

Airports that possess a FAA Part 139 Operating Certificate are exempt from the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau licensing and inspection requirements. Thus, any airport with FAR Part 139 operations which are inspected by FAA Certification Inspectors are not required to be inspected by Aeronautics Bureau personnel. The operating license will be renewed annually upon a determination by the FAA that the facility is in compliance with FAA requirements.

14 CFR Part 139 requires the FAA to issue airport operating certificates to airports that:

- 1) Serve scheduled and unscheduled air carrier aircraft with more than 30 seats;
- 2) 2) Serve scheduled air carrier operations in aircraft with more than 9 seats but less than 31 seats; and
- 3) The FAA Administrator requires to have a certificate.

This Part does not apply to airports at which air carrier passenger operations are conducted only because the airport has been designated as an alternate airport.

Airport Operating Certificates serve to ensure safety in air transportation. To obtain a certificate, an airport must agree to certain operational and safety standards and provide for such things as firefighting and rescue equipment. These requirements vary depending on the size of the airport and the type of flights available. The regulation, however, does allow the FAA to issue certain exemptions to airports that serve few passengers yearly and for which some requirements might create a financial hardship.

For more information regarding FAR Part 139 operations, please visit http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/airports/regional_guidance/southern/airport_safety/part139_cert/part_139_overview/index.cfm