

Operational Process Guide: Small Unmanned Aerial Systems 14 CFR Part 107 Airspace Authorization Request and Waiver Request(s)

Background

Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS), also known as drones, participating in experimentation events often operate within U.S. civil airspace. sUAS are categorized into groups, as shown below.¹ Groups 1 and 2 may operate under 14 CFR **Part 107** during events conducted in civil airspace; however, it does not apply to military and international airspace.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems Categorization Chart				
UA Category	Maximum Gross Takeoff Weight (lbs)	Normal Operating Altitude (ft)	Speed (KIAS)	Representative UAS
Group 1	0-20	< 1200 AGL	100 kts	WASP III, TACMAV RQ-14A/B, Buster, Nighthawk, RQ-11B, FPASS, RQ16A, Pointer, Aqua/Terra Puma
Group 2	21-55	< 3500 AGL	< 250	ScanEagle, Silver Fox, Aerosonde
Group 3	< 1320	< 18,000 MSL	< 250	RQ-7B Shadow, RQ-15 Neptune, XPV-1 Tern, XPV-2 Mako
Group 4	> 1320		Any Airspeed	MQ-5B Hunter, MQ-8B Fire Scout, MQ-1C Gray Eagle, MQ-1A/B/C Predator
Group 5	> 1320	> 18,000 MSL	Any Airspeed	MQ-9 Reaper, RQ-4 Global Hawk, RQ-4N Triton

Legend			
AGL	above ground level	lbs	pounds
FPASS	force protection aerial surveillance system	MSL	mean sea level
ft	feet	TACMAV	tactical micro air vehicle
KIAS	knots indicated airspeed	UA	unmanned aircraft
kts	knots	UAS	unmanned aircraft system

Figure 1 FAA UAS Group Definitions

Everyone, including SBIR/STTR firms, planning to operate a Group 1 or 2 sUAS must register with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and obtain required airspace authorizations, or 14 CFR Part 107 waivers (or both in some cases) in support of experimentation operations. The event Air Operations planner will often serve as the primary point of contact (POC) for coordinating and navigating this

¹ UAS Flight Approval Process, NAVSEA Warfare Centers Crane, 20 Aug 24

process, but in some events other planners may serve as POCs. Additionally, DON SEC supports SBIRs/STTRs with navigating this process.

Getting Started

To make the process more expedient, below is a list of information that may be needed to fill out the Airspace Authorization and Waiver Application:

- 1) Specifications and other physical components of the drone [Drone Registration section].
 - a. For additional information on Drone Registration requirements, See Appendix B.
- 2) Correct name of the Event and the application reference number [to be placed in the description fields of the Airspace Authorization and/or the Waiver Application]. Application reference numbers will also need to be provided to the event's Air Operations Planner
- 3) Latitude and Longitude Coordinates to be used.
- 4) Both the names of the event planner who will be helping with Air Ops and the FAA representative (if the event is collaborating with the FAA) [description fields for either Airspace Authorization or Waiver Application].
- 5) For the FAA Aviation Safety Portal page, have your current Login.gov sign-in information ready, or be ready with your information to set up a Login.gov account. This may include some personal information and your Common Access Card (CAC) information (if you have a CAC).
- 6) You will be prompted to set up a user profile: determine whose name will be in the profile, address used, etc.
- 7) Prepare a Concept of Operations (CONOPS) document, both to help you write your CONOPS description in the Waiver Application CONOPS description field and to upload as a supporting document. You may want to have other supporting documents that inform your CONOPS such Safety Manuals or Safety Datasheets. These can be ready for upload into the "Supporting Documents" field and help in filling out the fields related to Safety near the end of the application. The DON-SEC can help with this, if needed.

Process

Airspace Authorization (14 CFR Part 107)

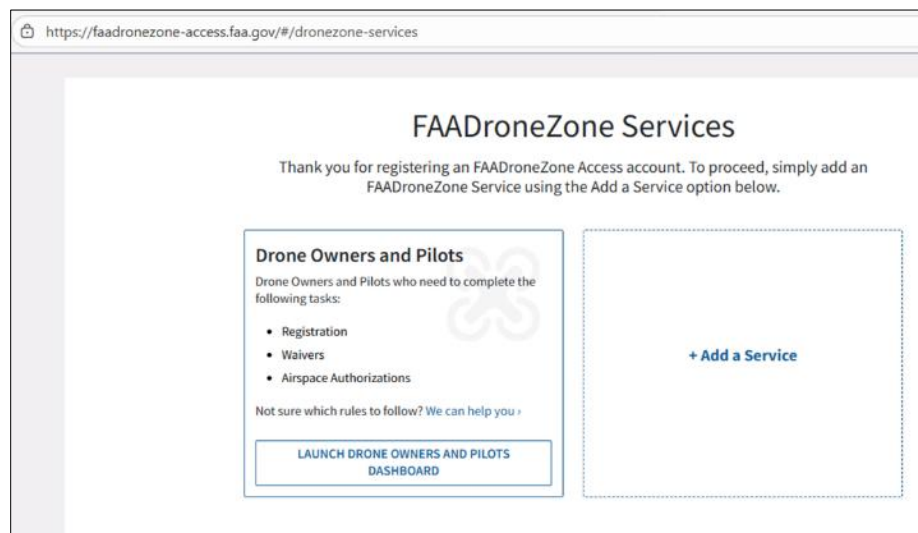
- ❖ To obtain civil airspace authorization, visit the FAA DroneZone website (<https://aviationsafetyportal.faa.gov/>) and register to operate under 14 CFR Part 107. After registration, you will see a notification (shown below) indicating that pilots may use the Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC) to request access to controlled airspace. While LAANC is commonly used by individual pilots to request airspace authorization (and, in some cases associated approvals), it is not typically used for experimentation events. Firms should coordinate with the event planners to determine whether LAANC is appropriate for the event.

