

UAS Approval Process

Texas A&M AgriLife-Off Campus

Research, Extension & TVMDL

Texas A&M AgriLife has established a Supervising Authority to review and approve UAS flights that occur by employees outside of Brazos County excluding the Brazos Bottom Farm. This approval process applies to agency employees, vendors, visitors and students operating UAS on any property owned or leased by the agency, or employees operating UAS on property not owned or leased by the agency as part of their employment.

There are three ways to fly UAS at Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Extension or TVMDL facilities:

1. In accordance with an FAA-issued Public COA.
2. In accordance with FAA Part 107 rules.
3. For educational purposes

Hobbyists are not allowed to fly UAS on Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Extension or TVMDL property.

(Exemptions for educational or demonstration purposes upon request may be granted)

To fly UAS in accordance with an FAA-issued Public COA or in accordance with FAA Part 107 rules:

1. Submit your application to the Texas A&M AgriLife Supervising Authority through the following link: <https://www.tamus.edu/business/risk-management/uas/uas-application/>. Applications should be submitted a minimum of 15 business days before desired flight.
2. Attach all requested documentation to ensure delays are avoided.
3. Completed on-line applications will be reviewed by the Supervising Authority; any questions will be directed to the individual who completed the application.
4. The Supervising Authority reserves the right to cancel or re-schedule any approved UAS usage, if doing so is in the best interest of the agency. Note: If an accident occurs during flight, the remote pilot in command (RPIC) is responsible for submitting an accident report to the Texas A&M AgriLife Supervising Authority within 48 hours. This report will be retained with the original application and associated documents.

To fly a UAS for educational/demonstration purposes:

1. Submit the following information to Risk and Compliance through email at uas@ag.tamu.edu:
 - a. Name of Center or Department
 - b. Name and contact information of AgriLife employee responsible for the demonstration or educational lesson
 - c. Description of UAS to be flown
 - d. Registration number of UAS to be flown
 - e. Area requested for flight
 - f. Description of activities related to UAS flight. Note that educational/demonstration use of UAS only allows the visitors to fly the UAS; employee's role must be incidental and secondary to the visitor's (e.g., regain control in the event the visitor begins to lose control, terminate the flight, etc.)
-

Summary of Responsibilities.

1. The Remote Pilot in Command (RPIC) is responsible for all components associated with safe flight of the UAS and compliance with applicable FAA rules and regulations.
2. Damage. The applicant granted approval for use is responsible for any damage resulting from the use of UAS on AgriLife property. If the applicant is an AgriLife employee/department, using a third-party contractor to operate UAS, liability for damage must be otherwise assigned contractually to this third party. See insurance requirements below.
3. Accident. The RPIC must submit an Accident Report to the Supervising Authority within 48 hours of any accident that occurs during an approved flight.

Summary of Requirements:

1. Insurance. The insurance requirements associated with use of UAS on AgriLife property will be determined by University Risk Management, in consultation with A&M System Risk Management.

For insurance requirements refer to System Regulation 24.01.07.3.6

2. Registration. All AgriLife-owned or acquired UAS must be properly registered in accordance with FAA requirements. Use the FAA's Web site to register UAS: <https://registermyuas.faa.gov/>. Additionally, all UAS must be placed on inventory and have an asset number assigned.

For definitions related to the UAS Program, refer to System Regulation 24.01.07.