



Redbird Simulator Policy

Version: 12/31/2023

Policy

- 1) Purpose and Introduction
 - a) The primary purpose of the EAA Chapter 723 Redbird Simulator is to support a wide range of educational activities, including youth and adult aviation programs such as EAA Young Eagles and Eagles; as well as the EAA 723 general membership.
 - b) The simulator is intended to be an educational aid for members either in furtherance of their aeronautical education or to maintain proficiency.
 - c) The EAA 723 Redbird simulator is an approved Advanced Aviation Training Device (AATD) that allows a user to legally log time in search of a rating and/or to maintain currency, given the time is logged is in accordance with Federal Aviation Regulations.
 - d) The Redbird simulator shall not be used for personal financial gain/benefit. See also Procedures section 4 "Special Provisions for Instructors".

- 2) Requirements for Use - To use the simulator, a person must:
 - a) Be an active member of EAA 723 in good standing.
 - b) Have received simulator training/orientation from a Board-approved individual.
 - c) Be the individual at the controls of the simulator, not a person providing instruction or coaching.
 - d) Pay for simulator use in accordance with this policy, either at time of use or as pre-paid block time.
 - e) Not disclose any passwords or otherwise to non-approved members or outside individuals.
 - f) Ensure that all logging of time using the EAA simulator in furtherance of a rating and/or to maintain currency is accomplished in accordance with Federal Aviation Regulations.
 - g) Use the simulator as an "operator" only, and not perform any system administration to the Redbird Software, WI-FI, or Database. In addition, no one is allowed to modify or install software on the Redbird simulator or the laptop.
 - h) Youth that are receiving an orientation flight as part of Young Eagles, or other supported youth organization, must be under the guidance of an EAA 723 member that has been approved to provide orientation to youth.

- i) The operator of the Redbird must keep the area clean and professional. All trash and personal items must be removed from the simulator area upon completion of a session.
- 3) Rates
- a) Rates are subject to change throughout the year, at the discretion of the Board.
 - b) The current rate for general EAA 723 membership is \$30/hour.
- 4) Enforcement
- a) An individual who is found in violation of this policy shall be cautioned, may lose Redbird privileges, and may include a Board decision to revoke Chapter 723 membership.
- 5) Updates and Changes
- a) The Policy will be reviewed at least annually in the month of November of each calendar year for user suggestions, software updates, or FAR mandated modifications.
 - b) Updates may be at any time, as approved by the Board.
 - c) The reasons for all updates will be documented in the Change Log.
 - d) Approved updated versions will be available in the chapter's website at:
<https://www.eaa723.org>

Procedures

- 1) General Overview - The main components of the Redbird simulator are the Console and Server:
 - a) The Console includes all the items normally found in an airplane cockpit such as fuses, switches, circuit breakers, flight controls, engine controls, navigation and flight instruments, avionics, and radios, etc. In addition, it has visual screens which show views out of the cockpit.
 - b) The Server is a dedicated computer that runs all the Redbird program applications. The server also runs a Wi-Fi network which provides web access to it. This provides an added safety factor and security layer, as the operator does not physically connect to the server. Rather they log onto the server's webpage from a separate device. Note, EAA 723 has provided a laptop for opening the server's webpage. See diagram below:



- 2) Getting Started - If you are interested in using the Simulator, you must:
 - a) Be an active member of EAA 723 in good standing. Please confirm with the Membership Director/s to assure you are shown as active in the database. Note: if you are not an EAA 723 member in good standing, the orientation will not be scheduled.
 - b) Review the EAA 723 Simulator Policy (this document) and agree to comply with it.
 - c) Schedule a checkout/orientation session with the Redbird leader/system administrator approved by the Board, currently Tom Estrada.
- 3) Orientation – The checkout/orientation will cover the basics so that you are able to operate the Redbird on your own.
 - a) Topics discussed will include:
 - i) Getting Started
 - ii) Starting the Server and the Laptop
 - iii) Selecting a Flight Scenario

