

October 1, 2007

Dear Airport Sponsor:

In May of 2007, Governor Baldacci signed L.D. 213, "An Act to Establish an Airport Managers Training Program" into law as Chapter 76 of the Public Laws of 2007 (a copy of which is attached). As its title indicates, this law establishes a formal requirement that all managers of air carrier, commuter air carrier and general aviation commercial airports meet certain minimum training requirements. The law further requires that the Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) establish a program for providing and administering this training, and that all designated airport managers complete the training within sixty days of the program's establishment.

In consultation with the Maine Airport Managers Association and individual airport managers from throughout the state, MaineDOT has developed the Maine Airport Managers Training Program, which is described in the enclosed program guide. The program will be effective on November 1, 2007. As noted above, all airport managers will be required to complete this training or obtain an exemption by January 1, 2008. Commencing with the 2008 airport registration cycle, the department will not be able to issue registration certificates to airports that are not in compliance with this or any other of the minimum standards required by 6 M.R.S.A. Chapters 4 and 6.

Enclosed you will also find the Maine Airport Registration Application for 2008, which is significantly different from the form used in previous years. This new application provides definitions, eliminates unnecessary data, and requests information specifically pertaining to the minimum airport standards required under Maine law, which must be met as a condition for registration. We will hold your airport registration application until your designated manager has completed the training described herein, or been granted an exemption.

The Maine Department of Transportation, Office of Passenger Transportation, is ready to provide current and prospective airport managers with all possible assistance in meeting these new training requirements. Please do not hesitate to contact Alan Brigham for airport registration questions (624-3120 or alan.brigham@maine.gov) or Jennifer O'Bryon for airport managers training questions (624-3240 or jennifer.o'bryon@maine.gov).

Sincerely,

Jennifer O'Bryon
Aviation Policy Analyst
Office of Passenger Transportation

Public Laws of 2007, Chapter 76

An Act to Establish an Airport Managers Training Program

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 6 MRSA §102, sub-§2, ¶C is enacted to read:

C. An airport manager designated pursuant to paragraph A must complete training pursuant to this paragraph within 60 days of designation. The department, in consultation with a Maine airport managers association, shall establish and provide a training program for all airport managers designated pursuant to paragraph A. The commissioner, in consultation with a Maine airport managers association, shall determine the level of training necessary for the airport manager designee. Levels of training are based upon the classification of airports pursuant to subsection 1.

Sec. 2. Establishment of training program. The Department of Transportation shall establish a training program for all airport managers designated pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 6, section 102, subsection 2, paragraph A within 90 days of the effective date of this Act. Notwithstanding Title 6, section 102, subsection 2, paragraph C, an airport manager designated pursuant to Title 6, section 102, subsection 2, paragraph A prior to the establishment of a training program by the department is required to complete that training program within 60 days of the establishment of that training program by the department.

SUMMARY

The bill requires the Department of Transportation, in consultation with a Maine airport managers association, to establish and provide a training program for airport managers. The bill also requires that airport managers complete the training program within 60 days of designation.