



5080 S. Collins St. Suite #104  
Arlington, TX 76018  
(866) 759-6289 Toll Free  
(817) 472-8307  
(817) 472-8715 Fax  
www.skymates.com



### Part 141 / 61 Combined Basic Course

Total Flight Hours 250.0

#### Private Part 141

30 Hrs. Cessna 172 (Dual)	\$190.00	\$5,700.00
10 Hrs. Cessna 172 (Solo)	\$140.00	\$1,400.00
30 Hrs. Ground School		\$600.00
1 Hrs. Pilot kit with books, charts, etc.	\$329.00	\$500.00
1 Written Exam		\$150.00
1 Checkride		\$450.00
1.5 Hrs. VFR Cessna 172 (Solo) Checkride	\$140.00	\$210.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$9,010.00</b>

#### Instrument Part 141

17.5 Hrs. Cessna 172SP (Dual)	\$190.00	\$3,325.00
30 Hrs. Ground School		\$600.00
17.5 Hrs. Simulator (Dual)	\$130.00	\$2,275.00
1 Pilot kit with books, charts, etc.		\$500.00
1 Written Exam		\$150.00
1 Checkride		\$450.00
1.5 Hrs. Cessna 172SP (Checkride)	\$140.00	\$210.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$7,510.00</b>

#### Commercial Part 61 AMEL

20 Hrs. Piper Pa44 Seminole (Dual)	\$350.00	\$7,000.00
155 Hrs Cessna 172 P.I.C. time (Hour Building)	\$80	\$12,400.00
1 Books and supplies	\$100.00	\$100.00
5 Hrs. Ground School	\$45.00	\$225.00
1 Checkride		\$450.00
1.5 Hrs. Piper Pa44 Seminole (Checkride)	\$290.00	\$435.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$20,610.00</b>

#### Total Course

**\$37,130.00**

Course ID # 104

This is an estimate based on minimum hours only.  
Each student will vary depending on his/her learning ability.  
Prices are not guaranteed and may change depending on current fuel and oil prices.



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Skymates Inc. began in 1996 with the idea of training professional pilots using the experience matured in many years in many flight schools in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Our mission from the beginning was: to be honest, provide better training, have a better environment for students and employees.

Skymates Inc. is a FAA Part 141 Flight School and a JAA/EASA approved facility, offering training to individuals and corporations, offering training to thousands of people wanting to make aviation a career or a recreational activity. Our courses of training include: Private Pilot, Instrument Rating, Multi Engine Rating, Commercial Pilot, Airline Transport Pilot, Certified Flight Instructor.

Skymates Inc. success is due mainly to the relationship established with our customers, "Word to mouth" is the best advertising tool for us and the proof is our ongoing growth

As a graduate of Skymates, you will have the option to become an instructor and work for us.

Our facilities are modern, well kept and clean. You will feel at home. You will have access to classrooms, training equipment, high speed and wireless Internet.

With many classrooms of different sizes, our students have plenty of room to study or train.

Our state of the art simulator is utilized for the Instrument Rating portion of the training, it can be used for up to 50% of the required instrument time and for up to 100 hours toward the CPL.

In 1996 Skymates began with the idea of being different from the many small understaffed and under equipped flight school and from the huge impersonal flight training centers. We succeeded; we have the best team of professionals available.

Our primary goal is to be safe and to make a happy customer a returning customer. Thousand of graduates are our testimonial of what we stand for. Everybody from the Flight Instructors, Chief Pilots, Administration Staff, Mechanics is here to meet your needs.

We would be honored to have the possibility to train you. Our team will be happy to offer you a tour of our facilities and answer your question.

Gianluca Fausti  
President of Skymates Inc



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## Lodging and Cost of Living in Arlington, TX

### **Weather**

We have all 4 seasons here in Texas. Temperatures in the summer can range from 25C to 45C, where winters can range from 0C to 20C. There is a saying in Texas, "If you don't like the weather, wait 24 hours." Texas weather is very changeable. Texas has 4 seasons. Most people wear shorts in the summer. The falls and springs are cool and rainy. An umbrella and sweater (one heavy and one light) is necessary. The winters can go from mild to very cold. Bring a heavy coat and gloves. It is recommended that when it gets cold to wear several layers of lighter, loose-fit clothing. This keeps you warmer than clothing that is one-layer and tight fitting. Skymates does not offer a school uniform and would like for you to dress for the weather so that you are comfortable in the aircraft.

### **Money**

Do not carry a lot of cash with you at any one time. If you must make a big purchase, use checks, credit cards, debit cards, or money order. We will assist you in opening a checking account after your arrival here in the US. Most all banks offer a visa debit card with your checking account, which will help you a great deal. Opening a checking account is a simple process and only takes a few minutes and will help you keep track of your spending. You will need a checking account to pay your bills such as electricity and rent.

