

The FAA Recreational Drone Laws Have Changed

On October 5th, 2018, The FAA Reauthorization Act was signed into law, creating new requirements for recreational drone pilots. How and where you or your students can fly has changed.

These are your options to ensure you're flying lawfully.

Under the 2018 FAA Reauthorization Act, the rules for airport notification are now based on airspace classification rather than distance. You are no longer required to inform airports of your piloting plans. Rather, the FAA now requires you to obtain specific authorizations.

As a recreational pilot, where you can fly is dictated by the airspace you are trying to pilot in. If you're flying outside, you have four options:

- 1 Fly in Class G uncontrolled airspace without acquiring FAA authorization.**
- 2 Fly in Controlled Airspace after acquiring FAA authorization.**
 - To see what airspace your site falls under, visit <http://knowbeforeyoufly.org/air-space-map/>.
 - You can also use the [AirMap app](#), a free application for safe, compliant and efficient drone operations that shows you nearby airspaces and allows you to request authorization from within the app.
- 3 You can fly at an FAA fixed flight site.** Fixed sites (controlled airspaces that the FAA has given recreational pilots permission to fly in) can be found here: [udds-faa.opendata.arcgis.com/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/operations-of-unmanned-aircraft).

For any of the three options above, you must meet the eight statutory conditions of Section 349 of the Reauthorization Act.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/05/17/2019-10169/exception-for-limited-recreational-operations-of-unmanned-aircraft>

- 4 You can obtain your Part 107 Remote Pilot Certification.** In order to fly your drone under the FAA's Small UAS Rule (Part 107), you must obtain a Remote Pilot Certificate from the FAA. A Part 107 is a commercial drone pilot license which demonstrates that you understand the regulations, operating requirements and procedures for safely flying drones. With your Part 107, you're able to fly under the already established commercial drone laws. For more information on this test and the best way to study, visit <https://edventures.com/products/drone-pilot-ground-school>.
 - Educators also have the option to partner with a group or community member holding a Part 107 certification. This Remote Pilot Certification allows you or someone else to "supervise" pilots as an authority on drone laws, safety and skills.

Drone laws change frequently and may have updated since this PDF was released. Visit the FAA website at www.faa.gov/uas/ to review the latest laws for educational users before heading outside.