



# Academy of Model Aeronautics

5151 E. Memorial Drive Muncie IN 47302 • loisp@modelaircraft.org  
(765) 287-1256 • Fax (765) 741-0057

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## AMA Introductory Pilot Program

Effective January 1, 1991

(Applies to all categories of model flying — RC, CL, and FF)

Please Note: This program is not intended to alter or replace any instructor program offered by AMA Chartered Clubs for their AMA-licensed members. This program is only intended to introduce the non-AMA member to aeromodeling while providing liability insurance coverage to the non-AMA member and the Chartered Club. This program is optional.

A non-AMA member may fly at a Chartered Club field and receive member liability insurance protection as long as he/she is flying under the direct supervision of a club-designated Introductory Pilot. The Introductory Pilot must hold a current AMA open membership license with the "Intro Pilot" classification. Supervised flights must take place at an AMA Chartered Club's field, and must be closely supervised in a one-on-one relationship. The non-AMA member will have the same liability insurance coverage that other AMA members receive, solely while under the direct, one-on-one supervision of the Intro Pilot, for a period of 30 consecutive days starting from the first session. No other AMA benefits are provided to the non-AMA member.

Participation in this program is on a one-time basis only; an extension cannot be granted for any reason. This program covers training activities only, and does not constitute permission to fly in any organized event of AMA members or clubs, sanctioned or otherwise. No AMA card will be issued to the non-AMA member during the 30-day introduction period.

Intro pilots should use a model with which they are familiar. If the non-AMA member's model is used, it should be carefully checked and the Intro Pilot should fly it until familiar with it. High performance aircraft should not be used for training. For radio control clubs, a "Buddy Box" is recommended. Aircraft must be identified with the owner's name and address, or the club's name, address, and charter number.

Chartered Clubs are allowed to designate three (3) Open AMA Members as Intro Pilots each year. AMA HQ will verify that the designee is a current Open Member. There is a \$5 per pilot administrative fee in addition to the Open Member's annual dues. A Club Officer must complete the Introductory Pilot Designation Form and submit it to AMA HQ with the \$5 fee. An Intro Pilot may work with more than one Chartered Club; however, he/she must be designated by each Club and the \$5 fee must be paid by each club.

All record keeping is the responsibility of the Chartered Club and its designated Intro Pilots. Using forms provided by AMA, clubs shall establish and maintain up-to-date records showing date of enrollment and date of termination for each non-AMA member enrolled in the program. Failure to maintain records may be cause for revocation of the Intro Pilot's status. Neither the Club nor the Intro Pilot is permitted to charge any training fees. The granting, duration, and revocation of Intro Pilot status is at the sole discretion of the Chartered Club.

The Intro Pilot must instruct the non-AMA member in club-related field safety rules. Each non-AMA member must be given a copy of the AMA National Model Aircraft Safety Code, and a copy of this document. Policy limits for model aircraft are \$2,500,000 per occurrence involving bodily injury and/or property damage with an overall limit of \$15,000,000 in the aggregate. This coverage is provided as "excess" to other applicable coverage the non-AMA member, club or Intro Pilot may have. Property damage claims carry a \$250 per accident deductible. No liability protection is provided to the non-AMA member when flying away from the Chartered Club site, with or without the Intro Pilot. Neither AMA, the Chartered Club, nor the Intro Pilot shall be liable for any damage done to a non-AMA member's aircraft.

A report to AMA HQ of any incident is the responsibility of the Intro Pilot and the Chartered Club. A telephone report by the close of business the following business day, followed by a written report, is required.

Clubs are encouraged to develop and implement their own formal training program. Contact AMA for information, suggestions, and samples of programs being used by other clubs.



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## Summary of Introductory Pilot Program Instructions for Clubs and Pilots

Please Note : This program does not alter or replace any instruction program that your club might already have in place! The Introductory Pilot Program makes it possible for a newcomer to fly at the club field before he/she has received an AMA membership. It provides insurance coverage through AMA for the club, the Intro Pilot, and the new pilot.

### Clubs:

1. Designate up to three (3) members of your club membership as Intro Pilots. They must be current Open members of AMA and should be experienced instructors.
2. Fill out Form #1, the Intro Pilot Designation Form. It must be signed by a club officer.
3. Send the form to AMA with the appropriate fees: \$5.00 for each Intro Pilot designated by your club.
4. When the Designation Form is processed, the Intro Pilot will receive a supply of Trainee Logsheets and Trainee Registration Forms. Xerox copies are acceptable, or you can request more copies from AMA HQ.
5. As your Intro Pilots sign up students, keep copies of their Trainee Logsheets in the club's files.
6. Official Introductory Pilot Program rules and regulations should be kept on hand by each Club, and every Intro Pilot should be familiar with the rules.

### Intro Pilots:

1. Once you've been designated as one of your club's Intro Pilots, you need to have a supply of two forms: #2, the Trainee Logsheet, and #3, the Trainee Pilot Registration Form. You should also have AMA applications and hand-outs. All of these forms can be requested from AMA HQ.
2. When you sign up a person who is not an AMA member, fill out a section of your current Trainee Logsheet for him/her.
3. Have your trainee fill out the Trainee Pilot Registration Form.
4. Send the Registration Form to AMA HQ. The forms can be FAXED to (765) 741-0057 if you have access to a FAX machine. It's important for the Trainee Registration Form to be postmarked within 48 hours of the trainee's first flight.
5. Give each trainee copies of the AMA handouts for new fliers and official Introductory Pilot Program rules and requirements.
6. Proceed as usual with your program of flight instruction. The trainee is covered under the AMA's liability insurance policy, as long as he/she is flying at the club field under your direct, one-on-one supervision, for a period of 30 days from the first session.
7. If there is an incident that may involve a claim on the AMA's insurance policy, it is the responsibility of the Intro Pilot Instructor and/or Club officers to make a telephone report to AMA HQ by the close of business the following business day. A follow up written report is also required.

### Questions?

Call AMA HQ between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. Ask for the Club Secretary, (765) 287-1256, extension 291, FAX (765) 741-0057.



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## Introductory Pilot Program Designation Form Form #1 — For Club Use

Chartered Club name \_\_\_\_\_

Club No. \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Use this form to designate a maximum of three (3) Introductory Pilots from your club. Introductory Pilots must be Open AMA Members. There is a \$5.00 fee for each AMA Open member named as an Introductory Pilot. A new AMA membership card will be issued denoting the "Intro Pilot" status of the member. If you have already applied for or received a 2000 membership card, an additional card will be mailed to you. Please complete this form and return it with the appropriate fees. For additional information, call the Club Secretary in the Membership Department at AMA HQ, (765) 287-1256, extension 291.

Designated Introductory Pilot	AMA No.	2000 Intro Pilot Fee
1. _____	_____	\$5.00
2. _____	_____	\$5.00
3. _____	_____	\$5.00

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Club Officer Name \_\_\_\_\_ AMA No. \_\_\_\_\_

Club Officer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**HQ USE ONLY**

Date Processed \_\_\_\_\_ Form of Payment \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_