Banking hours vary throughout the U.S., but most banks are open from 9 am to 3 PM, Monday through Friday. Some banks are now keeping the lobbies open until 5 p.m. with the drive-through open until 7 p.m. Saturday banking hours are usually only until 1 PM. Some airport tellers may extend their hours. Traveler's checks are easily converted into cash and are accepted by most businesses without any problem. Therefore, it is recommended that you change your money into US dollar traveler's checks before leaving your country.

### **Cost of Food**

You can eat lunch in a fast food restaurant for around \$5.00. You will save a lot of money if you purchase your food at a grocery store and cook your meals at home and bring your lunch to school. You can view the cost of groceries at the following link: <http://www.albertsons.com> This is a local common grocery store with average prices.

### **Sales Tax**

When you purchase an item in America, the price the stores put on an item is the price of the item only. The cashier will add in the sales tax when you pay. In the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, sales tax ranges from 7.25 to 8.75 percent. If an item is 99 cents, you will pay around \$1.07 (this is the price + the sales tax). There should not be sales tax on food purchased to take to your home and cook. There is tax on all single serve fast food.

### **The City of Arlington**

Arlington is a great place to live and a well-known tourist area with SixFlags theme park, water park, Texas Rangers Baseball, the New Dallas Cowboy Football Stadium and many other attractions. The following links have a lot of excellent information on the Arlington area and things to do:

<http://www.arlingtontx.com/Default.aspx?tabid=104>

<http://www.allacrosstexas.com/arlington.htm>

[http://www.ci.arlington.tx.us/index\\_visitors.html](http://www.ci.arlington.tx.us/index_visitors.html)

[http://www.moving.com/find\\_a\\_place/cityprofile/results.asp?City=Arlington&State=44&zip=76018&sbmtZIP=Get+Report](http://www.moving.com/find_a_place/cityprofile/results.asp?City=Arlington&State=44&zip=76018&sbmtZIP=Get+Report)

### **ARRIVAL CHECK LIST: IN AMERICA**

- Go to the apartment complex to complete paperwork and to sign lease.
- Apply for Telephone & Electricity (completed over telephone)
- Apply for a Social Security number. (You will not be issued a SS card on an M-1 visa, but you will still have to apply and take the denial letter to the driver's license office to receive your Texas driver's license.) You must be on a minimum of a 1 year visa in order to qualify for a Texas Drivers License.
- Get either your Texas Driver's License or the Texas ID card.
- Open a bank account
- Go to a local general home store to purchase groceries and items needed for apartment.

### **Renting An Apartment**

Most of the apartments here are not furnished. You can furnish an apartment with around 500.00 or less, depending on your taste. You are responsible for the electric bill and telephone with these apartments. The apartments are not within walking distance.

We have 6 houses available to our students. A private room is around 375.00 per month. These are fully furnished with all bills paid. The houses are within walking distance of the school.

Neither the apartments nor the houses are owned by Skymates. There are plenty of both available so you can wait until after you arrive to decide which one that you want. All of the lodging management here requires you to be here personally in order to lease an apartment

If you would like to check out other apartments available in the area you can visit the following websites:

[www.apptlocator.com](http://www.apptlocator.com) [www.texaspt.com](http://www.texaspt.com)

[www.apptselector.com/arlington](http://www.apptselector.com/arlington)

**Requirements for leasing or renting an apartment vary from apartment complex to apartment complex.**

- You need to be 18 years or older.
- Not every apartment complex requires the same papers. When renting an apartment, you must fill out an application. Because international students coming to the U.S. on an M-1 visa are not eligible for a social security card, ask the apartment manager if they accept international students without one. Some do and some do not. You will need to show financial statement or a bank deposit slip, and proof of school registration.
- Every apartment complex requires a security deposit. It ranges from \$50 to \$250. A few apartments are now asking for a larger deposit for students without social security numbers.
- Once you move out of the apartment, you will receive your deposit back if the apartment is in good condition and you complete the term of your lease. Some complexes automatically take out a cleaning fee so you may want to ask about that in advance.
- Some apartment complexes require an application fee (between \$20 and \$40). This is money you have to pay to apply for an apartment. It is non-refundable.
- Some apartment complexes will give students a discount. You have to ask about this also.