FAADroneZone System Notification

Attention airspace authorization applicants, please submit requests at least 60 days prior to the proposed operation date. Requests submitted less than 60 days prior to an operation date may not get processed in time to meet the proposed operational dates. If this occurs, it could result in a cancellation or a denial of the request. Airspace Authorizations are processed on a first come, first served basis. Failure to submit a timely application may result in the inability to conduct UAS operations.

Part 107 Certificated Remote Pilots may **use LAANC** to obtain airspace authorization above UASFM grids, including 0' grids (excluding those submissions for on-airport operations) by **submitting a further coordination request**.

- ❖ The standard process is most often used for experimentation events rather than the LAANC application. To use the standard process for requesting airspace authorization, navigate to <https://aviationsafetyportal.faa.gov/>. Once there, you will see the available service options for submitting a formal request through the FAA DroneZone.



NOTE: The application may be saved prior to submission, allowing applicants to pause, obtain answers to outstanding questions, and return later to complete the form. Once complete, submit the application and save the application reference number.

If operations will be occurring in controlled airspace, firms must also obtain airspace authorization prior to flight.

Controlled Airspace: A general term that includes the different classifications of airspace (Class A, Class B, Class C, Class D, and Class E) and defined dimensions within which air traffic control services are provided to IFR flights and to VFR flights in accordance with the airspace classification.²

² https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/atpubs/aim_html/chap3_section_2.html

Part 14 CFR 107 operating requirements generally include:

- Pilot must hold an FAA Remote Pilot Certificate
- Maximum altitude: 400 feet above ground level (AGL)
- Anti-collision lighting required for night operations
- Maximum groundspeed: 100 mph
- Maintain visual line of sight (VLOS)
- Minimum flight visibility: 3 statute miles
- Maintain cloud clearance of 500 feet below and 2000 feet horizontally
- No flight over people or moving vehicles
- Maximum takeoff weight: <55 lbs. (includes payload)
- No operations from a moving vehicle

Note: The FAA permits certain night operations and operations over people in specific circumstances and categories; however, these allowances may not apply to all experimentation activities and must be coordinated with event planners and Air Operations personnel.

If an operation cannot be conducted within 14 CFR Part 107 requirements, a Part 107 waiver may be required. Examples include operations such as:

- Operating over people or moving vehicles
- Operating from a moving vehicle
- Operating beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS)
- Conducting multi-aircraft operations such as “one pilot, multiple drones” (one-to-many) or swarming

AIRSPACE AUTHORIZATION APPLICATION

- ❖ 1. Click LAUNCH DRONE OWNERS AND PILOTS DASHBOARD to open the DroneZone dashboard at: <https://faadronezone-operator.faa.gov/#/part107>
- ❖ 2. Once the page loads, scroll down beyond the initial section to locate Part 107 Waivers & Airspace Authorizations, which is addressed in the next step.

Drone Owners and Pilots

Drone Owners and Pilots who need to complete the following tasks:

- Registration
- Waivers
- Airspace Authorizations

Not sure which rules to follow? [We can help you >](#)

LAUNCH DRONE OWNERS AND PILOTS DASHBOARD

+ Add a Service

- ❖ 3. To request Airspace Authorization, scroll down to the bottom of the page and select **CREATE PART 107 AUTHORIZATION**. The Pilot in Command (PIC) must also hold a valid FAA Remote Pilot Certificate under 14 CFT Part 107. Refer to Appendix A for FAA guidance on how to obtain PIC certification.

Part 107 Waivers & Airspace Authorizations

Part 107 operators may use the FAADroneZone to request an airspace authorization in controlled airspace below 400 feet.

Operational Waivers: The Part 107 Waiver Application process has transitioned to a new system. To access the new system and begin a waiver application, please select the link below. No action is required for previously submitted waivers; they will continue to be processed in this system.

<https://aviationsafetyportal.faa.gov>

Airspace Authorizations: Before you apply for an airspace authorization, review the guidelines below.

Airspace Authorizations through the Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC)

Certificated Remote Pilots should use LAANC when flying in a LAANC enabled area. LAANC provides:

- Near real-time authorization for operations in controlled airspace, under 400 feet, and below the designated altitude ceiling on the **UAS Data Delivery System**
- Further Coordination for operations above the designated altitude ceiling in the **UAS Data Delivery System**, below 400 feet.
- Applicants may apply up to 90 days in advance of a flight and the approval is coordinated manually through the FAA.

Airspace Authorizations through LAANC are provided through **FAA Approved LAANC UAS Service Suppliers**.

Authorizations through FAADroneZone

You should use the FAADroneZone to request an airspace authorization if any of the following apply:

- You want to fly in areas that are in controlled airspace and are not covered by LAANC (the **red grids** on the **UAS Data Delivery System**)
- You want to fly in a "zero" grid area above airport property
- You have a waiver under Part 107 and want to fly in controlled airspace using the waiver

You currently do not have any authorizations.

MANAGE PART 107 WAIVERS/AUTHORIZATIONS

CREATE PART 107 AUTHORIZATION

- ❖ 4. The airspace authorization application will prompt you to enter latitude and longitude coordinates. Event planners will provide the approved coordinates for the flight area, so coordinate with them before completing this section. An example of latitude/longitude formatting is shown below.

