
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2021 No. 792

The Space Industry Regulations 2021

PART 7

Training, qualifications and medical fitness

CHAPTER 5

Medical Fitness

Medical obligations

- 72.**—(1) The licensee must ensure that—
- (a) all the crew of the launch vehicle, and remote pilots taking part in spaceflight activities, hold a valid medical certificate as required by regulation 73(1);
 - (b) none of the crew has suffered a decrease in fitness due to illness or injury since the date of issue of their medical certificate which might affect their ability to—
 - (i) withstand the physical and mental rigours of spaceflight;
 - (ii) perform safety-critical functions reliably during the spaceflight activities;
 - (iii) carry out any emergency procedures which may be required during the spaceflight activities, including the evacuation of the launch vehicle;
 - (c) no person takes part in spaceflight activities, either as a crew member or a spaceflight participant, if that person is not medically fit to fly;
 - (d) no person participates in the licensed activities if they are not fit to do so.
- (2) The procedures established by the licensee to ensure that it satisfies its obligations under paragraph (1) may include—
- (a) medical examinations and medical assessments by an approved aeromedical examiner,
 - (b) requirements for the crew and remote pilots who hold valid medical certificates to complete self-declarations of fitness, and
 - (c) requirements for individuals who do not perform a specified role to report to the licensee on any occasion when they are not fit to perform their duties.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2), every crew member and remote pilot must submit to such a medical examination or medical assessment when required by the spaceflight operator to do so.
- (4) The procedures referred to in paragraph (2) must be completed before—
- (a) a crew member performs any duty on board a launch vehicle, and
 - (b) a remote pilot takes control of a launch vehicle.
- (5) In this Chapter—
- “approved aeromedical examiner” means an individual who—

- (a) is qualified and holds a valid licence to practise medicine from the General Medical Council,
- (b) has qualifications in aviation or space medicine, and
- (c) has been approved by the regulator for the purposes of carrying out medical assessments or medical examinations for the purposes of these Regulations;

“approved medical assessor” means an individual employed by the regulator who—

- (a) is qualified and holds a valid licence to practise medicine from the General Medical Council,
- (b) has qualifications in aviation or space medicine, and
- (c) has been authorised by the regulator for the purposes of regulations [73\(5\)](#) and [74\(5\)](#);

“medical assessment” means the conclusion on the medical fitness of an individual based on evaluation of that individual’s medical history, medical examinations and medical tests;

“medical examination” means a physical inspection, palpation, percussion, auscultation or other means of investigation, especially for determining medical fitness or diagnosing disease.