

Kneeboard

Flight training records, without the paperwork.

User Guide

A walkthrough for CFIs and student pilots, first time through the app.

What is Kneeboard?

Kneeboard is built for independent, solo flight instructors and their students. The core idea is simple: after a lesson, the CFI speaks a short debrief out loud. Kneeboard transcribes it, uses AI to pull out a structured lesson record - skills practiced, proficiency, notes - and the CFI reviews and saves it. The student instantly sees their own progress and any homework, without either side doing paperwork.

The app is two-sided: one person is signed in as a CFI, another as a Student, and the two accounts link together through an invite. Everything below walks through both sides, in the order a new user would actually encounter them.

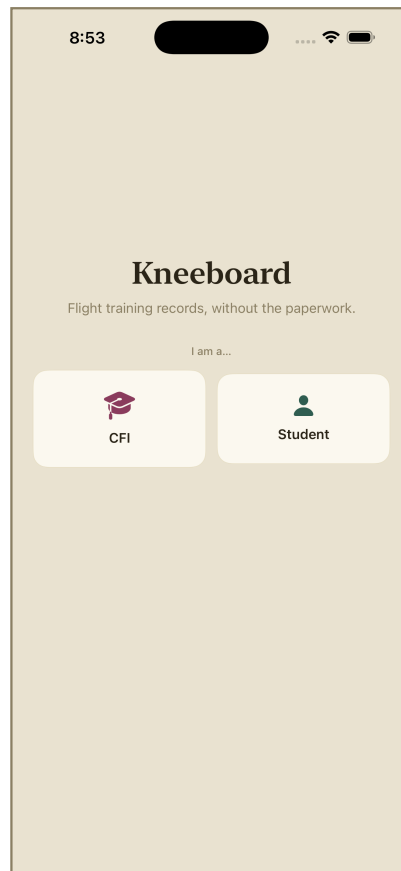
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1. Getting started

Choosing CFI or Student

The first time Kneeboard opens, it asks who you are. This choice is per-device and sets the whole app's experience - a CFI sees a schedule and a student roster; a student sees their calendar, homework, and progress.



Choose "CFI" if you're the instructor, "Student" if you're training.

After picking a role, sign in with Apple (recommended) or tap "Use email instead" if you'd rather not use an Apple ID. Either way, this just gives your profile an identity - there's no separate password to remember day-to-day; once you're in, the app opens straight to your role on that device.

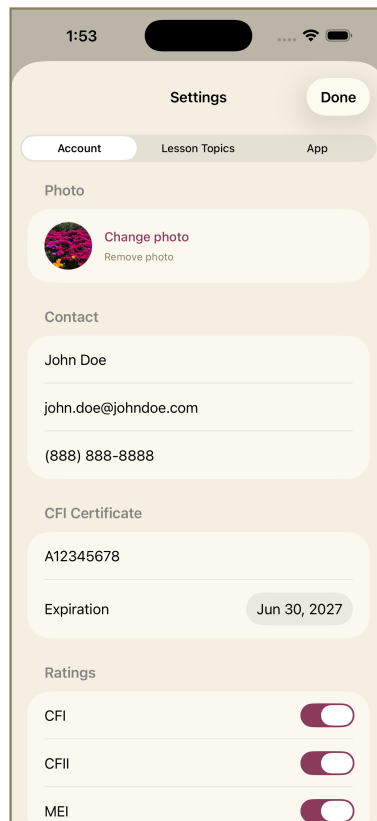
A CFI and a student are separate installs/accounts - typically two different phones. The two sides connect afterward through an invite (see "Adding a student.")

2. Setting up your profile

CFI account details

From the Schedule tab, tap the gear icon (top right) to open Settings, then the Account segment. This is where a CFI records the details students and the app itself rely on:

- **Photo**
Optional - shown to your students in place of your initials.
- **Contact**
Name, email, and phone - phone auto-formats as you type.
- **CFI Certificate**
Certificate number and expiration date.
- **Ratings**
Toggle CFI / CFII / MEI as they apply to you.