Latitude: 45.14225762230205

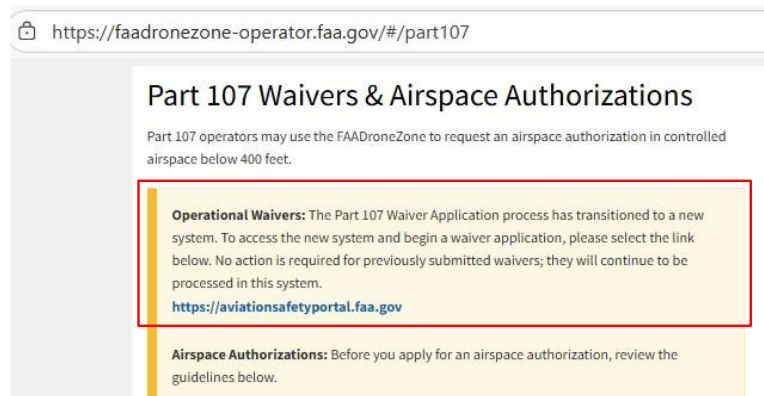
- Degrees: **45**
- Minutes: **8'**
- Seconds: **32.1"**
- Direction: **N**

Longitude: -83.27756043831451

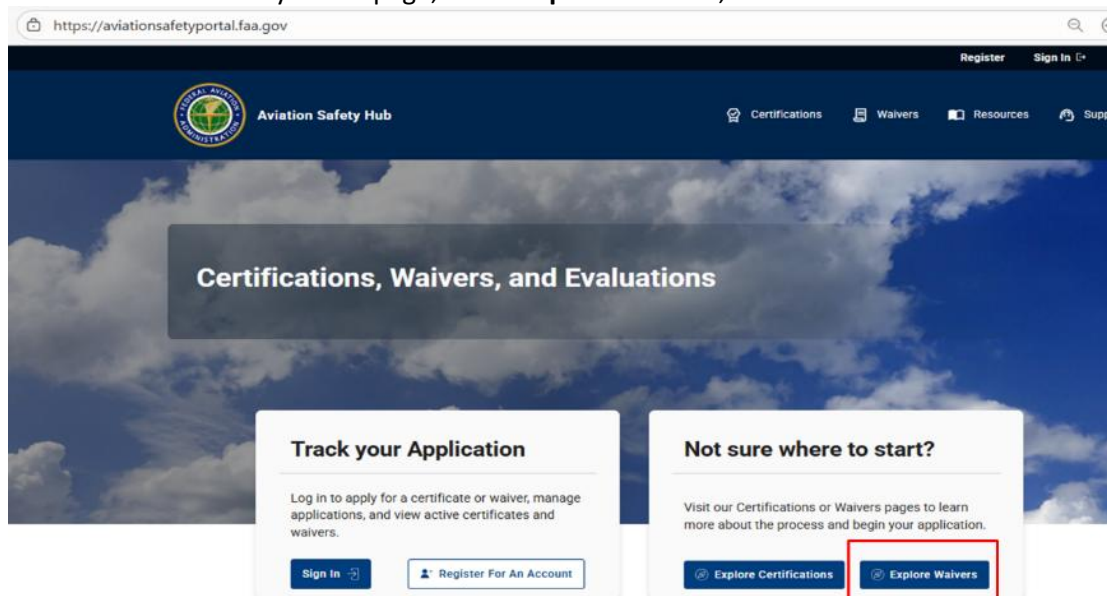
- Degrees: **83**
- Minutes: **16'**
- Seconds: **39.2"**
- Direction: **W**

To support coordination with the FAA, ensure the event name is included in the application (especially in the description field). Provide the application reference number to the event planners.

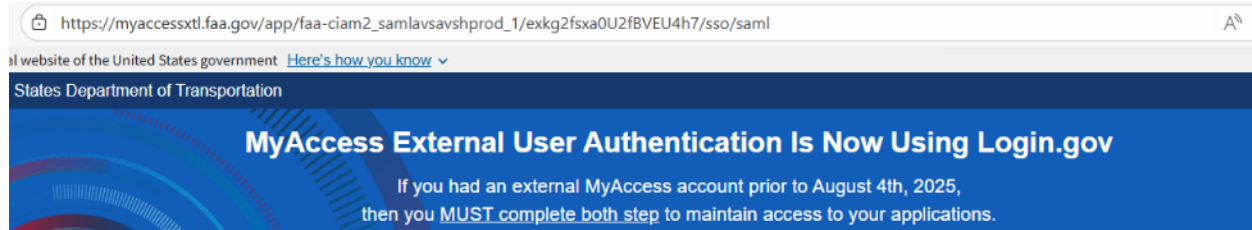
- ❖ 5. On the same page, select the link under Operational Waivers (outlined in red below), which will direct to the FAA Aviation Safety Portal (<https://aviationsafetyportal.faa.gov>). All airspace authorization details are retained in FAA DroneZone for future access.



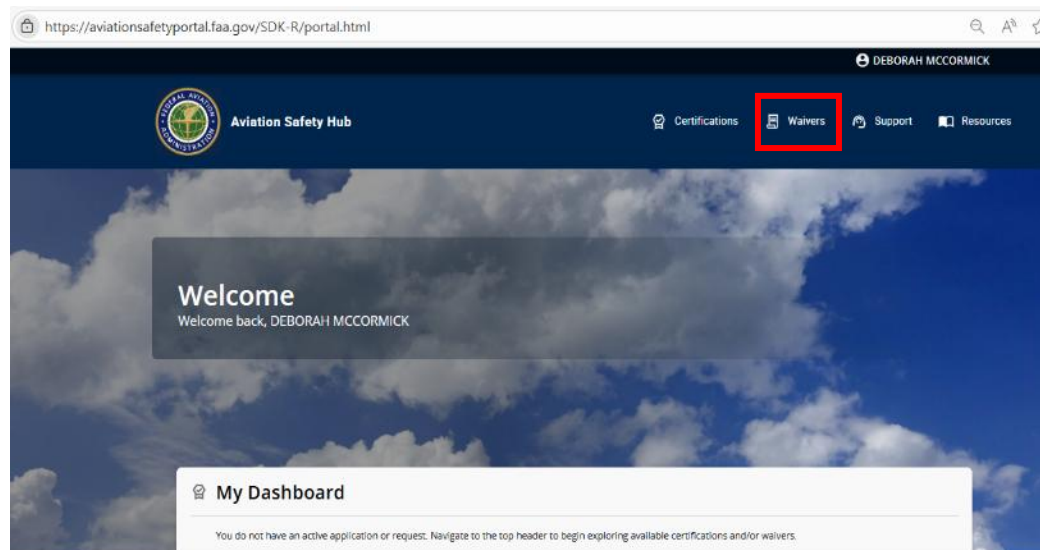
- ❖ 6. On the FAA Aviation Safety Portal page, select **Explore Waivers**, then choose **See More**.



