

# P107 Drone Pilot Study Guide

## Part 1: Get familiar with the material

- [Drone Rules Simplified: Top 10 Must-Know FAA Regulations](#)
  - Start with this video.
  - It is a simplified introduction to the essential regulations for drone pilots.
- [CFR Title 14 Chapter I Subchapter F Part 107](#)
  - These are the official regulations for all commercial drone operations.
  - Notice that I said “commercial”. You can also fly recreationally, which is regulated more leniently. That is *not* what you are studying for.
  - Read through the regulations once to get familiar. You are not expected to understand or remember everything on the first try. Refer back to these regulations later throughout your studying. They will make more sense as you learn about terms and concepts that are not intuitive to non-pilots.
  - Remember to review these regulations one last time after all your studying, and before taking the test. At that point, you should understand and remember most if not all of them.
- [Part 107 Practice Knowledge Test by Rupprecht Law](#)
  - Take this practice test to see what you already know and find out what concepts you need to study.
  - Scroll down a bit to find the practice test module. Below the practice test are all the explained answers. Review those once you have tried the practice test. If the review below the test is too overwhelming or unfamiliar at this point, study some of the materials in Part 2 of this document and come back to the 72 question review by Rupprecht Law later.

## Part 2: Study to pass the test

- [Remote Pilot - sUAS Airman Certification Standards](#)
  - This document tells you all about the test and certification requirements. Use it as a progress check when studying.
  - It lists criteria you will be tested on to become a certified “airman” (pilot).
  - You should be able to read through this document and be at least familiar with every listed knowledge element by the time you are done studying. Yes, it may seem like a lot. You do not have to be an expert on everything, but you need to at least know what each item means so that you can make better guesses on the test.
  - This document can also help you come up with search terms or phrases to go find more study material for a particular subject.

- [FAA Part 107 Study Guide](#)
  - The FAA provides a comprehensive study guide for drone pilots.
  - This short textbook explains nearly everything that will be on the test.
- [Part 107 Test Study Guide by Rupprecht Law](#)
  - This is a study guide was made by an FAA certified flight instructor (CFI) and aviation attorney.
  - He has gone through the effort of explaining all the answers to the test, providing practice tests, offering test-taking tips, and providing additional free materials for studying.
  - Though it may seem like a lot to get through, it is highly recommended to go through this study guide at least once to really be prepared for the test.
  - Take the practice test until you get 100%. Many questions are nearly identical (if not the same) as what you will encounter on the real test.
  - If you skipped over the 72 question explanation after the practice test mentioned in Part 1 of this document, now is the time to review that.
- [FREE Drone Certification Study Guide: FAA Part 107 sUAS Test by Tony & Chelsea Northrup](#)
  - 1:43:30, broken into chapters by subject.
  - This is an excellent comprehensive overview of most of the test material.
  - Use this guide to refresh your knowledge on certain subjects.
  - It is also a great last-minute cram resource.
  - I watched this video the day before my test as a review. It helped a lot.
  - Some people in the comments even claim that the video was their only study guide and they managed to pass. (Not recommended, but shows you how useful it can be.)

### Part 3: Take the test

- Create an [IACRA](#) account to start your application
  - Get a FAA Tracking Number (FTN). Save this number! It is very important!
  - Submit a new application to take the Part 107 Knowledge Test
- Create a [PSI Exams](#) account to schedule your test
  - Schedule your test at a testing center. If you are in the Santa Clara County area, your testing facility will likely be Nice Air at Reid Hillview Airport.
  - pick a day and time you know you will have enough time, reliable transportation, and can be well rested beforehand.
- Take the test!
  - Remember to bring a government-issued photo ID.
  - Once you pass, you will be given instructions to submit an application for your Remote Pilot Certificate (your drone pilot license) in IACRA.

## Part 4: Keep studying to know the material and be a good pilot

- [FAA UAS Policy Document Library](#)
  - This is an official list of FAA documents related to being a drone pilot.
  - Check out the links on this page to know more about the governance around drone piloting.
- [FAA Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge \(PHAK\)](#)
  - This is a full textbook of all the knowledge a pilot must be proficient in. This textbook is for private pilots *and* drone pilots.
  - A lot of the information may seem irrelevant or too advanced for drone piloting. That is *not true*, a drone shares a lot of characteristics (at a smaller scale) with manned aircraft. Also, it is good practice to know your neighbors in airspace. Though you will not be operating directly alongside aircraft, you need to be aware of their operations so that you can stay aware and safe.
- [FAA Aeronautical Information Manual](#)
  - This covers a lot of the same information as the PHAK.
  - This handbook tells you all about how to operate in US airspace
- [FAA Aeronautical Chart User Guide](#)
  - This document teaches you how to read aeronautical charts.
  - Those charts can be overwhelming and confusing, especially if you have never seen them before. This user guide will help you identify the symbols, colors, patterns, and lines.
- [FAA Weight and Balance Handbook](#)
  - This handbook teaches you all about how to manage the weight and balance of your aircraft so that it can fly safely and efficiently.
  - It focuses on manned aircraft, but the same concepts apply to drones.
  - Instead of passengers and baggage, the drone will be affected by payloads such as propeller guards, mounted cameras or sensors, or other accessories that you may need or choose to mount on your drone.
- [FAA Aviation Weather Handbook](#)
  - This handbook tells you all about weather, and how it can affect flights.
  - Here in the Bay Area we are lucky to have fairly mild weather throughout the year. However, even moderate differences in temperature, humidity, pressure, wind, and altitude can change how your drone flies and can pose a safety risk. Also, if you will be flying drones in other places you need to be aware of how weather can impact flight operations.
- [FAA Risk Management Handbook](#)
  - Being a drone pilot is not just about flying the drone. It is also about setting goals for your flights, planning, abiding by rules, and following good

practices. Safety and procedures are requirements for good drone pilots, just like for manned airplane pilots.

- [FAA Aviation Handbooks and Manuals](#)
  - This is a list of reference documents and handbooks published by the FAA. The links will redirect you to free online (PDF) copies of the books, which you can save for yourself. Keep in mind that these documents and handbooks are updated sometimes. Refer to this page for the latest copies. I have linked the ones most relevant to drone pilots above.

## **Part 5: Practice flying (can be done simultaneously with parts 1-4)**

- As you get more experienced (and after you have studied and passed the Part 107 exam), you should consider making checklists and procedures for your drone operations. Since there is so much information to keep in mind, having documents that remind you of what you need will help you stay safe, prepared, and confident that you are doing the right thing.
- Consider the following questions:
  - What documents do you need to keep with you when on a mission?
    - Licenses? Waivers? Certificates of Authorization? Insurance?
  - What charts, maps, or reference material do you need to plan your flight?
    - Aeronautical charts? Maps? Weather reports? Flight paths?
    - Notes about obstacles, hazards, and no-fly zones?
  - What apps or accounts do you have?
    - AirAware/Air Control? B4UFLY? IACRA? FAA Drone Zone?
  - What are all the supplies you need alongside your drone?
    - Batteries? Chargers? Camera or sensor payloads? Prop guards? Landing pads?
  - How will you react to unexpected situations?
    - Contingency plans? Emergency procedures? Emergency contacts?
  - How will you keep track of your drone's maintenance?
    - Maintenance logs? Battery logs? Flight logs?
  - If you are flying with others, how will you manage your team?
    - Certifications? Basic training? Contacts?
  - Anticipate and prepare, so that you are not surprised and panicking when things go wrong.