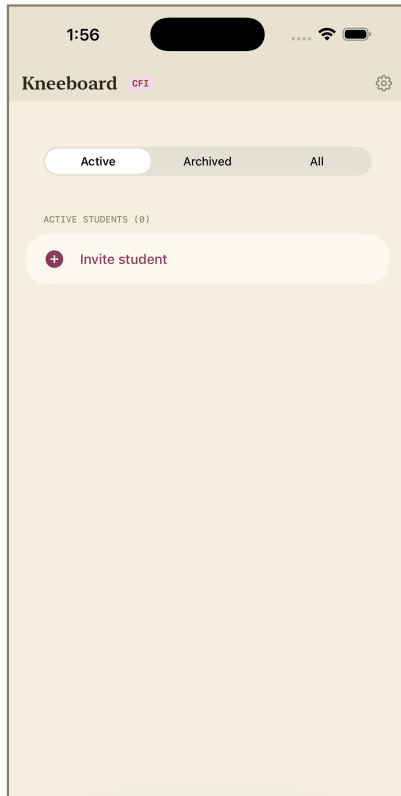
Settings -> Account

Students have their own equivalent profile screen (name, email, phone, and their own training checklist) reachable the same way from their Settings.

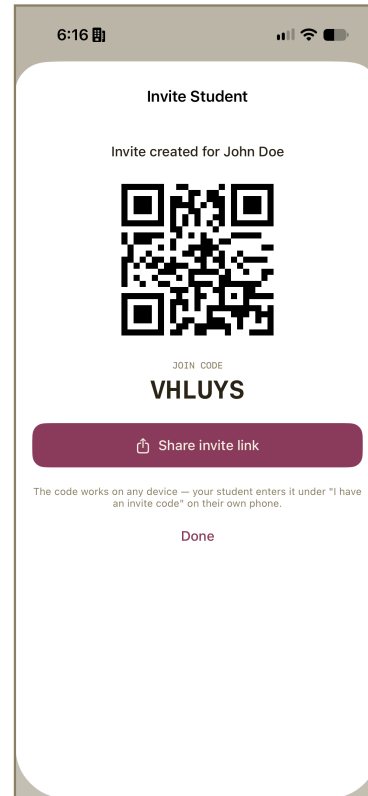
3. Adding a student

Linking a CFI and a student account

On the Students tab, a new CFI starts with an empty roster and one action: Invite student.



Students tab, before any invites



QR code + join code

- 1. Tap "Invite student."**

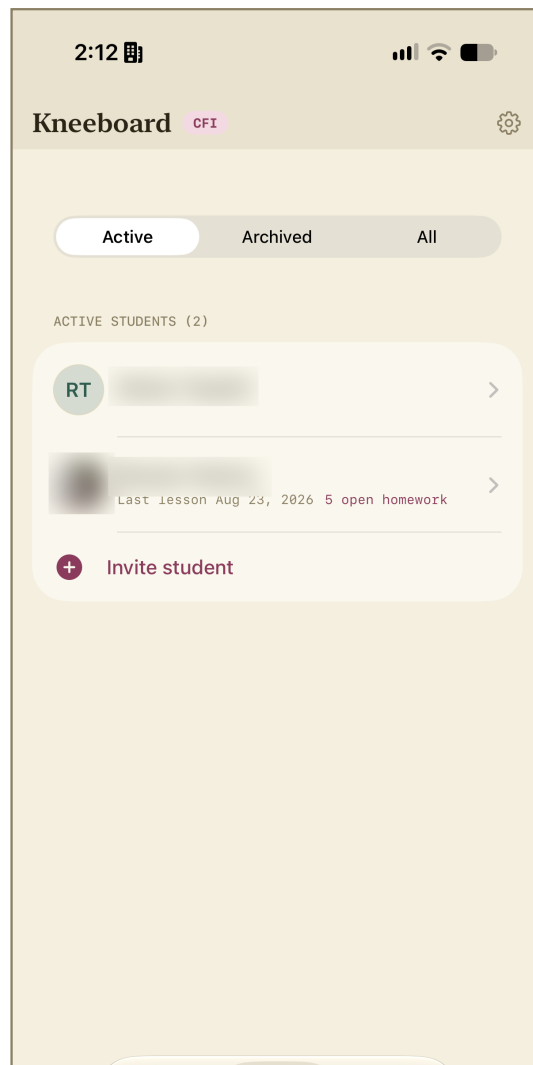
Enter the student's name (and contact info, optional). Kneeboard generates a QR code and a 6-character join code.

- 2. Share it.**

Tap "Share invite link" to text/AirDrop/email it, have the student scan the QR code, or just read them the code out loud.

- 3. The student redeems it.**

On their own device, the student picks "Student" at onboarding, then chooses "I have an invite code" and enters the 6 characters (or scans the QR / taps a shared link). The two accounts are now linked.



