

Licensing for Unmanned Aircraft Aerial Application and Surveillance

Step 1: Obtain a FAA Part 107 Drone Pilots License (Renewal every 24 Months)

- Test must be taken at an FAA Facility
- Cost: \$175
- Test will be 60 questions and you must score at least 70% to pass
- For more information on the Part 107 license please visit:
 - www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators

Step 2: Obtain an FAA Section 44807 Certification

- This is for drones weighing 55 pounds or more, either dry or loaded.

Step 3: Obtain an FAA 3rd Class Medical Certificate

- Required for any drone with a gross takeoff weight of 55 pounds or greater
- For information on how to schedule, please visit:
 - www.faa.gov/pilots/medical_certification/get

Step 4: Obtain an FAA Part 137 Aerial Application License

- Not ALL substances fall under this regulation
- For more information, please visit:
 - https://www.faa.gov/uas/advanced_operations/dispensing_chemicals

Step 5: Drone Registration

- \$5 per drone and registration will be valid for three years
- FAA registration certificate must be in your possession when you fly
- Registration number MUST be affixed to your aircraft
- For information regarding registration, please visit:
 - https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/register_drone

Step 6: Obtain a Commercial or Private License with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) – commercial is for hire; private is to produce agricultural commodities

- Exam(s) must be taken at a PSI Location; privates must take class, then exams
- License Cost: \$200/year for commercial; \$100/5 years for private
- Exams are \$64 each; commercials take 3 exams (1 General and 2 Category); privates take two (private applicator exam and aerial)
- Privates and commercials must take Aerial category; commercials take additional category exam
 - TDA has multiple categories that range from Pasture and Rangeland to Aquatic Pest Control
 - The list of categories can be found here: <https://texasagriculture.gov/Regulatory-Programs/Pesticides/TDA-Ag-Pesticide-Applicator-Categories>
- For more information regarding TDA licensing you may contact TDA or you may visit:
 - <https://www.aes.tamu.edu>
 - Continuing education will be required in Texas and may be required in other states