

FAA Requirements for Filing Flight Plan

Following any of the below will preclude a Full Route Clearance Readback.

The FAA will not accept direct flight plans with destinations outside of the originating Center boundary. Example: Departure LYH (Washington Center), Destination D38 (New York Center).

For FAA required procedures on filing Direct, refer to Chapter 5 of the AIM or the DUATS Newsletter No. 42 dated February 2003. Enter a NAVAID/FIX or FIX RADIAL DME within the first 200 miles of the originating Center's boundary or use the DUATS Flight Planner.

Centers normally accept Jet and Victor Airways; however, this is not always the case. To ensure acceptance, enter the first NAVAID/FIX that is outside the originating Center's boundary and is on the airway. Example: V000 NAVAID/FIX V000 will preclude Full Route Clearance Readback.

Temporary Flight Restrictions

Every day there are new "Temporary" Flight Restrictions (TFRs) and it is extremely important to know if any will affect your intended route of flight. Since 9/11 more and more flight restrictions are being issued providing a segment of airspace designed to provide security for persons on the ground. Additional restrictions are being issued for disasters and hazards. The regulations for TFRs are contained in FARs 91.137 - Restrictions in the vicinity of security, disaster/ hazard areas, 91.138 - Restrictions in national disaster areas in the State of Hawaii, and 91.141 -

Restrictions in the proximity of Presidential and other Official Parties.

TFRs are issued by various authorities in the FAA; however, all have one thing in common: the facility location identifier used in the header of the NOTAM are assigned to ARTCCs: Example: FDC 3/1144 ZDC (ZDC is the identifier for Washington Center.)

Security TFRs are driven by the status of the National Terrorist Alert. Some may come and go or change size but they are

considered essential to National Security. The question is not how can we get these restrictions removed, but HOW do we get all applicable TFRs that affect our route of flight. No one wants to trespass on a TFR.

There are several Web links that offer access to TFRs, some to FAA sites, but be careful as these sites may not be current or official. To be sure you have OFFICIAL NOTAMS information you should contact DUATS or Flight Services.

How Do I Get TFRs From DUATS?

To understand how DUATS works in the distribution of TFRs, you must first understand that TFRs are issued as FDC NOTAMs with ARTCC IDs.

Standard Weather Briefings - Temporary Flight Restrictions are provided with all Standard briefings. These DUATS briefings will identify every Center the flight corridor touches or passes through and treats these Centers as if they were individual facilities providing NOTAMs assigned to these Centers. The only variable is the width of the briefing weather

corridor you designate. (The weather corridor or area is selectable from 10 to 100 NM in 5 NM increments.)

Outlook Weather Briefings - Temporary Flight Restrictions will be provided with these briefings only if FDC NOTAMs are requested. If FDC is selected, the distribution is identical to that described in Standard Briefings above.

Abbreviated Route and Defined Radius Weather Briefings - Temporary Flight restrictions will be provided with these briefings only if FDC NOTAMs are

requested. If FDC is selected the distribution is identical to that described in Standard Briefings above. (Note: Defined Radius allows for up to 500 NM)

Abbreviated Location Briefings - By entering the ARTCC ID as a location you will get all of the FDC NOTAMs for that Center.

GRAPHICAL TFRs - This is the best way to get all current TFRs. The service is only available on Web DUATS. This service provides a graphic view of the lower 48 States, Alaska, and Hawaii showing all current TFRs. By clicking on a specific TFR it can be viewed on a Sectional. Each display offers the full NOTAM text as well as an overview of the NOTAM text located just below the graphic. Even though these graphics are plotted accurately based on the Lat/Long provided, you should not rely on the sectional presentation to accurately display land references. Give all TFRs a wide berth.

Please retain your DUATS Newsletters for future reference.

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FDC NOTAMs Describing General Flight Restrictions

These NOTAMs address:

FDC 2/0199 - The Airspace in the vicinity of any stadium having a seating capacity of 30,000 or more in which a major league baseball, national football league, NCAA division one football, or major motor speedway event is occurring.

A link to the FAA providing stadium locations is [http:// www.faa.gov/ats/ata/waiver](http://www.faa.gov/ats/ata/waiver). It is the pilot's responsibility to determine when the stadium is in use.