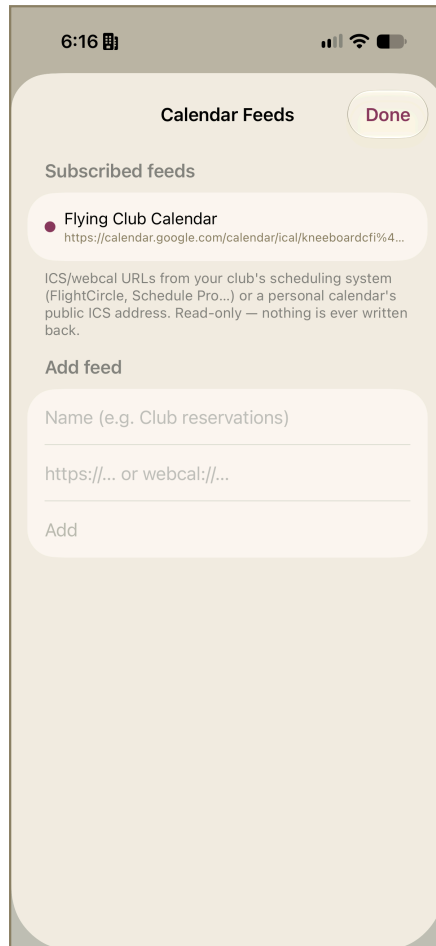
Once accepted, students appear on the roster with their last lesson and open homework.

A student can be linked to more than one CFI at once (e.g. two different instructors), and a CFI can have any number of students - the roster has Active / Archived / All filters. If a student's name/photo/details change, they always show the same for every CFI they're linked to - one shared profile, not one per relationship.

4. Linking your club or school calendar

Read-only calendar feeds

Most CFIs already book aircraft through a club system (FlightCircle, Schedule Pro) or a shared Google Calendar. Kneeboard doesn't replace that - it reads it. On the Schedule tab, tap the link icon (next to "+") to open Calendar Feeds.



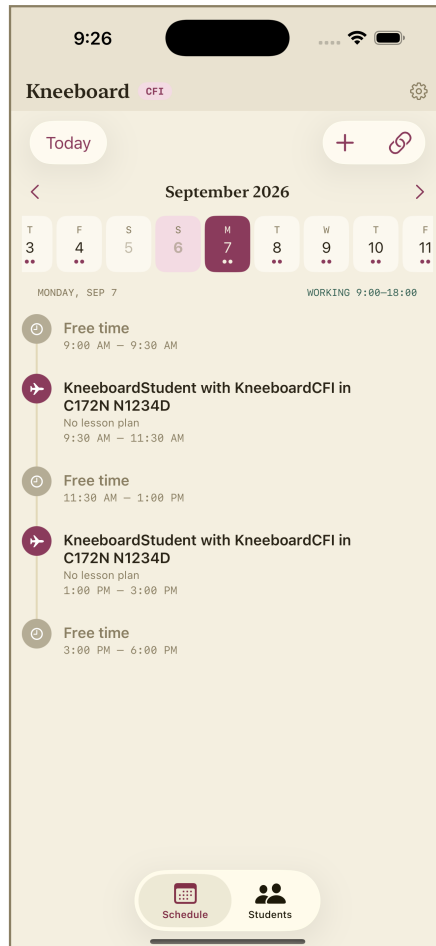
Add any ICS or webcal URL - works with most club scheduling systems.

Paste in the ICS/webcal URL from your club's scheduling system (or any calendar that publishes one) and give it a name. It shows up as flights and appointments on your schedule alongside everything else - nothing is ever booked or written back to the source system; it's purely read-only.

5. Working hours and blocking time

Your day, at a glance

The Schedule tab is a vertical timeline for the selected day: subscribed calendar events, ground lessons, blocked time, and the free gaps in between, all bounded by your working hours (set once in Settings -> Account, default 9 AM-6 PM).



The daily rail: free time, flights, more free time.

To block off time - a commute, lunch, an appointment, anything that isn't training - tap "+" on the Schedule tab and choose "Block time." Give it a title, start/end time, and an optional repeat (daily, weekly, etc.) for recurring commitments.

2:02

Cancel New Appointment Save

Block time Ground lesson

Title

Daily Run

When

Starts Aug 27, 2026 5:00 PM

Ends Aug 27, 2026 6:00 PM

Repeat

Frequency Daily ↕

Every 1 day - +

End repeat ☐

New Appointment -> Block time, with optional recurrence.

