
14. Your email address will allow us to clarify any comments you make. It will not be used for any other purpose and will be deleted from the special email box after Beta testing is complete.
13. Please provide your name and telephone number only if you wish to discuss your comments or other aspects of the changes.
14. Please tell us a little about yourself, perhaps by answering the following brief questions, so that we have an idea of your background. You can cut and paste them into your email or just list the individual letters next to the responses.

Beta Tester's Questionnaire

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is your airman status? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pilot b. Mechanic c. Pilot and Mechanic d. Flight Instructor e. None of the above 2. Are you an active Flight Instructor? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> f. Yes g. No 3. Are you participating in the present WINGS – Pilot Proficiency Program on FAASafety.gov? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> h. Yes i. No | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Did you participate in the previous paper-based Wings Award Program <ol style="list-style-type: none"> j. Yes, Highest Phase Awarded?
Phase = _____ k. No 5. Are you an appointed FAAS Team Representative? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> l. Yes m. No 6. How would you characterize your computer experience? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> n. Novice o. General user p. Technically proficient |
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Summary of Changes
WINGS – Pilot Proficiency Program
(Planned for Release in early 2010)

Before the Change	After the Change
Access to the automated WINGS Program is confusing	An entirely new intuitive and user-friendly interface has been implemented
The three levels of WINGS are: WINGS Basic Phase, WINGS Advanced Phase, and WINGS Master Phase	The three levels of WINGS are: WINGS , Advanced WINGS , and Master WINGS
Each Phase can be earned only once every 12 months	Users can earn multiple Phases in each Level, such as WINGS Phase I, WINGS Phase II, etc.
Individual tasks expire exactly 365 days after the completion date	Individual tasks expire on the last day of the month, 12 months after the completion date
A Phase of WINGS expires as soon as any task expires	A Phase of WINGS is valid for 12 months after the completion of that Phase; a Phase of WINGS must be current to be awarded another Phase of WINGS
Tasks to be completed for a Phase of WINGS are found by clicking on a link and searching the database; possible choices are dependent on entries made in the Airman Profile	Tasks to be completed for a Phase of WINGS are dependent on entries made in the Airman Profile and immediately displayed to the pilot in a convenient checklist; users may choose to search for alternative tasks using an improved Activity search feature
All six tasks must be earned within a 12-month period to qualify for a Phase of WINGS	No Change
Instructors must be registered on FAASafety.gov to give credit for a completed task	Any instructor can give credit for completed WINGS tasks; instructors do <u>not</u> need be registered on FAASafety.gov to give credit. More like a logbook experience
Instructors are treated like any other user	Instructors have their own “Portal” to instructor-oriented material, including giving credit
The WINGS Completion certificate does not indicate the date the Phase was earned	The WINGS Completion certificate displays the date that Phase of WINGS was earned; it also displays the date the very first Phase of WINGS was earned

Web site pages contain numerous confusing icons	Confusing icons are replaced with clear text
Individual flight tasks necessary for completion of a Phase of WINGS can be printed	All six tasks necessary for completion of a Phase of WINGS are summarized and can be printed in a single document for easy reference; includes space for validation of completion of each flight task
Elective credits can move between Phases of WINGS and will always fill the lowest Phase first	WINGS credits will remain at the Level at which they were earned
As many as four clicks are required to enroll in an online course	Enrollment in an online course requires only a single click
Confusing terminology, Core and Elective, for example, is used to describe tasks	No confusing terminology is used to describe tasks; a task is a task! All terminology has been simplified
A summary of WINGS credits is located in a 3-part grid, which is sometimes hidden	A summary of WINGS credits is located in a single location that is always available
Some Flight Review information is printed on the WINGS completion certificate in small print	A complete summary of Flight Review information is printed on a separate wallet-sized certificate
There are obsolete instructions in the Aviation Safety Inspector's Handbook concerning renewal of flight instructor certificates based on WINGS participation	There are updated instructions in the Aviation Safety Inspector's Handbook concerning renewal of flight instructor certificates based on WINGS participation (Pending FAA publishing)
Users without access to a computer are not accommodated in the automated WINGS Program	Users without access to a computer are accommodated in the WINGS Program; user accounts are created and credits are validated by validators with a computer
Available seating advertised at a SPANS event (WINGS Safety Seminar) was limited to 85% of available seating to allow for walk in attendance	Revised to advertise all available seats with no limitations (unless the FPM or FAAS Team Representative prefers to limit advertised seating for walk ins)