**Important Points To Know Before Leasing Or Renting An Apartment**

- Never put down money as a deposit to "hold" an apartment unless you are certain that you want to rent that apartment. If you change your mind, the landlord can and will keep the entire deposit.
- Read the lease carefully before signing. Read all the fine print.
- Negotiate up front. If you don't like something in the lease, ask that it be changed. Maybe it will, maybe it won't. Ask questions about anything that is unclear.
- Put all oral promises in writing, including agreements, notices, and requests for repairs.
- Do not sign the lease for a longer period that you intend to stay. You may not be able to break the lease without penalty. If you break the lease, the landlord will keep your deposit, and may charge you for the time remaining on your lease.
- Every person that signs the lease is legally responsible for the entire amount of the rent. If your roommate moves out, you must pay the full amount, not just your share.
- Know whether the cost of utilities is included in the rental payment.
- Keep a copy of the lease. Make sure it is a copy signed by you and the apartment manager.

All apartments here come with stove and refrigerators. You will be responsible for the electricity and telephone usage. Your electric in a 1-bedroom apartment should run around 50.00 per month. Local telephone service can be established for around 40.00 per month.

**Transportation:**

You can purchase a good used vehicle for around 1500.00. The tax title and license will cost around 350.00. You must have liability insurance in the State of Texas and a driver's license. You may want to have an international drivers license before coming to the states or you can apply for a Texas Drivers license after you arrive. In order to get a Texas drivers license you will need to take a written and a driving test. Insurance can vary in price but the average cost for "liability only" insurance is around 60.00 per month. You can also arrange to carpool with other students if you wish. Write to the school for available carpool options before arrival.



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The Following Will Walk You Through The Process Of Applying For A Student Visa.

1. Contact Skymates for a copy of our application form and submit it to our office.
2. The following documents will need to be sent along with the application. These can be scanned and emailed.
  - a. Scanned color copy of identification and expiration portion of passport.
  - b. Digital Photograph (please see application for specific directions)
  - c. **Non-refundable Application fee of \$500.00**  
(These funds can be wired directly to Skymates or you may pay by international money order. Contact the school for bank wire information.)
  - d. Proof of financial responsibility. This needs to be an official bank document showing that you have funds available for flight training desired and living expenses. Living expenses are based at \$700.00 per month while you are in the US. If the funds are deposited in a bank in another individual's name you will need to have that person send a letter stating that they will be financially responsible for your living expenses and flight training while in the US.
3. Skymates will then send you an acceptance letter along with an M-1 visa application (also called an I-20 form).
4. **Complete the form I-901 online** at <https://www.fmjfee.com/index.jhtml> the cost for this will be \$200. **You will receive a receipt immediately after registration print this out and keep it for your appointment with the US Embassy.** Later you will receive your official receipt of payment in the mail. You must complete this step prior to scheduling your interview appointment with the American Embassy. Important - the information you enter on the Form I-901 must match exactly as you entered on the Form I-20. **Include an additional \$30.00 to expedite the process if needed (recommended if you don't have a printer at the time). You may pay this fee by credit card online or you can print out the application and send it with a money order issued by an American bank. You must have this receipt when visiting the US Embassy to apply for your visa and you will need to forward a copy of this receipt to the school also.**
5. The prospective student must call the nearest U.S. Embassy for an appointment to receive approval of the M-1 visa. The student will then go to the U.S. Embassy with the appropriate documents for a routine interview. Appropriate documents include: Form I-20; Passport; Financial Statements; Receipt for payment of Form I-901. The student will be notified as to whether they have been approved or disapproved. If all is in order, the U.S. Embassy will provide the student with an M-1 Student Visa, permitting the student to enter the U.S. The length of time for this process varies from country to country. It may be a good idea to practice your interview with a friend or family member and to research the aviation field in your home country. Three of the most important questions asked by the Embassy are as follows:
6.
  - a. **Why you would like to become a pilot?**
  - b. **What assurance can you give us that you will return to your home country after completion of your flight training?**
  - c. **How do you know that you can obtain a position as a pilot after returning home?**

It is often necessary to make two or three trips to the US Embassy/Consulate before they will issue you a visa. Don't give up hope if you are denied a first or even a second or third time. This is standard policy. Just because they say don't come back doesn't mean you shouldn't return and try again, unless you are given a written statement stating that you should not return before a specific date. Several of our students here now are studying because they didn't give up. Many students complain that the people in our Embassies are not very polite. Do not be taken aback if this is the case. Just keep trying. You should show as little contact with people in the United States as possible and should be able to demonstrate that, without a doubt, your pilot training will benefit you in your home country. Any evidence of home country permanence--for instance, ownership of a home, family staying behind, ownership of a business etc--will dramatically improve your chances of obtaining a visa. Show as much of the money as possible from home country sources. The fact that you have relatives over here does not help you get a visa, and it may hurt you (their main fear in giving out visas is whether or not you intend to leave the US after graduation). We will not call the Embassy on your behalf. The US State Department is clear in saying that we should not do so. Calls to the Embassy are reserved for life-threatening concerns.

