Remote Pilot sUAS FAA Part 107 Certification Topics and Exam Guide

The following exam topics are outlined in the Airmen Certification Standards for Remote Pilot – sUAS. https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/acs/media/uas_acs.pdf

The FAA has a remote pilot study guide (essentially a small textbook) that covers all of the topics on the exam. This is a great place to start studying. Many of the other FAA resources and handbooks are written for manned aircraft pilots, but this one is a thorough resource that is written specifically for remote pilots. It includes links to other resources within it. https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/media/remote_pilot_study_guide.pdf

Exam Topics:
Regulations
Subtopics:
- General
- Operating Rules
- Remote Pilot Certification with an sUAS rating
- Waivers

Resources:
One of the best resources for studying regulations and operating rules is **Advisory Circular AC 107-2**. It clearly outlines the above topics and is presented in a readable way (as opposed to the Federal Aviation Regulations, which can be difficult to read). https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Advisory_Circular/AC_107-2.pdf

As with any FAA publication, check that you are using the most current version.

The definitive source of sUAS regulations is the **Federal Aviation Regulations (FARs)**. It would difficult to study from this resource, but it is useful if you have a specific question. https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=e155ce88a2ba2674ea21f843e3009b2a&mc=true&node=pt14.2.107&rgn=div5

For a brief review of regulations, the following can be useful. The first two are the easiest to use, but they are from "unofficial sources":
- Concise summary of sUAS regulations:
    - https://3dr.com/faa/study-guides/uas-regulations/
- sUAS regulations "cheat sheet":
    - https://3dr.com/faa/study-guides/regulations-cheatsheet/
- FAA concise summary of part 107 regulations:
    - https://www.faa.gov/uas/media/part_107_summary.pdf
- FAA "fact sheet." Very similar to the information above.
    - https://www.faa.gov/news/fact_sheets/news_story.cfm?newsId=22615

Airspace Classification, Operating Requirements, and Flight Restrictions
Subtopics:
- Airspace Classification
- Airspace Operational Requirements

Resources:
This topic includes reading sectional charts. There are a number of useful resources for this topic.

Chapter 2 of the **FAA remote pilot study guide** thoroughly covers the topic and is a good place to start if you are unfamiliar with charts and airspace.
https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/media/remote_pilot_study_guide.pdf

The following 3-part YouTube videos series on sectional charts is very helpful. Altogether, they are about 40 minutes long.
        Part 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eI0Z-G2VHH8
        Part 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=razDbDdBTyQ
        Part 3: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sr1FMwUF6kI

The following YouTube video exam study guide covers a number of topics, including charts. There are timestamps in the description.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_ucCKFJUCU

Page 14 of the following PDF presentation gives a good overview of airspace related to sUAS:
https://www.faa.gov/airports/southwest/airports_news_events/2018_conference/media/session-a-uas-update.pdf

One resource that can be particularly useful for quizzing yourself is the online chart website SkyVector (https://skyvector.com/). The online charts also include text weather reports, so you can quiz yourself on that as well.

The **testing supplement** includes all of the figures from the exam. They will only ever ask you about airspace depicted in these figures. One of the figures is the legend for the charts.
https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/supplements/media/sport_rec_private_akts.pdf

Detailed information about charts and the legend are in the FAA Aeronautical Chart User's Guide. This is probably much more information than you need for the exam. The tabs that say "IFR" or "TPP" are not applicable to sUAS operations.
https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/flight_info/aeronav/digital_products/aero_guide/

Weather

Subtopics:

- Sources of Weather Information
- Effects of Weather on Performance

Resources:

Chapters 3a and 3b of the **FAA remote pilot study guide** are a good place to start learning how to read weather reports.
https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/media/remote_pilot_study_guide.pdf

One of the videos that also included chart information has good lessons on weather reports.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_ucCKFJUCU

The FAA provides a document that decodes all of the abbreviations used in METARs and TAFs if you need to find a specific one:
https://www.weather.gov/media/wrh/mesowest/metar_decode_key.pdf

The National Weather Service also has a good decoder for TAFs:
https://aviationweather.gov/static/help/taf-decode.php

Once you are ready to quiz yourself, it can be helpful to look up TAFs and METARs in both the raw and decoded format. One place to do this is https://aviationweather.gov/taf, where you can enter one or more airport identifiers (KABQ, for Albuquerque, and KAEG for Double Eagle, for example). You can also find text weather on https://skyvector.com/ but that does not include a decoded version.