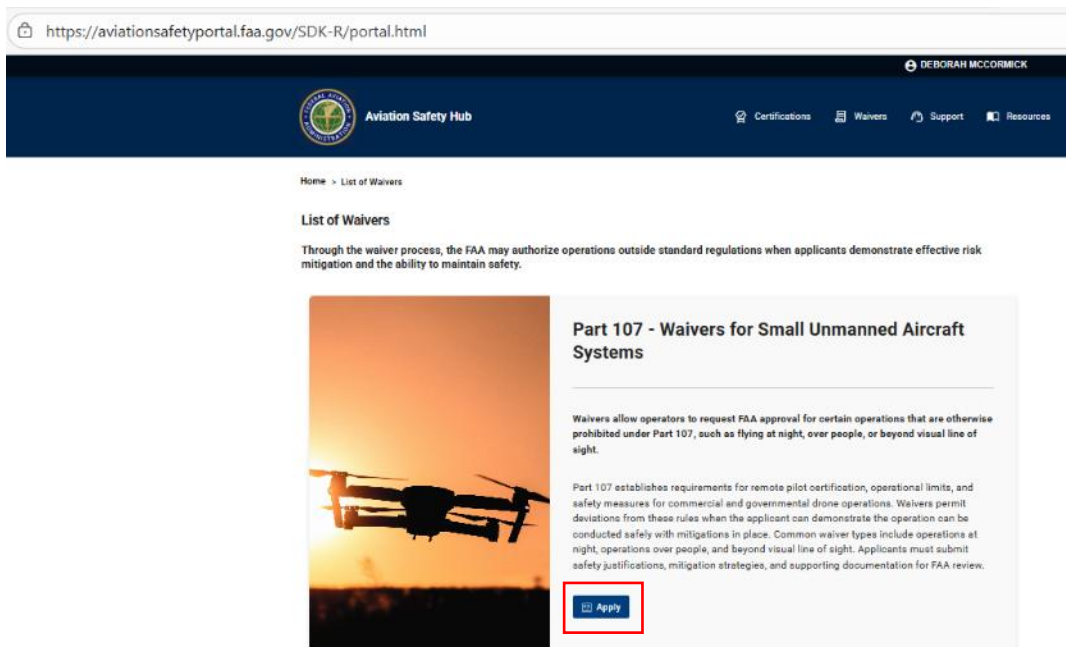
- ❖ 7. A Login.gov sign-in prompt will appear. Follow the instructions to create an account or sign in and complete the required identity and access verification steps.



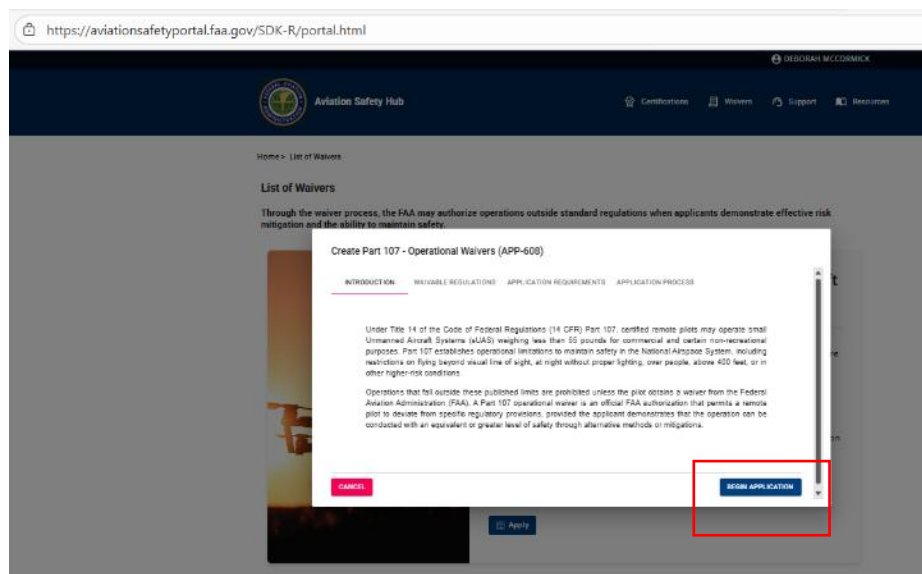
- ❖ 8. After logging in, the dashboard shown below will appear. Select **Waivers** (top right), then **Apply**, and then **Begin Application** in the subsequent windows.



- ❖ 9. Once your User Profile is established, the List of Waivers page will appear (shown below). Select **Apply** at the bottom of the page to proceed.



- ❖ 10. A pop-up window will appear. Select **Begin Application** to continue.



- ❖ 11. Should the below window appear, it means that you have not yet created a User Profile, and the system will prompt you to complete it at this time. If prompted, select the link (shown in the red rectangle below) to return to the main dashboard and complete your profile. Once your profile is complete, select **Waivers** again and continue the process. When ready, select **Begin Application** at the bottom right).

waiver process, the FAA may authorize operations outside standard regulations when applicants demonstrate effective risk

Create Part 107 - Operational Waivers (APP-608)

 In order to submit a waiver request, you need to set up your user profile. Please complete the setup process to continue.

INTRODUCTION WAIVABLE REGULATIONS APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS APPLICATION PROCESS

Under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) Part 107, certified remote pilots may operate small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) weighing less than 55 pounds for commercial and certain non-recreational purposes. Part 107 establishes operational limitations to maintain safety in the National Airspace System, including restrictions on flying beyond visual line of sight, at night without proper lighting, over people, above 400 feet, or in other higher-risk conditions.

Operations that fall outside these published limits are prohibited unless the pilot obtains a waiver from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). A Part 107 operational waiver is an official FAA authorization that permits a remote pilot to deviate from specific regulatory provisions, provided the applicant demonstrates that the operation can be conducted with an equivalent or greater level of safety through alternative methods or mitigations.

