

## Right-Seat-Companion Course Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Who are the 99s?** The Ninety-Nines is an international organization of licensed women pilots from 35 countries. We are a non-profit, charitable membership corporation holding 501(c)(3) U.S. tax status. The organization was chartered in 1929, at Curtiss Field, Long Island, New York, with 99 women pilots present. Amelia Earhart was elected the first president. The 99s have service and educational missions; the Right Seat Companion Course is an initiative of the Scioto Valley Chapter.
2. **What is my cost for the entire weekend?** The cost of the Right Seat Companion course is \$200.00, which covers materials and instructors, as well as breakfasts and lunches. Each student is responsible for any aircraft rental and fuel, and for any necessary lodging for Saturday night. A student may choose to take only the ground school portion for \$100.
3. **What do the classes cover?** In ground school, students learn about how an airplane flies and the basic instruments on the aircraft panel; navigation, including ground aids and traffic patterns; radio operation and important frequencies to memorize. In flight training, students learn how to operate the aircraft, interpret the instruments, identify landmarks, fly a traffic pattern, and land the aircraft from the right seat.
4. **Where do I get an airplane?** Students are responsible for providing their own aircraft. They may use the aircraft of their spouse or companion or make arrangements for a rental aircraft.
5. **How long are the classes?** Ground school is two hours on Saturday morning and two hours on Sunday morning (ca. 9:00 – 11:00 am).
6. **How large is the class?** The class is limited to 10 students (minimum 5).
7. **When will the flying take place?** Flight instruction is scheduled for two hours Saturday after the ground school and will finish with two hours on Sunday. If a rental aircraft is necessary, it is wise to schedule the aircraft for the entire weekend to assure its availability.
8. **How many hours total will I need to be there on those days?** You will be at the airport for approximately six hours on Saturday (breakfast at 8:00 am, ground school, lunch, and two hours of flying in the afternoon). We generally finish Saturday by 3:00 pm. On Sunday, we will offer breakfast at 8:00 am. You'll then finish your two hours each of ground school and flight time. We will also offer a light lunch on Sunday, before presenting you with your certificate. We should be finished at the airport by 2:00 pm. Flight times are, of course, dependent on the weather.
9. **When do I get to eat?** Saturday and Sunday will include continental breakfast and lunch.
10. **How long will I be flying?** Most instructors will limit each flying session to one hour and then come back to the facility for a break. But you and your instructor will decide.

11. **Are the flight instructors qualified?** Each flight instructor is qualified to fly the specific aircraft to which they are assigned. They all hold current flight instructor certificates and meet all FAA requirements.
12. **Can my pilot companion (spouse, friend, partner) fly with me?** We strongly discourage this. The intent of the program is to get the non-flying person comfortable in their own aircraft. All of the flight instructors are aware that the student may have concerns and will work with each one individually to help put them at ease. Ninety-Nines members will be available to help as well.
13. **What happens if the weather is not favorable for flying?** Flights will take place only during times when the weather is acceptable on the scheduled days; if the full four hours of flight time are not possible, each participant can make arrangements with the flight instructor assigned to them. If the forecast is not favorable for the entire week-end, the event may be cancelled and the registration fee returned to the participant.
14. **Are there any age limitations?** Each participant must be at least 16 years old or older. Male or female. Students under 18 must have written parental permission.
15. **What if I don't live in or close to Columbus?** There are several quality hotels on the west side of Columbus. We can make suggestions if wanted.
16. **Can I leave the aircraft overnight at the airport?** Yes. Any needed special arrangements, such as hangaring, should be made with the airport manager, John Duhl (see below).
17. **How do I get to the Madison County Airport?** The airport is approximately 18 miles west of I-270 on old U.S. Route 40. By air: The identifier is UYF. It is on the Cincinnati sectional. The unicom frequency is 123.0.
18. **Where will we meet?** Our ground school classes and breakfast and lunch will be upstairs, in the main FBO building.

For further questions, contact Mary Biller ([mbiller99@gmail.com](mailto:mbiller99@gmail.com)) or John Duhl ([jduhl@co.madison.oh.us](mailto:jduhl@co.madison.oh.us)).