2:01

Kneeboard CF1

Today +

< August 2026 >

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

THURSDAY, AUG 27 WORKING 8:00-19:00

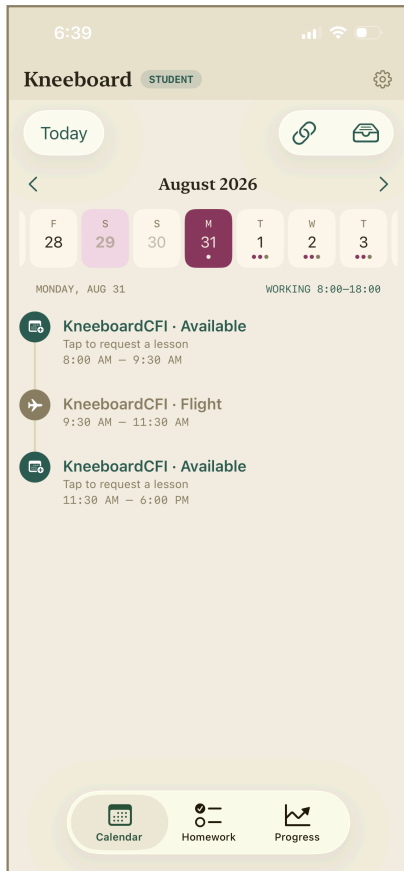
- Free time 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
- Blocked (Commute to KMYF) 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
- Free time 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
- No lesson plan 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- Blocked (Lunch) 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
- Free time 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Blocked time (like a commute) renders on the rail just like flights and lessons.

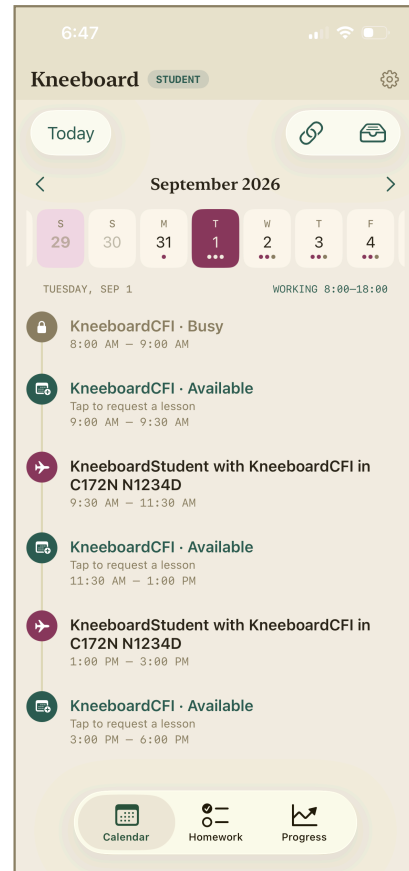
6. Privacy in the shared schedule

What a student can and can't see

A student sees their CFI's day so they can find an open slot to request a lesson - but never another student's name or lesson detail. Their own flights and ground lessons show in full; everyone else's time on the CFI's schedule shows only as a generic, unlabeled "Busy" or "Flight" block.



A day with no lesson for this student - the other student's flight shows only as "Flight", no name.



A day with this student's own two flights (full detail) next to another student's time ("Busy", no name).

Free slots within the CFI's working hours are also visible - tap one to propose a lesson at that time.