CANCEL **BEGIN APPLICATION**

- ❖ 12. Complete the Operational Waivers sections, then select **NEXT: Proposed Operation**.

 <https://aviationsafetyportal.faa.gov/SDK-R/portal.html>

 **Aviation Safety Hub**  Certifications  Waivers  Support  Resources **DEBORAH MCCORMICK**

Home > Part 107 - Operational Waivers (APP-609)

Part 107 - Operational Waivers

Task in APP-609

Operator Information Proposed Operation Requested Waivers Supporting Documentation

In this section, you will provide key details about your operations and identify the responsible party. Operator information is automatically populated from your user or organization profile and cannot be edited. If you are submitting on behalf of a business, the operator name should be the business's official name. Please review these details for accuracy and provide the additional required information.

Operator name *
[Redacted]
Review the name pre-populated from your user or organization profile.

Operator email *
[Redacted]
Review the email address pre-populated from your user or organization profile.

☒ Select this checkbox if the operator is the same as the responsible party

Type of operator *
Select...
Select the option that best describes your organization or operation. This information helps the FAA understand the context of your waiver request.

FAA Industry Partner *
Select...
Indicate whether your organization participates in an FAA industry partnership program (for example, the BEYOND program or the Integration Pilot Program).

CANCEL **SAVE FOR LATER** **NEXT: PROPOSED OPERATION**

- ❖ 13. Continue completing the Operational Waivers fields as applicable to your planned operation.

Home > Part 107 - Operational Waivers (APP-609)

Part 107 - Operational Waivers

Task in APP-609

✓ Operator Information

Proposed Operation

Requested Waivers

Supporting Documentation

In this section, you will provide key information about your planned operation, including the UAS devices you will use under these waivers, the 14 CFR Part 107 regulations you are requesting to waive, and details about any waivers you currently hold. Based on your responses to the questions, waivers will be automatically selected; however, you may edit these selections to remove or add waivers as needed.

UAS devices

Type	UAS Make	UAS Model	Tracking Number	Series	Quantity	
No records found.						

+ Add

Add each device that will be used in this operation. For each device, it is recommended that you provide the make, model, and quantity. If you are using multiple identical devices, enter the total quantity in one row. Click + Add to add a new entry.

Start date

Select the date your operation will begin. The start date cannot be in the past, on today's date, or more than 48 months from today. It is recommended that your start date be at least 90 days from the date of application to allow sufficient time for review.

Response *
05/01/2028



End date

Select the date the operation will end. The end date cannot be more than 48 months after the start date.

Response *
05/02/2028



Proposed location of operation

Provide specific details about the location where your operation will take place, including latitude and longitude. Please also include any other relevant information that helps describe the proposed site of operation.

Response *

xxxx/xxx

Paragraph

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Area of operation

The area of operation file (photo, map, etc.) must not exceed 500 MB.

Choose a file

Pending or approved waiver

Is there a pending or approved waiver or authorization associated with this proposed operation?

Response *
No



The following questions are required to help determine which regulations your operation may be eligible to request a waiver for. Your responses will be used to generate recommendations in the next section, which you can then update to include all waiver(s) you intend to request.

Time of Day

At what [time of day](#) will you be operating your sUAS? In the continental U.S., civil twilight is the period 30 minutes before sunrise until sunrise, and from sunset until 30 minutes after sunset.

☒ Daylight☐ Civil Twilight☐ Night

sUA Weight

What is the maximum weight of your [sUA](#) on takeoff, during operations, and upon landing, including everything onboard or attached to it?

Weight * Weight Measurement Type *

Transporting property

Will your sUA be [transporting or carrying anything in flight](#)? (This includes anything the sUA may pick up in flight.)

Response *

Control station

Will your sUA be operated from ([select all that apply](#))?

☒ Stationary Vehicle☐ Moving Land-Based Vehicle☒ Moving Water-Borne Vehicle☒ Moving Aircraft☐ Other

Population level

If you are [operating from a moving vehicle](#), what is the most populated area your sUA will fly over?

Response *

Sparsely Populated Area

Visual line of sight

Will the Remote Pilot in Command, person manipulating the flight controls (if used), and Visual Observer (if used) [be able to see your sUA at all times](#) during the course of your operation (i.e., operating within Visual Line of Sight (VLOS))?

Response *

Yes

Visibility from control station

Will the [visibility from the control station](#) be at least 3 statute miles for the duration of the flight?

Response *

Yes

Single aircraft

Will the Remote Pilot in Command [operate one sUA at a time](#) and will each Visual Observer (if used) be responsible to observe one sUA at a time during the operation?

Response *

Yes

Right of way

Will your sUA have the [ability to give way](#) to and remain at a well clear distance from all other aircraft?

Response *

Yes

Max groundspeed

What is the [maximum groundspeed](#) at which your sUA will fly during your operation?

Max groundspeed *

50.00

Max groundspeed measurement type *

Miles per hour

Max altitude

What is the [maximum altitude](#) above the ground at which your sUA will fly during your operation?

Max altitude *

300.00

Max altitude measurement type *

Feet

Distance from clouds

Will you be [flying the sUA](#) farther than 2000 feet horizontally or 500 feet below the clouds?

Response *

No

Over people or moving vehicles

Will you be [operating over people](#) who are NOT [essential to your sUAS operation](#) OR over people in [moving vehicles](#)?

Response *

No

CANCEL

SAVE FOR LATER

PREVIOUS: OPERATOR INFORMATION

NEXT: REQUESTED WAIVERS

- ❖ 14. After completing the required fields and selecting the appropriate checkboxes for your operation, select **Next: Requested Waivers**.

Based on the information you entered, the system will generate a list of requested waivers and automatically select the applicable items.