Be prepared to talk about how pilot licenses from the United States will assist you in your country. This is one of the questions that often come up in the interview.

The U.S. has changed the organizational structure of its immigration system, and along with that will come occasional problems as people adjust to the new system. Don't be surprised to hear different people say different things about what you should and shouldn't do to obtain a visa. The keys to obtaining the visa remains:

- An academic goal
- The ability to use your Pilot License within your own country
- Connections to your home that appear strong enough to last while you study elsewhere

In your interview, whatever questions they ask, these three main ideas will be valid for their final decision, don't forget that. Evidence that you can provide to support those three ideas will also assist you greatly.

**Good luck!** We know how difficult it can be to receive an approval for a student visa. We wish you the best and remember that all this work now will ultimately pay off.

***Visa Approval:***

Contact the school administrator immediately after Visa approval so that we may confirm your training date and answer any questions before arriving.

7. [Fill out application for a background check](https://www.flightschoolcandidates.gov) at <https://www.flightschoolcandidates.gov> with TSA online. The application-processing fee for each course is \$130. If there is no fingerprinting agency located in your home country, you will need to have the fingerprint portion completed after entering the United States. You can verify if there is an agency in your home country by going to the above link and completing the form, after which, an email will be sent to you requesting fingerprints and you will be given access to a website that will show you all fingerprinting agencies. The TSA fee does not have to be paid until after you have received approval for your M-1 visa.
8. Time to pack your bags! After receiving an M-1 visa, the student must provide Skymates with the details of his/her travel arrangements before entry to the United States. This includes flight information and arrival time at DFW International Airport. Upon request, Skymates will schedule a pick up service from the Airport.
9. It is recommended that all International Students purchase a "Medical/Accident" Insurance Policy prior to arriving in the U.S., for the length of time they are in flight training at Skymates. There are several insurance companies listed on the Internet to help you with this service.
10. If you plan on driving in the US you will need to have an International License.

**Admission Requirements for obtaining a Pilot License in the United States:**

1. Read, speak, write and understand the English language.
2. Pass a US approved medical exam.
3. Vision must be 20/20 with or without corrective lenses.
4. Age requirements:
  - a. Must be at least 16 to solo
  - b. Must be at least 17 for Private Pilot
  - c. Must be at least 18 for Commercial Pilot
  - d. Must be at least 23 for Airline Transport Pilot
5. Must pass a written exam and final checkride for each course.



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**Mandatory Registration Process for  
Non-US Citizens Attending a Flight Training Program**

**TSA**

**Completing the registration process with TSA takes 30 days. To do this the following will need to be completed:**

Go to TSA's website and enroll at: <https://www.flightschoolcandidates.gov>

After filling in the beginning of their form, they will email you a login name and password. You will then go back to their website and complete the application. There are 2 steps to this process. Once you finish the first step you will need to return to their home page and sign in again. There will be an option to complete and submit their application. If you do not complete this process, your application will not go through. TSA will charge a fee of \$130.00 US which you can pay on-line with a credit card. TSA will then email the school to ask if you have tried to enroll in our school. Our school will answer this email immediately 5-7 days after this you will receive an email telling you that you need to be fingerprinted before final approval. Up to this point should take about 1 week. Unfortunately, there are very few locations outside United States to have this done. They are working on changing this. So please check their website often to see if there is somewhere you can do this in your home country, before you enter the US, in order to have this process completed before you arrive if possible. If this is still not an option, you can have the fingerprints taken at DFW airport after you arrive. You do not need an appointment for this. The office at DFW is currently charging 20.00 for this. Each agency may or may not charge a fee. They are open for fingerprinting from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday thru Thursday and 9:00 am to 12:00 pm on Friday. You may begin your flight training once the school has received notice from TSA that you have been approved for flight training.

**Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the TSA Form:**

**What is the Course ID Number?**

141

**What is the Course Name?**

Choose Only One:

Initial

Instrument

Multi

**(You will have to reapply with TSA for each above course)**

**What is the Course Description?**

**Choose Only One:**

Initial

Instrument

Multi

**What is the Aircraft Type?**

CE 172 CE 152 (for Private Pilot) please put all available aircraft for the training you will be taking.

**What is my Start Date?**

Put the start date stated on your Form I-20

**What is my End Date?**

Put the end date as 3 months from the start date. This date is not important. TSA gives you 365 days from your start date to complete.

**What is my Student ID Number?**

Your Student ID number is the number on your SEVIS I-20 form that the school will send to you when you apply for enrollment.