



FLIGHT TRAINING *Prospectus*

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OUR *Mission*

Provide **superior flight instruction** and mentorship to produce a pilot who is **skilled, mature**, makes **good decisions** and is dedicated to a **successful aviation career**.

Maintain our position as a **national leader** in rotary flight training through practice and promotion of professional **flight safety standards**.

Ensure the high value of our trainee pilots to **future employers** through a culture of **professional** and **progressive** conduct.



WELCOME TO *Wanaka Helicopters*



We are a family owned and directed flight training school and commercial helicopter operator conducting scenic, commercial, charter and training flights year round, in one of the most beautiful locations in the world.

We have been operating in Wanaka since 1992 and have established ourselves as NZ's premier and most experienced helicopter flight training school.

We have delivered hundreds of private PPL and CPL rotary licences and host the country's most productive Ministry of Education approved Diploma in Aviation programme.

Owner and Chief Flying Instructor, Simon Spencer-Bower is NZ's most experienced helicopter flight instructor, recently celebrating his 22,000th flight hour. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the Queen's Service Medal for services to aviation and the Helicopter Association International, Certified Instructor of the Year 2015 award.

At Wanaka Helicopters we offer private (PPL), commercial (CPL) training, and tertiary training including the Diploma in Aviation NZDipGA (Helicopter).

The Diploma programme is designed to equip students with skills required to set them above

most CPL licence holders for early employment with a commercial operator or future path toward ATPL, Air Traffic Control or becoming an Air Operator themselves.

We have also developed NZ's top Advanced Helicopter Mountain Flying training and highly sought after specialist practical experience.

The surrounding Southern Alps provide an exceptional flying environment. Perfect for developing all round flying skills and Wanaka Airport comes with the benefits of having uncontrolled airspace and a variety of nearby training areas.

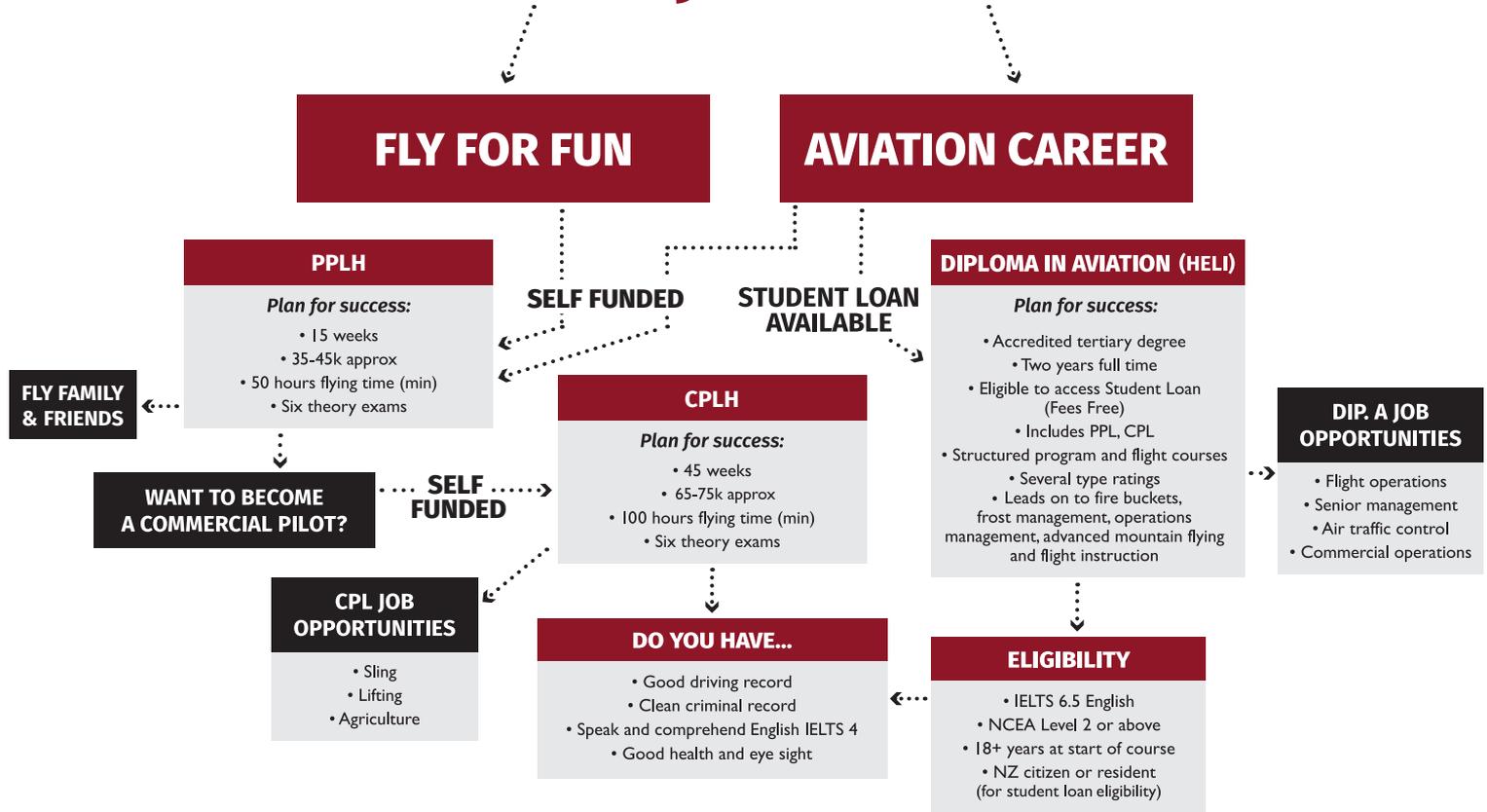
This ensures more productive flight training time and development of mountain flying skills - the hallmark of Wanaka Helicopter pilots being valued around the world.