Part 107 - Operational Waivers

Task in APP-609

Operator Information
Proposed Operation
Requested Waivers
Supporting Documentation

In this section, you will select the 14 CFR Part 107 [regulations you are requesting to waive](#) for your proposed operation. Based on your responses in the previous section, waiver recommendations will be checked here automatically; however, you may add or remove selections as needed before proceeding.

☒ Which of the following 14 CFR Part 107 regulations are you requesting to waive for this operation? Select all that apply:

☒	14 CFR § 107.25 (Operation from a Moving Vehicle or Aircraft)
☐	14 CFR § 107.29 (a)(2) and (b) (Anti-Collision Light)
☐	14 CFR § 107.31 (Visual Line of Sight Aircraft Operation)
☐	14 CFR § 107.33 (Visual Observer)
☐	14 CFR § 107.35 (Operation of Multiple Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems)
☐	14 CFR § 107.37 (a) (Yielding the Right of Way)
☐	14 CFR § 107.39 (Operation over People)
☐	14 CFR § 107.51 (a) (Operating Limitations: Groundspeed)
☐	14 CFR § 107.51 (b) (Operating Limitations: Altitude)
☐	14 CFR § 107.51 (c) (Operating Limitations: Minimum Visibility)
☒	14 CFR § 107.51 (d) (Operating Limitations: Minimum Distance from Clouds)
☐	14 CFR § 107.145 (Operation over Moving Vehicles)

CANCEL
SAVE FOR LATER
PREVIOUS: PROPOSED OPERATION
NEXT: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

- ❖ 15. If the listed waivers align with your expectations, select **NEXT: Supporting Documentation**. (If you think you should have a waiver that does not show up in this step, go back and check your description to be sure it fully addresses your operation.) Once you click **NEXT**, the page shown below will appear.

Part 107 - Operational Waivers

Task in APP-609

Operator Information

Proposed Operation

Requested Waivers

Supporting Documentation

Please provide your Concept of Operations (CONOPS) document. Uploading a CONOPS is optional but strongly recommended. If you upload a CONOPS, AI will review it and generate draft responses to the Waiver Safety Evaluation Guidelines (WSEG) questions. **Disclaimer: Any draft responses are AI-generated and should be reviewed and edited as needed before submission.** If you choose not to upload a CONOPS, you will be required to complete all WSEG questions in full before submission.

For reference, you may review the Waiver Safety Evaluation Guidelines (WSEG) questions [here](#).

In addition to the CONOPS document, you may upload any other supporting documentation relevant to your application in the section below.

Concept of Operations (CONOPS)

The file must be a PDF and must not exceed 500 MB. Automated tools will only review the first 150 pages of the CONOPS, so ensure responses to the WSEG questions are included within that portion for draft responses to be generated.

Choose a file

Additional documentation

Up to 10 additional documents can be uploaded, each no larger than 500 MB.

Choose files

*
☐ I certify that all information provided in the previous sections is complete. I understand that once I proceed to the Safety Evaluation section, I will not be able to return to or edit these sections.

CANCEL

SAVE FOR LATER

PREVIOUS: REQUESTED WAIVERS

NEXT: SAFETY EVALUATION

- ❖ 16. Upload the required supporting documentation, then select **NEXT: Safety Evaluation**. The page shown below will appear.

Part 107 - Operational Waivers

Task in APP-609

Safety Evaluation

The questions in this section, known as the Waiver Safety Explanation Guidelines (WSEGs), are tailored to the specific regulations you have selected to waive. Provide clear, detailed responses to show how your operation will meet safety requirements.

Disclaimer: If draft responses were generated from your uploaded CONOPS document, these were produced by AI and should be reviewed and edited to ensure accuracy and completeness.

If no draft responses were generated, provide complete responses for each field, including relevant operational details, procedures, safety mitigations, and any supporting references. All questions must be answered before you can proceed with submitting the waiver request.

14 CFR § 107.25 (Operation from a Moving Vehicle or Aircraft)

Describe how you will ensure the dynamic (i.e., ever-changing) area of operation is evaluated for potential hazards and risks to non-participating persons and property. Include a description of how you will mitigate those risks so the hazards are controlled or eliminated.

Explain how you will identify potential hazards to other aircraft, people, and property before and during flight. State the type of vehicle the Remote Pilot in Command (RPIC) will operate from, and where the RPIC and any Visual Observers (VOs) will be located along the route.

Response *

Paragraph

B

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- After completing this section, the final page will appear.

Include any use of technology, Visual Observers (VOs), or procedures to ensure early detection and avoidance of other aircraft.

Paragraph **B** *I* S      

Explain any procedural, technological, or operational measures - such as flight path restrictions, altitude limitations, or communication with air traffic control - that will be used to reduce risk.

Paragraph **B** *I* S     

[SUBMIT WAIVER](#)

- NOTE:** In some cases, depending on where flight operations will occur, a **Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA)** may be required. This is typically coordinated by the event planners, with supporting information provided by participating initiatives as needed. COAs may take up to six (6) months to obtain. In rare cases, an in-person inspection of the air platform may be required. If the technology is still under development, the system will be inspected in its current configuration.

Participating initiatives should also be familiar with FAA Advisory Circular (**AC**) **107-2A**, https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Advisory_Circular/AC_107-2A.pdf which provides general guidance for conducting UAS operations in U.S. civil airspace under 14 CFR Part 107. In general, AC 107-2A provides broad regulator guidance, while the COA provides event-specific operating parameters and constraints.

Points of Contact

- Email: UAS.FAADroneZone@faa.gov
- FAA Drone Zone website: <https://faadronezone-access.faa.gov/#/>

Timeline

- Part 107 Waiver: Allow at least 120 days
- Airspace Authorization Request: Allow at least 120 days
- If both are required: Allow at least 240 days total

For events where planners coordinate directly with the FAA, Part 107 waivers and airspace authorization may sometimes be processed in parallel. However, under the standard FAA process, waivers must be approved **before** an airspace authorization request can be submitted. When sequential processing is required, the overall timeline may extend to approximately 240 days.

