

Instrument Rating Cost Estimate

Overview

Take your Private Pilot Certificate one step further and pursue an Instrument Rating, a fun, yet challenging accomplishment. An Instrument Rating offers a pilot increased skill, increased safety, lower insurance premiums, confidence, and convenience. For anyone seeking a professional pilot career, an instrument rating is typically a requirement. The following cost breakdown is based on FAA required minimums.

Cost Breakdown

45 hours* of instruction in a PA28-140 at \$132 per hour	\$5940
10 hours of ground instruction with CFII at \$39 per hour	\$390
Northstar Aviators signup fee	\$250
Northstar Aviators monthly fees at \$60 for 4 months	\$240
Books and Supplies	\$150
Instrument Pilot Ground School (self study or with CFII)	\$300
FAA Written Exam	\$165
FAA Flight Exam	\$400
Total	\$7835
<i>Training in Cessna R172XP (45 hours at \$147 per hour)</i>	<i>\$8510</i>
<i>Training in student provided aircraft (45 hours at \$39 per hour)</i>	<i>\$5545</i>



DISCLAIMER: Cost for written and flight exams are estimates and may vary. All prices are NOT guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. These estimates are based on the average student pilot who flies 2 to 3 times per week. Aviation rental insurance is not required but highly recommended and costs generally start at \$85 per year.

Northstar Jet

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Northstar Aviators Club Rates

Piper PA28-140 Rental	\$93/hour
Cessna R172XP Rental	\$108/hour
Piper PA28R-200 Rental	\$130/hour
Instruction	\$39/hour

Northstar Aviators Club Fees

One Time Signup Fee	\$250
Monthly Fee	\$60

FAA Time Requirements

Instruction with CFII	15 hours
Instrument Time	40 hours
Cross-country in Airplane	10 hours
Cross-country PIC	50 hours

Students are advised that these costs are the FAA minimum requirement. Total flight time will depend on a student's progress. In our experience, we find that it takes most students between 45 and 55 hours to complete training. This training assumes the student already has a majority of the required 50 hours of cross-country PIC time.

Cost Estimate at 55 Hours

Additional 10 hours of dual in Piper PA28-140 with CFII	
Total	\$9155
<i>Cessna R172XP with CFII</i>	<i>\$9980</i>
<i>Student Aircraft with CFII</i>	<i>\$5935</i>

** 14 CFR 61.65 lists required flight experience to obtain an instrument rating. Only 15 hours of instruction are required, although the average student will require more. The rest of the simulated instrument experience may be acquired with a safety pilot. This can amount to cost savings of up to \$1000.*