The Wanaka area is also an extremely popular place to enjoy a wide range of outdoor recreation activities beyond flying.

Our team operates in and around our mountains on a daily basis. Our helicopter fleet consists of Robinson R22, Guimbal Cabri, Robinson R44 and Airbus AS350 Squirrel helicopters, all of which are used for flight training, scenic and commercial work. Several other aircraft types are available for specific training requirements.



WHAT'S *your* DREAM?



MEET *Our Team*

The experienced and dedicated individuals of the Wanaka Helicopter team are passionate about what we do and our special location in the world.

Our flight instructors will be your first point of contact as a prospective student. They can answer any questions about course planning, enrolment, or Wanaka life.

Each pilot brings a specific set of skills and experience to the team, accessible to every WHL Trainee. Trainees will engage with a single instructor for some skill areas, but every trainee will fly with several instructors to benefit from their individual backgrounds.

Wanaka Helicopters is family owned and directed on a daily basis by the Spencer-Bower family. Simon, Carolyn, Chris and Pete offer superior training and commercial services. It is more than a business for us, it is a family legacy.



FLIGHT *Instructors*



SIMON SPENCER-BOWER

Simon guides the Wanaka Helicopters team and provides support and advice for all students. Simon is an A category Flight Instructor, a General Aviation Flight Examiner, and having been in the aviation industry for nearly 50 years, is highly experienced in all aspects of helicopter operations and commercial work.



DEAN WILLIAMSON

Dean has flown in many environments and countries and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the business. Dean is a senior B category Flight Instructor and also flies scenic and commercial operations.



NICK MILLAR

Nick is an experienced Agriculture Pilot and leads our frost fighting and other Ag operations. Nick is a senior B category Flight Instructor and Flight Examiner. Besides instructing, he also enjoys all aspects of scenic and commercial operations.



WILL SIMPSON-SHAW

In addition to being a Commercial Pilot and Flight Instructor, Will is also a Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineer, learning this trade in the RNZAF. Will teaches aviation theory and is often the first contact providing support and advice for prospective students including trial flights and interviews.



FLIGHT *Instructors*



CHRIS SPENCER-BOWER

Chris is based between the USA and NZ where he flies commercially and instructs on several helicopter types. Chris specialises in sling training and is very good at looking after and providing guidance in all flight aspects to students and leading several theory courses.



PETE SPENCER-BOWER

Pete is a very experienced Commercial Pilot having flown fire fighting and commercial operations in Canada and NZ operating his Greenstone Helicopters company on the South Island's rugged West Coast. Pete is also a Flight Instructor.