7. Scheduling a ground lesson

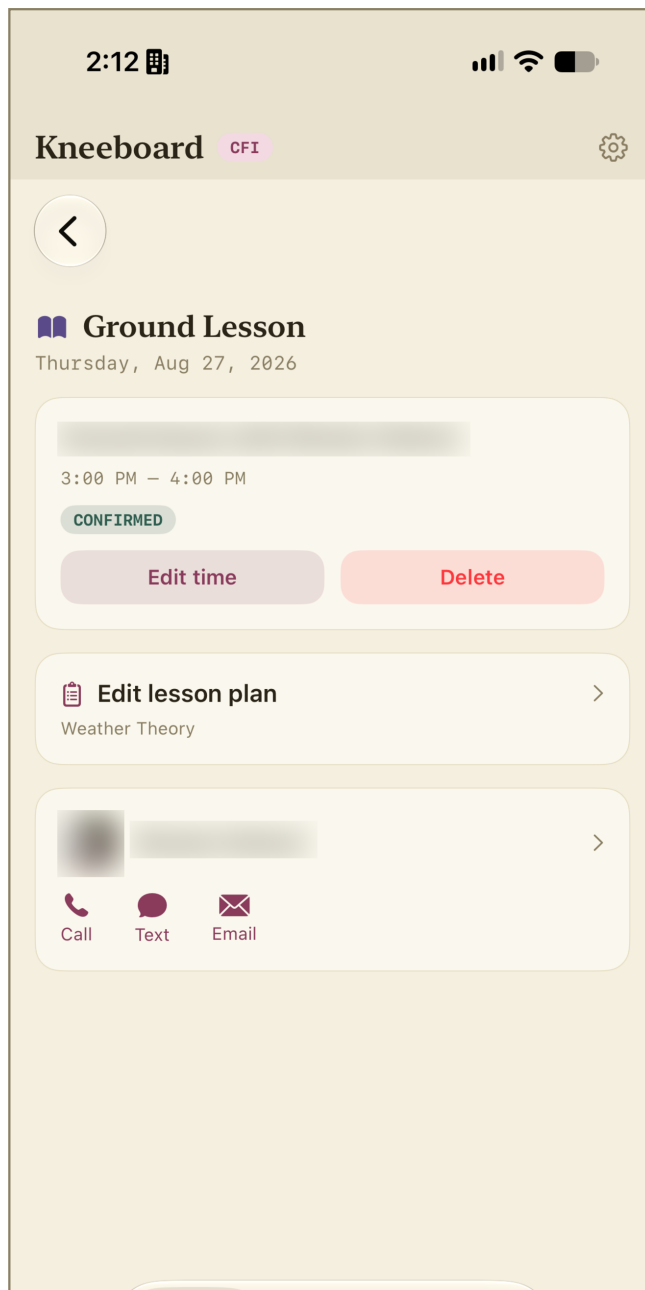
Classroom instruction, in-app

Either the CFI or the student can propose a ground lesson - a meeting time plus topics, no aircraft involved. From "+" on the Schedule tab, choose "Ground lesson," pick a time, and select topics from your ground-topic catalog (or leave it to the other side to add topics from their notes).

The screenshot shows a mobile app interface for scheduling a ground lesson. At the top, there's a status bar with the time 2:02 and battery level. Below that, a header bar contains 'Cancel', 'New Appointment', and 'Save' buttons. A toggle switch allows selecting between 'Block time' and 'Ground lesson', with 'Ground lesson' currently active. The 'When' section has two rows: 'Starts' with date 'Aug 27, 2026' and time '5:00 PM', and 'Ends' with date 'Aug 27, 2026' and time '6:00 PM'. Below this, the 'Student' section displays a message: 'No linked students yet. Invite a student and have them accept before proposing a lesson.' The 'TOPICS' section lists six topics, each with a selection circle: 'Aeronautical Decision Making' (checked), 'Aircraft Construction' (checked), 'Principles of Flight' (checked), 'Aerodynamics of Flight' (unchecked), 'Flight Controls' (unchecked), and 'Aircraft Systems' (unchecked).

Propose a ground lesson with a time and topic checklist.

A proposed lesson shows as tentative on both calendars until the other person accepts, counters with a different time, or declines. Once accepted, it's solid on both schedules - tap into it any time to edit the time, adjust the lesson plan, or message the other person directly.

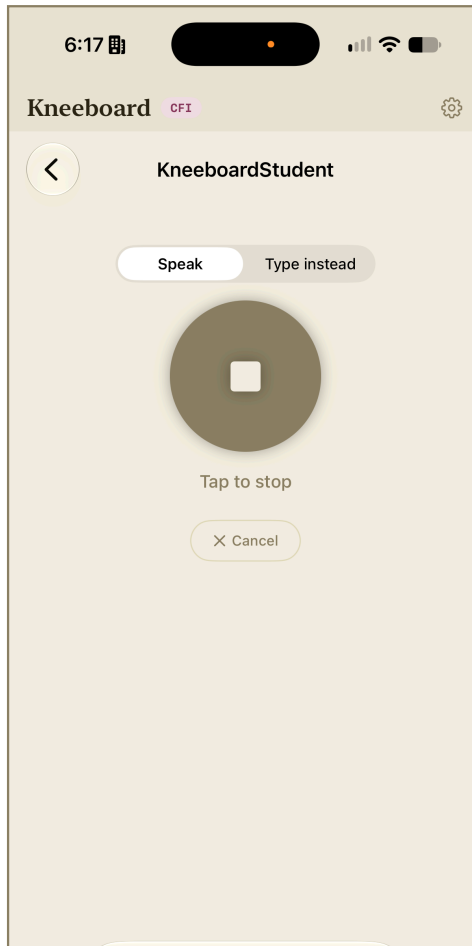


An accepted ground lesson - confirmed, with lesson plan and contact card.

