

Unmanned Aircraft Systems

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I. Purpose

This policy is implemented to protect the health and safety of the University of Kentucky students, employees, patients, and campus visitors, and to comply with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements to prevent disruption of active flight activities of the heliport at the University of Kentucky Albert B. Chandler Hospital and adjacent to Kroger Field.

II. Definitions (if necessary)

- *Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)*: any unmanned aerial vehicle or drone operated from a distance of more than one foot via tether or remote control or autonomous control, including but not limited to fixed wing and rotorcraft platforms.
- *Operator*: any faculty, staff, student, visitor, contractor, agency, production house, business, club organization or other individual using or piloting a UAS.

III. Responsibilities

- A. Administration of this policy is coordinated through the Office of the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration with support from the Event Management Office.
- B. A list of those authorized to use UAS will be viewable by University of Kentucky administrative offices.

IV. Policy

- A. This policy applies to Operators of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) or drones for research, education, demonstrations, communications, recreation, and all other purposes while on University of Kentucky owned, operated or controlled property.
- B. The University of Kentucky shall comply with FAA requirements, state law, and any other locally applicable laws or regulations regarding UAS.
- C. Higher education institutions and other public entities may operate UAS upon receipt of a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization ("COA") from the FAA or by meeting requirements for small unmanned aircraft Part 107 in Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR).
- D. UAS shall only be used for institutional purposes compliant with the University of Kentucky mission of teaching, research and service.
- E. Hobbyist or recreational use of UAS is prohibited on all University of Kentucky owned, operated or controlled property.
- F. UAS shall be operated in a manner that adheres to federal and state law and FAA requirements regarding the operation of said aircraft to include but not limited to:
 - 1. Flying below 400 feet and remaining clear of surrounding obstacles.
 - 2. Remaining well clear of and not interfering with manned aircraft operations.

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3. Not flying within 5 miles of any designated airport or helipad unless the operator contacts the airport or helipad and control tower before flying.
 4. Refraining from being careless or reckless with the UAS which could result in a fine for endangering people or other aircraft.
 5. Daylight only operations (30 minutes before official sunrise to 30 minutes after official sunset, local time) with appropriate anti-collision lighting.
- G. UAS used in accordance with this policy shall be under the complete control and within visual line of sight of the Operator at all times.
- H. Commercial use of UAS (including non-University entities interested in operating UAS on campus property) is not permitted unless there is approval from the University of Kentucky, the UAS has been registered with the FAA and the FAA has issued a 333 exemption and COA to the commercial operator or the operator meets the requirements for small unmanned aircraft Part 107 in Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR).
- I. UAS shall not be used in such a way as to create a hazard to University of Kentucky owned, operated, or controlled property, the University community or the public. UAS shall not be operated in a way that disrupts instruction or unduly affects the environment of people in or passing through a common space or residential space, working or studying within a building, or entering, exiting or otherwise making their way about a facility.
- J. UAS shall not be operated directly above open air events or above thoroughfares, including but not limited to roadways, sidewalks, bike paths and pedestrian paths.
- K. Use of UAS at Kroger Field during events listed in FAA FDC 4/3621 is prohibited.
- L. Failure to comply with this policy may result in referral to campus, local, state or federal law enforcement for citation and prosecution consistent with applicable laws.

V. Approval Process

To utilize UAS on campus, the Operator shall apply for permission through the University of Kentucky Event Management Office using the Event Management System at least seven days prior to operation. Depending on the nature of the UAS use, the Event Management office will work with the appropriate University department(s) for approval and issue a waiver (or exemption) for use on University of Kentucky owned, operated or controlled property. Included in all third party usage requirements will be proof of general liability insurance with a \$2,000,000 per occurrence limit and "The University of Kentucky, its Trustees and employees" must be added as an additional insured.

VI. Additional Information on UAS usage:

[FAA Unmanned Aircraft Systems \(UAS\) Regulations & Policies](#)

[FAA Frequently Asked Questions – Unmanned Aircraft Systems \(UAS\)](#)

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[FAA Fact Sheet Part 107 Unmanned Aircraft Rule](#)

[FAA Dos and Don'ts of Flying Safely](#)