DARRYL SHERWIN

Darryl particularly enjoys mountain flying. He provides a wealth of SAR and Air Ambulance experience as a former Ambulance / Rescue Helicopter pilot.



BRIAN PAAVO

Brian is WHL's Academic Coordinator, looking after all of our Diploma students and maintaining most of our private trainee records. In addition to programme applications, enrolment, scheduling, and student finance assistance, Brian participates in several theory courses and leads WHL's responsibilities as a signatory to the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International (and Domestic) students.



OUR Fleet

Wanaka Helicopters operates an extensive and modern training fleet of piston and turbine helicopters. Our fleet is maintained to the highest industry standards and includes:

- Robinson R22 (2 place)
- Guimbal Cabri G2 (2 place)
- Robinson R44 (4 place)
- Airbus AS350 SD (Squirrel) (7 place)
- Airbus AS350 B2 (Squirrel) (7 place)
- Several other types may be available to meet specific training requirements

While these are our main training helicopters, as a student you will be exposed to many different types of helicopters in the course of your training.

The Diploma includes three type ratings (R22, G2, R44) which is of great benefit to students entering the commercial environment.

We pride ourselves on the presentation of our fleet, so that during training and commercial operations students and passengers are able to enjoy a comfortable experience, and focus on the task ahead. All of our aircraft are used day-to-day in flight training and commercial operations.

“ **Wanaka Helicopters** has been training flight instructors since the early 1980's. We are passionate about flight training and pride ourselves in **producing exceptional instructors** ”

– Simon Spencer-Bower (Owner/Director)





PRIVATE PILOT LICENCE (PPLH)

This requires a minimum of 50 hours of flight training of which a minimum of 20 hours is flown dual with an instructor and a minimum of 15 hours is flown solo.

The first 15 to 25 hours training covers basic air exercises and generally learning to operate the helicopter before completing the 'first solo' flight.

Trainees then progress to compulsory advanced exercises including 5 hours mountainous terrain flights and 10 hours of cross country (navigation) flying.

In conjunction with the flight training, six theory exams have to be passed including air law, meteorology, navigation, air technology, flight radio and human factors, a spoken English examination is also required.

Private training students undertake self-directed study and schedule their own theory examinations. Wanaka Helicopters staff will help identify resources

students can purchase to prepare or help direct trainees to extended tutors or training programs.

Navigating the regulatory environment can be a challenge but we stand by our trainees, helping guide them through each stage culminating in an official log book review and flight test with an examiner.

Every trainee and training schedule is different, but we pride ourselves on a high flight test success rate for trainees with 50-60 flight hours experience. Age and training flight frequency are important components for success so we support a personalised approach to training programme design.

WHL can arrange a Public Trust or full-time flying schedule (20+hours per month) to help you achieve your goals most efficiently.

We welcome trainees from anywhere in the world for private training. The official global language of aviation is English, so spoken English and English comprehension standards apply.





COMMERCIAL PILOT LICENCE (CPLH)

A minimum of 150 flight hours of training is required, of which 35 hours must be solo flight. Similar flying exercises are covered as in a PPLH, but to a much higher standard and in a broader range of environmental conditions.

In addition, 10 hours of sling (external load) training must be completed. During the 100 hours required over and above the 50 hour PPLH requirement, additional advanced training can be done depending on the student's ability and progress such as advanced mountainous terrain, advanced sling load operations, type ratings and some practical 'in the field' operational flying, such as power line inspection.

Six additional CPLH examinations must be passed with advanced topics in aviation law, meteorology, navigation, helicopter principles of flight, helicopter

technology, and human factors. Helicopter principles of flight and helicopter technology are two separate exams in the commercial licence as opposed to one for the private licence. A PPLH flight radio pass suffices for CPLH licensing.

CPL training culminates in a local and mountain flight test with an independent external examiner.

As a Ministry of Education approved Private Tertiary Organisation, WHL can report CPL credentials to appear on your official academic record. Trainees find that earning their CPL from WHL opens doors to employment through our industry reputation and trainees regularly take advantage of instructor references to gain their first position.

