

TBL 1-1-6
GPS Approval Required/Authorized Use

Equipment Type ¹	Installation Approval Required	Operational Approval Required	IFR En Route ²	IFR Terminal ²	IFR Approach ³	Oceanic Remote	In Lieu of ADF and/or DME ³
Hand held ⁴	X ⁵						
VFR Panel Mount ⁴	X						
IFR En Route and Terminal	X	X	X	X			X
IFR Oceanic/Remote	X	X	X	X		X	X
IFR En Route, Terminal, and Approach	X	X	X	X	X		X

NOTE-

¹To determine equipment approvals and limitations, refer to the AFM, AFM supplements, or pilot guides.

²Requires verification of data for correctness if database is expired.

³Requires current database or verification that the procedure has not been amended since the expiration of the database.

⁴VFR and hand-held GPS systems are not authorized for IFR navigation, instrument approaches, or as a primary instrument flight reference. During IFR operations they may be considered only an aid to situational awareness.

⁵Hand-held receivers require no approval. However, any aircraft modification to support the hand-held receiver; i.e., installation of an external antenna or a permanent mounting bracket, does require approval.

1-1-18. Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS)

a. General

1. The FAA developed the WAAS to improve the accuracy, integrity and availability of GPS signals. WAAS will allow GPS to be used, as the aviation navigation system, from takeoff through approach when it is complete. WAAS is a critical component of the FAA’s strategic objective for a seamless satellite navigation system for civil aviation, improving capacity and safety.

2. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has defined Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for satellite-based augmentation systems (SBAS) such as WAAS. Japan, India, and Europe are building similar systems: EGNOS, the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay System; India’s GPS and Geo-Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) system; and Japan’s Multi-functional Transport Satellite (MT-SAT)-based Satellite Augmentation System (MSAS). The merging of these systems will create an expansive navigation capability similar to GPS, but with greater accuracy, availability, and integrity.

3. Unlike traditional ground-based navigation aids, WAAS will cover a more extensive service area. Precisely surveyed wide-area reference stations (WRS) are linked to form the U.S. WAAS network. Signals from the GPS satellites are monitored by these WRSs to determine satellite clock and ephemeris corrections and to model the propagation effects of the ionosphere. Each station in the network relays the data to a wide-area master station (WMS) where the correction information is computed. A correction message is prepared and uplinked to a geostationary earth orbit satellite (GEO) via a GEO uplink subsystem (GUS) which is located at the ground earth station (GES). The message is then broadcast on the same frequency as GPS (L1, 1575.42 MHz) to WAAS receivers within the broadcast coverage area of the WAAS GEO.

4. In addition to providing the correction signal, the WAAS GEO provides an additional pseudorange measurement to the aircraft receiver, improving the availability of GPS by providing, in effect, an additional GPS satellite in view. The integrity of GPS is improved through real-time monitoring, and the accuracy is improved by providing differential corrections to reduce errors. The performance