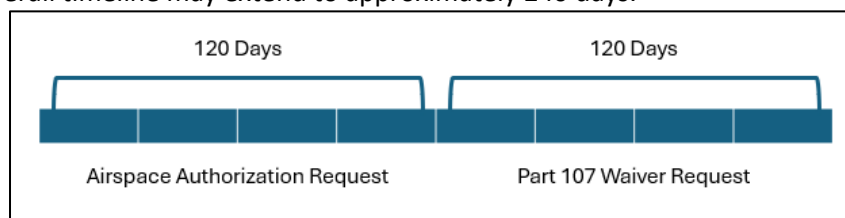


Figure 2 Request Timeline

Challenges

- **Limited FAA Coordination:** If the event is not coordinated directly with the FAA, the potential 240-day timeline can present a challenge and may require an early determination of operational details. This may reduce flexibility to adjust scenarios, modify flight profiles, or integrate with other participating initiatives.
- **COA Inspection Costs:** If an in-person is required as part of a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA), participating initiatives may incur additional travel and/or shipping costs.
- **Contract End Date:** Ensure the SBIR/STTR small business has sufficient contract performance period remaining to accommodate both the waiver/authorization process and participation in the event.
- **Schedule Risk:** Allow adequate time to obtain required waivers and airspace authorizations, complete any in-person COA review (if required), and still support event execution.
- **Technical/Safety Documentation:** Ensure all safety mitigations are fully addressed, highly detailed, and clearly documented in the waiver application to support FAA review.

References

1. "FAADroneZone." Federal Aviation Administration. Accessed June 26, 2025. <https://faadronezone-access.faa.gov/#/>.
2. "Part 107—Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems." National Archives, Code of Federal Regulations. Accessed June 26, 2025. <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-14/chapter-I/subchapter-F/part-107>.
3. *Requirements and Guidance for Access to and Operations Within United States Civil Airspace by Department of the Navy Unmanned Aircraft systems*, OPNAV 98 Airspace and Air Traffic Control, 9 Jan 2020.

APPENDIX A: Remote Pilot Certification

Excerpted from FAA website

Become a Certificated Remote Pilot

To fly your drone under the FAA's Small UAS Rule (Part 107), you must obtain a Remote Pilot Certificate from the FAA. This certificate demonstrates that you understand the regulations, operating requirements, and procedures for safely flying drones.

Are you a [first time pilot](#) or an [existing Part 61 Certificate holder](#)?

Do you need to [keep your Remote Pilot Certificate current](#)?

Not sure [what type of drone flyer you are](#)? We can help you!

First-Time Pilots

Eligibility

To become a pilot you must:

- Be at least 16 years old
- Be able to read, speak, write, and understand English
- Be in a physical and mental condition to safely fly a drone
- Pass the initial aeronautical knowledge exam: "Unmanned Aircraft General – Small (UAG)"

Requirements for Remote Pilot Certificate:

- Must be easily accessible by the remote pilot during all UAS operations
- Certificate holders must complete an [online recurrent training](#) every 24 calendar months to maintain aeronautical knowledge recency

Navigating the Process to Become a Drone Pilot:

Step 1: Obtain an FAA Tracking Number (FTN) by creating an [Integrated Airman Certification and Rating Application](#) (IACRA) profile prior to registering for a knowledge test.

Step 2: Schedule an appointment with a [FAA-approved Knowledge Testing Center](#). Be sure to bring a government-issued photo ID to your test.

Step 3: Pass the initial aeronautical knowledge test: "Unmanned Aircraft General – Small (UAG)". Knowledge test topic areas include:

- Applicable regulations relating to small unmanned aircraft system rating privileges, limitations, and flight operation.
- Airspace classification and operating requirements, and flight restrictions affecting small unmanned aircraft operation.
- Aviation weather sources and effects of weather on small unmanned aircraft performance
- Small unmanned aircraft loading and performance
- Emergency procedures
- Crew resource management
- Radio communication procedures
- Determining the performance of small unmanned aircraft
- Physiological effects of drugs and alcohol
- Aeronautical decision-making and judgment
- Airport operations
- Maintenance and preflight inspection procedures
- Operation at night

Step 4: Complete FAA Form 8710-13 for a remote pilot certificate (FAA Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application) using the electronic FAA [Integrated Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application system \(IACRA\)*](#)

1. Login with username and password
2. Click on "Start New Application" and 1) Application Type "Pilot", 2) Certifications "Remote Pilot", 3) Other Path Information, 4) Start Application
3. Follow application prompts
4. When prompted, enter the 17-digit Knowledge Test Exam ID (Note: it may take up to 48 hours from the test date for the knowledge test to appear in IACRA)
5. Sign the application electronically and submit for processing.

Step 5: A confirmation email will be sent when an applicant has completed the TSA security background check. This email will provide instructions for printing a copy of the temporary remote pilot certificate from IACRA.

Step 6: A permanent remote pilot certificate will be sent via mail once all other FAA-internal processing is complete.

Step 7: Have your Remote Pilot Certificate available whenever you fly your UAS.

Existing Part 61 Certificate Holders

Eligibility:

- Must hold a pilot certificate issued under [14 CFR part 61](#)
- Must have completed a flight review within the previous 24 months

Requirements for Remote Pilot Certificate:

- Must be easily accessible by the remote pilot during all UAS operations
- Certificate holders must complete an [online recurrent training](#) every 24 calendar months to maintain aeronautical knowledge recency

Navigating the Process to Become a Drone Pilot:

Step 1: Create an account, or log into your existing account, on the [FAA Safety Team \(FAASafetyTeam\) website](#).

Step 2: Complete the [Part 107 Small UAS Initial \(ALC-451\) online training course](#). The course will cover these topic areas:

- Applicable regulations relating to small unmanned aircraft system rating privileges, limitations, and flight operation.
- Effects of weather on small unmanned aircraft performance
- Small unmanned aircraft loading and performance
- Emergency procedures
- Crew resource management
- Determining the performance of small unmanned aircraft
- Maintenance and preflight inspection procedures
- Operation at night

Step 3: Create an account, or log into your existing account, in <https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/Default.aspx>.