- iv) Connecting to Foreflight on your own device to track your flight
 - v) Starting, Pausing, and Ending the Flight
 - vi) Shutting down the Server and the Laptop
 - vii) Ending the session (Locking up, Logging time, and Payment).
- b) You will receive a detailed checklist as part of the orientation.
 - c) The orientation is for “flight operations” only.
 - d) Only the assigned system administrator may perform any system updates or modifications to the Redbird Software, WI-FI, or Database.
- 4) Special Provisions for Instructors
- a) If “dual” time is to be logged, Instructors must assure it is done in compliance with all applicable FARs.
 - b) The general EAA policy of not soliciting other EAA members or guests for business transactions is also applicable to instruction on the Redbird simulator.
 - c) If you assist or provide demonstration flights on the Redbird to Young Eagles, all participation must adhere to the national EAA “Youth Protection Policy for Young Eagles.” Among other things, that policy forbids initiating meetings or interactions with any Young Eagle or extending your relationship to other activities. In short, do not solicit any participant in Young Eagles, including their guests and families.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- 1) When, and how, do I pay for simulator time? Payment is due at the time of usage. There are no IOU's. Specific methods of payment will be covered in the Orientation/Checkout. Simulator time for the initial Orientation is charged at the normal rate, currently \$30/hour, and is based upon Block TIME. Should the person providing the Orientation also be an Instructor, they MAY NOT charge for their time to provide the Orientation/Checkout
- 2) May I bring my own instructor? Yes. EAA 723 takes no responsibility for instruction. The simulator is provided to membership for personal usage. We will provide an orientation to show you how to operate the simulator, but you are responsible for what you use it for, whether pleasure or instruction. Should you desire flight instruction, you may bring your own CFI or CFII, as your guest. If you plan to log your time, where allowed by FARs, we recommend you verify the credentials of the instructor. As your guest, you are responsible for them. You should not give them any passwords to the EAA hangar, or the Redbird Simulator.
- 3) What if my instructor and I are current members of EAA 723, may I continue to use them for instruction, including instruction in the Redbird? Yes, there is no prohibition for any EAA 723 member, whether student or instructor, from interacting and transacting business with each other. While this policy does prohibit instructors FROM SOLICITING and charging for training using the Redbird, it DOES NOT PROIBIT A MEMBER (you), from maintaining an existing relationship with an instructor. Nor does it prohibit you from seeking instruction from a fellow EAA 723 member that is also an instructor. If you have requested a fellow EAA member provide instruction they may charge an agreed to rate, for instruction.
- 4) May I use a Certified Ground Instructor with the Simulator? No, see the link referenced below. This link provides FAR references that state that a Ground Instructor cannot provide any flight instruction in a simulator, nor can they endorse your logbook for anything other than for "ground" instruction. See: <https://landing.redbirdflight.com/posts/can-a-ground-instructor-provide-training-in-a-sim>".
- 5) Can I use the Redbird Simulator for maintaining instrument currency? Yes. FAR 61.57 (c) (2) permits instrument currency to be accomplished on the ground using an AATD, such as the Redbird. In addition, simulated instrument time can be logged in an AATD, but only during the time when the visual component of the training session is configured for instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) and the pilot is maintaining control solely by reference to the flight instruments. You should discuss this during your initial Redbird orientation, as it may be appropriate to schedule a follow-on "advanced" orientation session to cover simulating IMC conditions, and other advanced topics.

Redbird Policy Change Log

Change #	Version Date	Change
2022-1	11/05/2022	Initial version created, dated 11/05/2022
2022-2	11/16/2022	Change log created to document changes by version date. Consolidates items and duplicates from previous un-versioned policy docs. References Documents and Resources tab on the chapter website: https://chapters.eaa.org/ea723/chapter--documents-and-resources as location for Rates and Members authorized to provide Orientation.
2022-3	11/18/2022	Policy version 11/18/2022, and Supporting Document approved and published on chapter website: https://chapters.eaa.org/ea723/chapter--documents-and-resources
2023-1	06/01/2023	Limited leaders authorized to provide checkouts to include Al Cossey and Tom Estrada only. Also clarified that only Al Cossey was authorized to provide system maintenance.
2023-2	11/30/2023	Removed references to old website and added reference to new website: https://www.ea723.org . Removed references to the “Supporting Document” which has been removed, per Board decision to publish only general membership rates, and not display names of leadership that are authorized to pay a discounted rate.
2023-4	12/31/2023	Changed Redbird Leader from Al Cossey to Tom Estrada