8. Recording a debrief after a flight

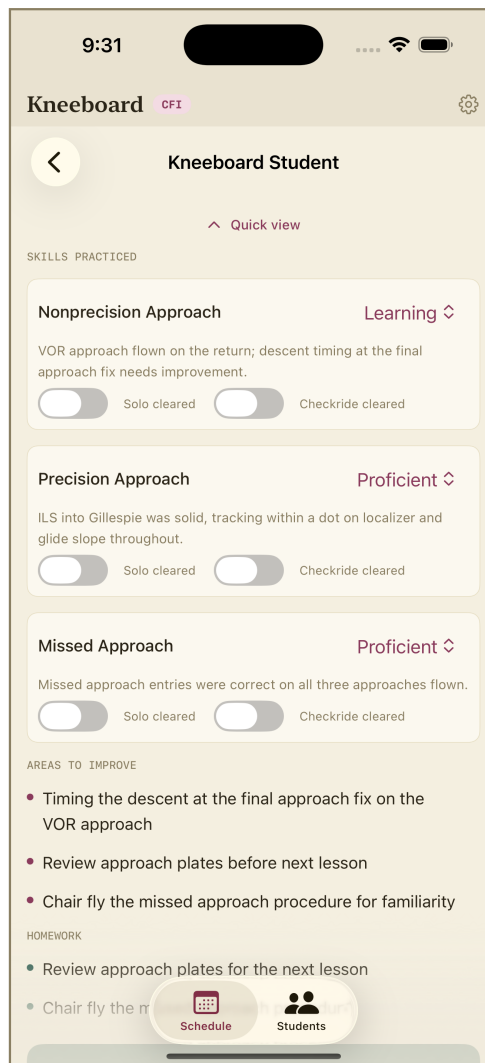
The core loop

This is what Kneeboard is built around. Right after a lesson, open the flight (from the Schedule tab or a student's page) and tap the mic. Just talk naturally about how the lesson went - no special format needed.



Tap to record - speak the debrief the way you'd say it out loud.

Tap again to stop. Kneeboard transcribes the recording and uses AI to extract a structured summary: which skills were practiced, a proficiency read on each, and notes - plus flight log facts (aircraft, route, takeoffs/landings, hours) when they're mentioned. Review the result, edit anything that needs correcting (aviation speech-to-text isn't perfect), and save.



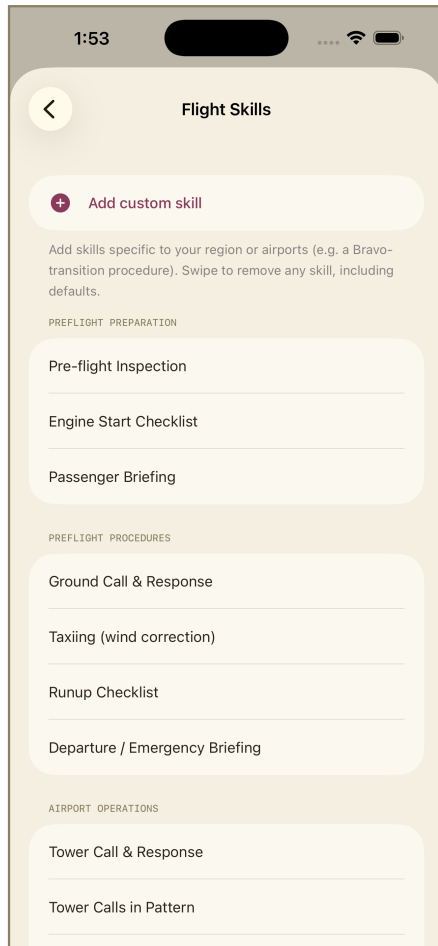
The saved debrief, expanded - per-skill proficiency and notes, editable any time.

There's also a "Type instead" option on the recording screen for a quiet ramp or a noisy environment - same extraction either way.