Step 4: Complete Form 8710-13 for a remote pilot certificate (FAA Airman Certificate and/or Rating Application) in <https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/Default.aspx>.

1. Login with username and password
2. Click on "Start New Application" and 1) Application Type "Pilot", 2) Certifications "Remote Pilot", 3) Other Path Information, 4) Start Application
3. Follow application prompts.
4. Sign the application electronically and submit for processing.

Step 5: Make an appointment with one of the following entities to validate your identity. Bring your completed [Form 8710-13](#), proof of your current flight review, photo ID, and your online course completion certificate.

- [At an FAA Flight Standards District Office \(FSDO\)](#)
- [With an FAA-designated pilot examiner \(DPE\)](#)
- [An airman certification representative \(ACR\)](#)
- [An FAA-certificated flight instructor \(CFI\)*](#)

Please note: * CFIs cannot issue temporary certificates. They can process applications for applicants who do not want a temporary certificate.

Step 6: The representative will sign your application and issue you a temporary airman certificate.

- You'll receive your permanent certificate via U.S. mail within several weeks.

Step 7: Have your Remote Pilot Certificate available whenever you fly your UAS.

Keep Your Remote Pilot Certificate Current

It is important for all pilots, including Certified Remote Pilots, to keep their aviation knowledge up to date. If you have a Remote Pilot Certificate, you are required to have completed one of the following online training courses within the previous 24 calendar months to operate UAS under part 107:

Anyone who holds a part 107 remote pilot certificate (regardless of aeronautical knowledge recency):

- Complete the [Part 107 Small UAS Recurrent \(ALC-677\) online training course](#) (no cost)

Part 107 remote pilots who **are also** certificated with a current [flight review](#) under [part 61](#):

- Complete the [Part 107 Small UAS Recurrent \(ALC-515\) online training course](#) (no cost)

You can read the [Remote Pilot –Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Airman Certification Standards](#) (PDF).

Appendix B: Drone Registration

Excerpted from [faa.gov/uas/getting_started/register_drone](https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/register_drone)

How to Register Your Drone

Register your drone at FADroneZone (<https://faadronezone.faa.gov/>) whether flying under the Exception for Limited Recreational Operations (https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_fliers) or Part 107 (https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators). If you are not sure what kind of a drone flyer you are, check out our User Identification Tool (https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/user_identification_tool) or visit our Getting Started webpage (https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started) to learn more.

- All drones must be registered, except those that weigh 0.55 pounds or less (less than 250 grams) and are flown under the Exception for Limited Recreational Operations. (<https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title49-section44809&num=0&edition=prelim>).
- Drones registered under the Exception for Limited Recreational Operations cannot be flown under Part 107.

NOTE: The Exception for Limited Recreational Operations does not apply to Experimentation Events.

Remote Identification and Your Drone

Drones which are required to be registered or are registered, including those flown for recreation, business, or public safety, must comply with Remote ID (https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/remote_id).

How to Register

Information Needed to Register

- Physical address and mailing address (if different from physical address)
- Email address
- Phone number
- Make and model of your drone
- Specific Remote ID serial number provided by the manufacturer (if applicable)
- Credit or debit card

Note: If you are not sure how to locate your Remote ID serial number, please check with the manufacturer for assistance.

Registration Fees

- Part 107 registration costs \$5 per drone and is valid for three (3) years.
- The Exception for Limited Recreational Operations registration costs \$5, covers all drones in your inventory, and is valid for three (3) years.
- Once a drone is registered, its registration cannot be transferred between operation types (Part 107 or the Exception for Limited Recreational Operations).

Registration Requirements

- 13 years of age or older (if the owner is less than 13 years of age, a person 13 years of age or older must register the drone)
- A U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident.
- For foreign operators, FAA will consider the certificate issued to be a recognition of ownership rather than a certificate of U.S. aircraft registration.

Where to Register

- Register a drone online at FAA DroneZone (drone must weigh less than 55 pounds)
(<https://faadzone.faa.gov/#/>)
- Does your drone weigh more than 55 pounds? Learn more about how to registering drones over 55lbs.
(https://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/aircraft_certification/aircraft_registry/ua)

NOTE: If a drone is over 55 lbs, the Special Airworthiness Certification Experimentation Category (SAC-EC) would apply for those drones participating in experimentation events.

After You Register

Once you register your drone, you will receive an FAA registration certificate. You must have your registration certificate (either a paper copy or digital copy) in your possession when you fly. If another individual operates your drone, they must have your drone registration certificate (either a paper or digital copy) in their possession. Federal law requires pilots flying drones that require registration, to show their certificate of registration to any Federal, State, or local law enforcement officer if asked. The FAA requires that you label all drones (https://www.faa.gov/sites/faa.gov/files/uas/recreational_fliers/UAS_how_to_label_Infographic.pdf) with your registration number before you fly them

Failure to register a drone that requires registration may result in regulatory and criminal penalties.

Registration Renewal

When your drone registration expires, you need to renew your registration through the FAADroneZone. If you are having trouble logging into the FAADroneZone, you may need to reset your password (PDF) (https://www.faa.gov/sites/faa.gov/files/uas/recreational_fliers/DZ_Password_Reset.pdf). Be sure to use the email address you used when you originally registered your drone with the FAA.

Got Questions? Contact the UAS Support Center (https://www.faa.gov/uas/contact_us)

Further Resources

- Geographic list of drone registry enrollments and registrants
(https://www.faa.gov/foia/electronic_reading_room/#geo_list) Contact the UAS Support Center on our website.
- 14 CFR Part 48 — Registration and Marking Requirements for Small Unmanned Aircraft
(<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=4193dce890883811f63ea0805f69804a&mc=true&node=pt14.1.48&rqn=div5>)

Record of Changes

Revision Number	Date Published	Summary of Changes
1	7/30/2026	New Version