“ What I was taught was **beyond the standard** level of instruction, and I really benefited from the **practical approach** our instructors took in lessons ”

– Remy Lewis (Dip in Aviation)





ADVANCED MOUNTAIN FLYING

Wanaka Helicopters offers advanced mountain flying instruction. This is a non-compulsory course that can be taken at the end of a student's CPL or is available to existing CPL's looking for more experience.

This is recognised by the CAA and is in addition to the mountain training received within the private and commercial licence.

This course is designed to teach advanced aspects of mountain flying, including but not limited to procedures, assessments and illusions associated with snow, high altitudes, mountain wind conditions, limited power and low level operations in variable horizon environments.

The full course is 10 hours of flying and associated theory but mountain hour building can be reduced or increased to suit individual requirements.

“ I have always loved the outdoors and mountains and when I decided to learn to fly I wanted to find a school that would give me the **credentials and expertise to be able to fly in this type of environment**. I chose Wanaka Helicopters because they were the only flight school that provided flight training in this environment and the only school that offered a course in **Advanced Mountain Flying** ”

- Charlotte Newbold (CPL)





DIPLOMA IN AVIATION *(Helicopter)*

(GENERAL AVIATION) LEVEL 5

Train for your aviation future amongst Wanaka's stunning mountain landscape. Study core flight theory, plus essential aviation subjects for commercial operators. Acquire superior flight skills by training in a mountainous environment with highly experienced flight instructors during the two year full-time qualification. All courses are taught at Wanaka Airport where trainees actively participate in operations as part of their training in a commercial environment.

Wanaka Helicopters' Diploma includes everything you need plus extra flight opportunities, ratings, and invaluable ground operation experience to provide you for your commercial flight test (typically 150-152 flight hours).

OVERVIEW

The New Zealand Diploma in Aviation (NZDipGA) has been developed by the New Zealand aviation industry for both fixed and rotary wing pilots. It is a nationally recognised qualification administered under NZQA and ServiceIQ.

The Diploma results in candidates graduating with a Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Commercial Pilot Licence, Helicopter (CPLH) and a Diploma in Aviation. The Diploma comprises more than 25 unit standard courses and modules combined into one, two-year qualification. These courses encompass topics and aspects of aviation over and above those required for a basic Commercial Pilot

Licence. The Diploma is structured to start a professional pilot on a career path, graduates will attain considerable extra operational and theoretical knowledge and practical skills that put them at an advantage when seeking employment as commercial pilots.

AIM

The purpose of this qualification is to provide the General Aviation sector of the New Zealand Aviation Industry with graduates who have attained sufficient operational and theoretical knowledge and practical skills to operate as commercial pilots and/or associated support staff in flight planning and aircraft operations.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After successfully completing the course, graduates will be a qualified commercial helicopter pilot, with type ratings for single engine helicopters, able to exercise the privileges provided for by CAANZ in New Zealand including ground operations, flight planning and assisting operators with their safety management systems (SMS).





DECIDING IF WE ARE RIGHT FOR YOU!

TWO STEPS AND YOU ARE IN THE PILOT SEAT!

Step 1

DECIDE

The first step in starting your career in aviation is choosing the right school and qualification for you.

- Check out our Flight Training guide.
- Contact the liaison team at Wanaka Helicopters.
- If you're at high school, talk to your Career Advisor. Secondary school subjects that can aid your study are English, geography, maths, physics, and economics.
- Talk to people in the aviation industry.
- Decide if private training or the Diploma is the right pathway for you.

Step 2

CHECK YOU MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION

Requirements for Private Training

- Good driving record
- Clean criminal record

- Good health and eyesight
- Speak and comprehend English IELTS 4

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DIPLOMA IN AVIATION

- Are you at least 18 years of age at programme start date?
- Will you have NCEA Level 2 equivalent or above?
- Do you speak fluent English? IELTS 6.5 or equivalent is our minimum level.
- Are you a NZ citizen or have residency? (necessary only if applying for a student loan)

READY TO TURN THE KEY?

Contact us: 0800 46 36 26
training@wanakahelicopters.co.nz

Or drop in at the Wanaka Airport!