Small Unmanned Aircraft Loading and Performance

Subtopic:

- Loading and Performance

Resources:

The **FAA remote pilot study guide** is a good place to learn about loading and performance (Chapter 8).
https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/media/remote_pilot_study_guide.pdf

Operations

Subtopics:

- Radio Communication Procedures
- Airport Operations
- Emergency Procedures
- Aeronautical Decision-Making
- Physiology
- Maintenance and preflight inspection procedures

Resources:

The **FAA remote pilot study guide** is a good place to start learning about operations.
https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/media/remote_pilot_study_guide.pdf

- Chapter 7 – radio communication procedures
- Chapter 11 – airport operations
- Chapter 5 – emergency procedures
- Chapter 10 – aeronautical decision-making and judgement
- Chapter 9 – physiology
- Chapter 12 – maintenance and preflight inspection procedures

Additionally, the previously mentioned video also covers many of these topics.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_ucCKFJUCU

Practice Tests and Sample Questions

As you start to learn the material, you should start to become familiar with sample test questions. This will help to reinforce what you are learning as well as help you become familiar with the FAA's style of questions.

The first resource to be aware of is the testing supplement book. You will be given this book to use at the test center. You will not see any figures on the exam that are not in this book. For real world operations, you should become familiar with the charts for your area, but when studying for the exam it can be helpful to get to know these figures. Only a handful of the figures in the book will be used on the drone exam since the book is used for several different tests.

The legend for the sectional charts and the chart supplement is in the figure book, so if you get stuck during the test, you can refer to it in the figure book.
https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/supplements/media/sport_rec_private_akts.pdf

Practice tests:
The FAA provides a set of 40 sample questions with no answer key. This is the most official source of practice questions.
https://www.faa.gov/training_testing/testing/test_questions/media/ugr_sample_questions.pdf

Additional websites with sample tests. Some of these are from the FAA sample set, some are additional ones that are from the actual test bank, and some are just made up, so it is important to remember that there might be differences in what you see online compared to the actual exam.

The is one of the most thorough unofficial sources of test questions. This website has a bank of 130 questions and they will grade your answers.
https://3dr.com/faa/drone-practice-tests/

This YouTube video discusses all 130 questions from the previous website (3DR) and talks about why the answer choices are right or wrong.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-IEjiWiFf5E

This website talks about commonly missed questions, but it shows you the answer right away, so you can't test yourself. A good reference if you keep getting stuck on a particular topic or question.
https://www.dronepilotgroundschool.com/missed-part-107-test-prep-questions/

This website has 21 test questions with very thorough explanations of each one. They cover the hardest topics and have a lot of chart questions.
https://dronelaunchacademy.com/part-107-test-21-practice-questions/

King Schools is a highly reputable flight training company that they provide a free, timed, sample test. The website will grade your answers and show the correct answer for any questions you missed.
https://www.kingschools.com/free-faa-exam/drone-pilot

This website provides 60 practice questions with the answer and a brief explanation printed immediately below the question.
https://3dinsider.com/part-107-practice-exam/

This may be the least useful of these websites because it seems like the authors of the website just made up the questions to try to sound like FAA questions. However, you may find something useful that helps you remember a particular topic.
https://jrupprechtlaw.com/part-107-knowledge-test

After the exam:
IACRA
As the FAA describes the process of obtaining your commercial drone certificate Steps 1 and 2 are to schedule the exam and pass it.
https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators/become_a_drone_pilot/

Step 3 is to complete the FAA Form 8710-13 on the IACRA website.
https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/Default.aspx

Steps 4 and 5 describe how you can print a temporary certificate from IACRA once the TSA background check is done, and how your permanent certificate will be mailed to you later.

On the IACRA website, be sure to carefully read the info at the New User Guide link:
https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/HelpAndInfo.aspx?id=5
and the Remote Pilot with Knowledge Test link:
https://iacra.faa.gov/IACRA/HelpAndInfo.aspx?id=7

On the IACRA site, you will have to create an account. Then follow the instructions from the New User Guide. Here is a 106-page instruction manual on how to use IACRA, but it is unlikely that you will need it. https://iacra.faa.gov/iacra_manuals/IACRA_Instruction_Manual_8.pdf