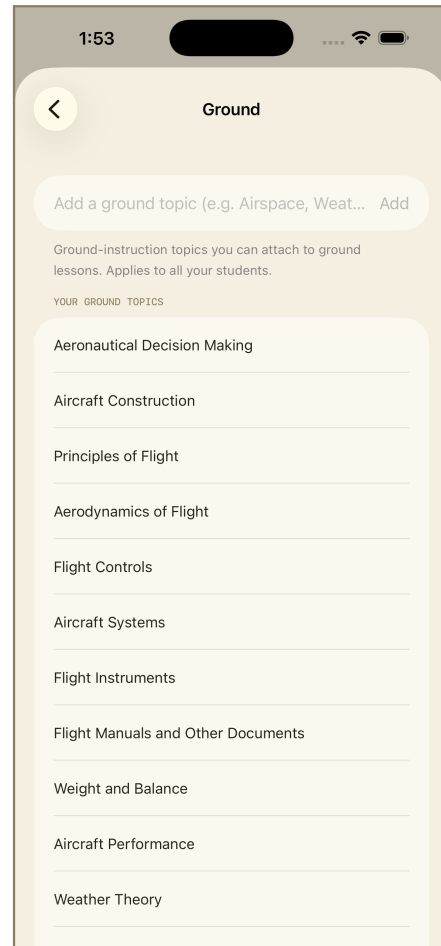
9. Customizing your catalogs

Flight skills and ground topics

Kneeboard ships with a full ACS-based skill list and a standard ground-topic list for each rating you fly, both editable from Settings. Add region- or airport-specific items (a Bravo transition procedure, a specific pattern entry) or remove ones that don't apply.



Settings -> Lesson Topics -> Flight Skills



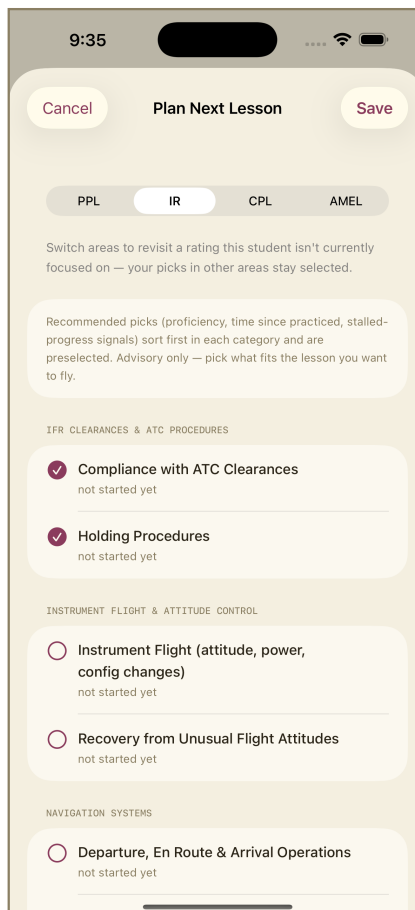
Settings -> Lesson Topics -> Ground

Changes apply across your whole roster - a new custom skill or topic shows up for every current and future student automatically.

10. Training across multiple ratings

Private Pilot, Instrument, Commercial, Multi-Engine

A student isn't limited to Private Pilot. From a student's Profile tab, toggle on Instrument Rating, Commercial Pilot, and/or Multi-Engine (add-on) as they start training for each - their Progress tab, debrief extraction, and lesson planning all pick up that rating's ACS-based skills and ground topics automatically, alongside whatever else they're working on.



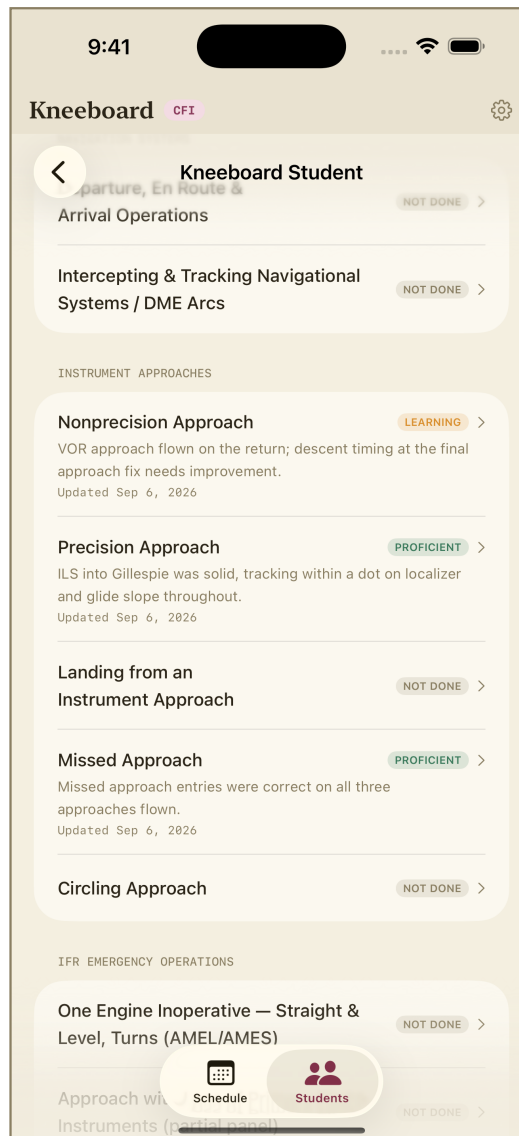
Plan Next Lesson - switch the Area picker (PPL / IR / CPL / AMEL) to pull recommendations from any rating the student is training for.