**YOU'RE one of a kind
AND SO ARE WE, SO WHY
GO ANYWHERE ELSE?**





GRADUATE Profile

JARED FALLAVER



Jared's fascination with helicopters came as a child when the local search and rescue helicopter was based next to his house. Thinking helicopters were "pretty cool" he had some private lessons in his early twenties, bought a logbook and was soon hooked on flying.

Taking advantage of an interest-free student loan, Jared decided the Diploma in Aviation (Helicopter) was the perfect training to start his aviation career. After starting flight training at another school Jared transferred to the Wanaka Helicopters Diploma Programme in 2015.

Jared most enjoyed being able to learn to fly in an environment people come from all around the world to see. The challenges of technical mountain flying, nearby low fly training zones, high flight hours of instructors, and the family atmosphere we provide made it a great fit for him.

Jared found the additional courses undertaken during the Diploma useful, particularly those around safety management systems and crew resource management. Jared says "At the time I didn't know when I would ever use some of the content but it has proven really valuable in my current job based in Papua New Guinea."

The perfect job rarely shows up right after graduation. So Jared juggled truck driving while taking on part-time ground crew, frost protection

and maintenance flight operations for a New Zealand operation after completing his Diploma.

Within a few months however, an opportunity he couldn't refuse came knocking! Putting his best foot forward in his CV, adding some great references from our instructors and a willingness to move quickly resulted in a job flying Bell 212's in Papua New Guinea.

Starting within a week of applying, Jared was off to Port Moresby with a three year contract working for an operator that supplies helicopter services to the Papua New Guinea defence force. Jared's work involves moving defence force personnel around for border protection, soldier deployment into areas of civil unrest and operating a winch capable helicopter for search and rescue. A very mountainous and remote terrain with dense rainforest up to 14,000ft means helicopters are the easiest way to transport personnel and equipment around the country.

In his third year of duty he will focus on work around oil and gas operations undertaking pipeline surveillance and personnel transport in a Bell 412 Helicopter.

Jared's goal is to work long lining with twin engine helicopters and to eventually be a pilot back in Wanaka or Queenstown "The Helicopter Capital of New Zealand!"



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

WHL is a nationally accredited training provider with the New Zealand Qualification Authority and is a signatory of the Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students .

CODE OF CONDUCT

In summary, to ensure:

- High professional standards are maintained.
- The recruitment and contractual dealings with international students is undertaken in an ethical and responsible manner and information supplied is comprehensive, accurate, and up-to-date.
- International students are in safe accommodation and the particular needs of students are recognised.
- WHL has fair and equitable internal procedures for the resolution of international student grievances.

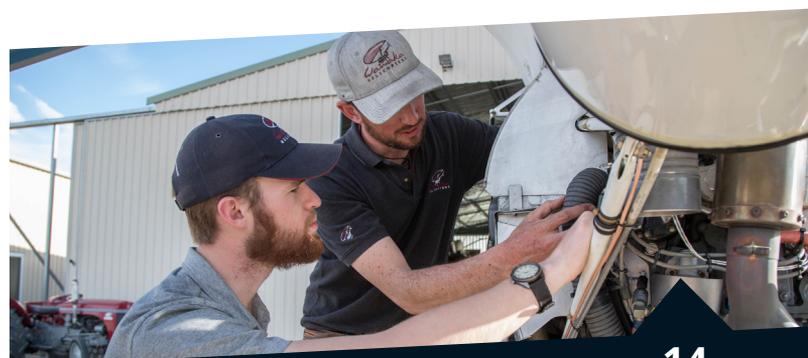
REQUIREMENTS

Our responsibility to international trainees means that, if you are not a New Zealand or Australian citizen, you must have:

- Medical and travel insurance , including insurance for flight operations.
- An appropriate visa or permit to study in New Zealand .You can visit the New Zealand Immigration Service website (www.immigration.govt.nz) for more information.
- An English translation of Justice Department and/or police reports for the CAA Fit and Proper Person application.
- Proof that you have the ability to support yourself whilst in NZ (access to \$NZ10,000.00 per year).
- An IELTS test result 6.5 for the Diploma in Aviation if English is not your first language.

Wanaka Helicopters can provide assistance to successful applicants with obtaining a student visa.

Please note that all mandatory paperwork must be signed in English, before application for a student will be made to the New Zealand Immigration Service.







CONTACT US

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