



MULTI-ENGINE INSTRUCTOR (MEI)

You are cleared for takeoff on a new career!

Here's your "twins + teaching = turbocharged fun" roadmap to earning your FAA Part 61 Multi-Engine Instructor (MEI) rating—so you can pass on the joy (and the quirks) of flying twins!

1. Meet the Prereqs

- **Age & Language:** You must be **18 years old** and able to **read, speak, write, and understand English**—so you can explain everything from “why we feather” to “when that yaw bar kicks in.”
- **Existing Certificates:**
 - Hold a **Flight Instructor Certificate (CFI)** with airplane privileges.
 - Hold a **Multi-Engine Rating** on your pilot certificate (land or sea, as desired).
- **Medical Currency:** Maintain at least a **Third-Class Medical** (or higher) and a current flight review—because you'll be signing off your own students' reviews, too!

2. Ground & Flight Training

Under 14 CFR 61.197, you'll need tailored instruction to teach multi-engine skills:

- **Ground Instruction:**
 - **Multi-Engine Aerodynamics & Systems:** Asymmetric thrust, critical engine theory, V_{mc}, feathering props, fuel management—plus how to teach these concepts clearly.
 - **Instructional Techniques:** Lesson planning for engine-out demos, risk management in multi-engine operations, and effective in-flight coaching methods.
- **Flight Instruction (Dual):**
 - **Engine-Out Demonstrations:** Establish, detect, and recover from simulated engine failures—while narrating your “student” through each step.
 - **V_{mc} Demonstrations & Recoveries:** Show the yaw, the roll, and the recovery—then coach the student to replicate it safely.
 - **Single-Engine Performance:** Climb, cruise, and approach on one engine—your future pilots' confidence booster.
 - **Normal Ops & Emergencies:** Two-engine takeoffs/landings, drift-down drills, feathering procedures, and emergency checklists.

Pro Tip: Log both your “teaching” and your “twin-engine” objectives—dual instruction under the hood counts double toward your expertise!

3. Endorsements & Logbook Sign-Offs

Your mentor CFI (or an FAA-approved instructor) must endorse you for:

- **Practical Test Eligibility (61.197):** “You're ready to tackle the MEI checkride!”
- **Training Completion:** That you've mastered both the multi-engine maneuvers and the art of instructing them.

Each endorsement is your green light to the MEI practical exam.



AIRLINE TRANSPORT PILOT (ATP)

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4. The Checkride (Practical Test)

- **Oral Exam:**
 - Demonstrate your lesson plans—engine-out briefings, Vmc theory, single-engine performance charts, and teaching strategies for upset recoveries.
 - Field “what-if” scenarios: “What if your student delays feathering?” or “How do you keep a calm cockpit during a simulated fire drill?”
- **Flight Exam:**
 - **Instructor Demo:** Give a live multi-engine lesson—intercepts, holds, approaches, and engine-out drills—with the examiner playing “student.”
 - **Student Drill:** Switch roles and correct the examiner’s simulated mistakes—showing your adaptability and safety focus.

Pass this, and voilà—you’re an FAA-certified Multi-Engine Instructor, cleared to teach complex twins!

Tips for Turbocharged Teaching

- **Shadow Experienced MEIs:** Observe how pros balance safety, clarity, and encouragement in the cockpit.
- **Use a Simulator:** Practice both maneuvers and teaching calls in a qualified sim—your students (and wallet) will thank you.
- **Master the POH & Charts:** Be fluent in performance tables and weight-and-balance charts—confidence here makes for smooth lessons.
- **Stay Current:** Teach at least one hour every 12 months to keep your MEI privileges alive—and consider adding a turbine or jet instructor rating down the road!

Ready to swap seats and show pilots how twins really fly? Your next chapter as an MEI is cleared for takeoff!