The Area picker on the lesson-planning screen lets you revisit a rating the student isn't currently focused on without changing what's active by default - useful for a student polishing PPL maneuvers while primarily working on their Instrument add-on, for example. Endorsements (checkride sign-offs, flight reviews, aircraft-class endorsements like complex or high-performance) live on the same Profile tab.

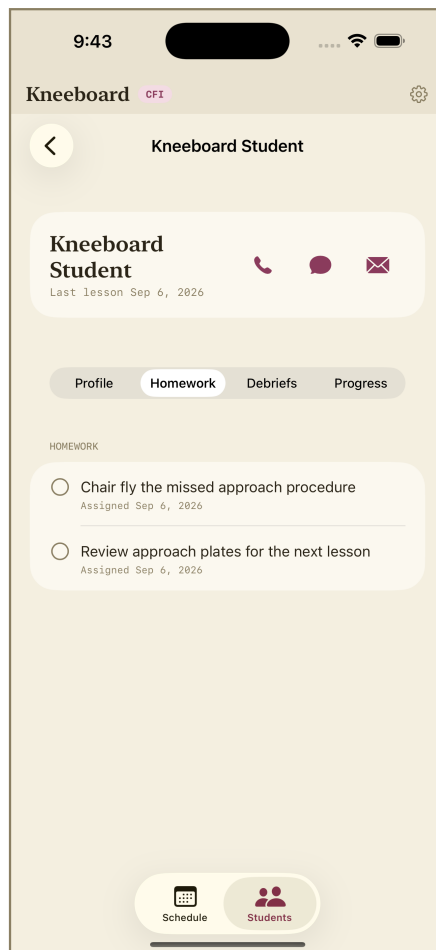
11. Student progress and homework

Closing the loop

Every debrief updates the student's skill proficiency automatically. From a student's detail page (or, for the student themselves, their own Progress tab), skills are grouped by ACS category with a proficiency badge - tap any skill to see the history or log/backfill a status manually.



Progress - grouped by ACS category, with the proficiency and the note from the debrief that set it.



Homework - a checkable list on the student's own device, assigned straight from a debrief.

Homework works the same way both directions - a CFI can leave a follow-up item after a debrief ("Review approach plates before next lesson"), and the student checks it off from their own Homework tab when it's done. Everything here is student-owned and spans every CFI a student trains with, so progress and history follow the student, not any one instructor.

12. Your free trial and subscription

How the CFI side is priced

Kneeboard is free to explore, right away, for every new CFI - there's no purchase or Apple ID interaction required to sign in and start using it. The first time your profile is created, a 30-day free trial starts automatically.

Shortly after you sign in, a one-time card explains this: "Free for 30 Days," with a "Continue" button that just dismisses it (you can also subscribe early from there if you already know you want to). It won't show again after that - the app just keeps working for the rest of the 30 days.

- **Students are always free.**

The trial and subscription only ever apply to the CFI role - a student account never sees a paywall.

- **Checking your status.**

Settings -> Account -> Subscription shows a live day-count during the trial ("Free trial - 12 days left"), or "Active" once subscribed.

- **After the trial ends.**

A CFI is asked to subscribe (\$5.99/month) to keep using the CFI features - the same Settings screen has a "Subscribe Now" button to do this any time, before or after the trial ends.

- **Canceling.**

Manage or cancel any time from Settings -> Account -> Manage Subscription (Apple's standard subscription management). Canceling only turns off auto-renew - access continues through the end of the period you already paid for, and Settings will show "Active (expires <date>)" once you have.

Have a code from your CFI, a promotion, or a comp? Redeem it from the "Redeem Code" row in Settings, or the "Have a Code?" link on the subscribe screen - no payment info needed either way.

13. Getting help

Settings -> App has the Privacy Policy and Terms, and a Delete Account option that removes all local and synced data for that account.

For anything else - a bug, a question, feedback - reach out at kneeboard@digixl.com.

Thanks for taking Kneeboard for a spin. Blue skies.