

Drone Purchase Requirements

Drone purchases must be approved by RMS, and the manufacturer of said drone must be an approved manufacturer on the Texas Statewide Plan for Preventing Use of Prohibited Technology in State Agencies. Below are the questions sent to us for completion in early 2025 by the Executive Director of Risk Management and Safety, Mrs. Crystal Giles.

Please provide the following information to begin the unmanned aerial system (UAS) purchase approval process. RMS approval must be submitted to Procurement before you can purchase a UAS device.

1. Manufacturer
2. Model Number
3. Provide the flight purpose details.
4. When, where, and how often will the UAS be flown? It will be flown on campus 2-5 times a month and off campus for farmers, if needed.
5. Identify UAS operator(s) and/or flight team.
6. All operators are required to have contingency management and mishap response plans that provide the following, at a minimum:
 1. Loss of control or connection to the unmanned aircraft, including loss of control link, loss of GPS, and loss of power.
 2. Actions on sighting of a piloted aircraft.
 3. Actions upon a crash of the unmanned aircraft.
 4. Provisions to avoid flying over pedestrians and vehicles.

Please Note:

Once the UAS is purchased and **BEFORE** drone use on campus, please have the flight application submitted at least **15 days** before the date requested for a flight. This provides the Supervising Authority adequate time to review the application and ask any necessary follow-up questions.

UAS Flight Application: <https://www.tamus.edu/risk/risk-management/unmanned-aircraft-system-operations-uas/>

Also, if the UAS will fly over people, a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) waiver is required before flight approval. You must file a waiver via https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators/part_107_waivers/.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Giles and/or the RMS staff at RMS@pvamu.edu or 936-261-1747.