FDC 1/3352 - The airspace in proximity to sites such as nuclear power plants, power plants, dams, refineries, industrial complexes, military facilities and other similar facilities.

The full text of these NOTAMs can be found by selecting FDC as the location ID in Location Weather Briefing. They are also available on the first page after selecting Graphical TFR from the main DUATS Web Page.

Official FAA Weather Route Briefings

Weather Briefings provide the following types of Weather:

Standard: Provides ALL within the specified corridor/area selected.

Outlook: Provides FA, WW, WS, WST CWA, WA, and TAF automatically. (Criteria for request is a departure time of at least 6 hours in the future.) NOTE: METAR, FD, UA, NOTAM-D and FDC NOTAMs, SD, ATC Flow Control are optional.

Abbreviated Weather: LOCATION, COLLECTIVE, ROUTE AND DEFINED RADIUS - Allows the user to select the weather type. LOCATION will provide selected weather only if the facility reports that weather type. If you select HUF as the location you will only get TAF, NOTAM, METAR, and UA BECAUSE THEY ARE THE ONLY WEATHER TYPES THIS FACILITY REPORTS. (For weather reported by a specific facility use Extended Decode.) The other abbreviated selections provide all requested weather within the specified area.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING TFRs: USE FDC AS THE WEATHER TYPE AND THE ARTCC ID FOR THE LOCATION. EXAMPLE: LOCATION ZSE WITH FDC SELECTED WILL PROVIDE ALL FDC NOTAMS IN THE SEATTLE CENTER'S AREA.

Additional information on how DUATS processes weather:

When requesting a route briefing, DUATS automatically provides all available weather types that may affect a defined corridor for a route of flight. Weather Types provide weather for either a specific location or an area.

Weather Types for specific locations are:

Surface Observations	METAR
Terminal Forecasts	TAF
Winds Aloft Forecasts	FD
Pilot Reports	UA
Radar Summaries	SD
FDC NOTAM	FDC
NOTAM-D	NO

Weather Types for areas:

Area Forecasts	FA
SIGMETs	WS
AIRMET	WA
Center Weather Advisories	CWA
Convective SIGMET	WST
Hurricane and Tropical Depressions	WH
Severe Weather Forecast Alerts	AWW
Severe Weather Outlooks	AC
Severe Weather Warnings	WW
Amended Severe Weather Forecasts	WW-A

DUATS searches the specified corridor along the route of flight identifying weather reporting facilities. If one of the area weather types applies to any portion of the flight corridor it is provided also. There are two corridors, one for weather in general and one for wind (FDs).

Note that FDC and D NOTAMs are considered as weather types. However, you will not get NOTAMs with IDs of FDC (national notices) or ZZZ (state department notices) with standard or outlook briefings. The best way to get these FDC types is to enter FDC and/or ZZZ as a location in Abbreviated Location Weather Briefing and select FDC as a weather type.

DUATS constantly receives and stores up-to-date weather and NOTAM data from the

FAA. This is the same weather used by FSSs and ARTCCs. DUATS weather is available in both "Plain Language" and Standard FAA Aviation formats.

Some tips on requesting weather from DUATS:

Departure Time: (Required) Enter proposed DEPARTURE TIME in Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) as (hhmm), or (+mmmm) format. (In Web DUATS you also have the option of selecting a local time.)

Altitude: Enter in a Flight Level format. Example: 120 for 12,000 feet.

Estimated Time Enroute: Enter as hhmm.

Aircraft ID: Enter aircraft registration number (Leading letter(s) required)

Departure, Destination, and Alternate: Enter LOCATION ID. Either a three or four character identifier may be used. Example: BOS or KBOS

Route: To obtain the most accurate briefing enter elements to define the intended route of flight. If left blank, the briefing will be based on a great circle.

Plain Language Time Zone: Selecting a Time Zone will provide translated weather for the zone selected. Plain Language displays both UTC and the selected Time Zone.

The following advisories are offered with Outlook and all Abbreviated Weather Briefings:

General FDC NOTAMs: (Optional) Checking this box adds Flight Data Center (FDC) NOTAMs that are not associated with an affected facility identifier to your briefing.

ATC Delay and Flow Control Advisories: (Optional) Adjust the flow of traffic into a given airspace, along a given route, or bound for a given airport.

Tropical Depression/Hurricane Advisories: (Optional) Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf advisories are provided.