### POLICY TITLE
Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs, UASs, Drones)

### EFFECTIVE DATE
This policy was created on: September 4, 2018

### RESPONSIBILITIES
Issuing Office: Risk Management  
Responsible Officer: Senior VP for Finance and Administration  
Individuals/offices required for review and changes: Academic Affairs, Public Safety, Risk Management

### PURPOSE
Rhode Island School of Design seeks to permit Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) to be utilized productively in a manner that fully meets institutional, legal, public safety, and ethical responsibilities, while ensuring compliance with all federal regulations.

### SCOPE
This policy applies:  
- To any RISD employee or student operating a UAV in any location as part of a RISD activity.  
- To any person operating a UAV above RISD property not as part of a school activity.

### POLICY STATEMENT
This policy was developed to provide direction to anyone possessing or operating a UAV owned by the College, or operated on/above College owned property.  
Direction includes Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements for registration of specific UAV types and federal, state, and local laws and regulations that govern use of UAVs, along with specific sanctions for violating this policy.

### DEFINITIONS
**Definition of Terms in Statement:** For the purpose of this policy on UAVs, the following classifications have been identified:  
**UAV** – Any device which is an aircraft with no pilot on board. UAV’s can be remote-controlled aircraft (e.g., flown by a pilot at a ground control station) or can fly autonomously based on pre-programmed flight plans or more complex dynamic automation systems.  
**FAA** – Federal Aviation Administration

### POLICY
Any College employee or student wishing to operate a UAV as part of their College employment or as part of a College program must first comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including but not limited to FAA regulations, regarding the use of UAVs.  

The operator of the UAV is responsible for:  
- Obtaining all required permits and licenses  
- Ensuring that their UAV has been inspected and maintained on a regular basis, and  
- Checking for temporary flight restrictions on the day of flight  

Specific authorization to operate a UAV on or above any College property, or as part of a RISD or RISDCE course, must be granted by the appropriate department head, as well the Risk Manager. Public Safety must also be notified prior to flight.  

Any student on campus who owns a UAV may have it flown strictly for hobby or recreational purposes. If a student wishes to use a UAV on campus as part of a College course, the student must fill out an Installation Site Permit. Student must adhere to the FAA guidelines regarding the recreational use of UAVs and may not fly on or above campus.  

For the protection and privacy of our faculty, staff, and students, we do not, as a matter of policy, permit persons other than our authorized faculty, staff, and students to fly drones on or above property owned or leased by RISD.
**PROCEDURES**

In general, the conditions that must be observed in all operations of a UAV permitted under this policy are set forth in Part 107 of the Federal Aviation Regulations. The conditions listed here are some of the key conditions, but are not the only conditions, that are required by law, and all Part 107 operators are required to be aware of and follow all applicable limitations and conditions placed on flight by the FAA:

- Unmanned aircraft must weigh less than 55 pounds, including payload, at takeoff
- Fly in Class G airspace*
- Keep the unmanned aircraft within visual line-of-sight*
- Fly at or below 400 feet*
- Fly during daylight or civil twilight*
- Fly at or under 100 mph*
- Yield right of way to manned aircraft*
- Do not fly directly over people*
- Do not fly directly over people* (The term "over" refers to the flight of the small unmanned aircraft directly over any part of a person.)

**For Academic Areas that own and operate UAVs**

All UAVs owned by RISD must be registered per the Part 107 rules set forth by the FAA. A list of UAV and registration numbers must be provided to the Office of Risk Management prior to flights.

**Additional Resources**

For temporary flight restrictions visit: [https://tfr.faa.gov](https://tfr.faa.gov)

To register under Part 107: [https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/part_107/#reg_req](https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/part_107/#reg_req)

For a summary of Part 107 rules: [https://www.faa.gov/uas/media/Part_107_Summary.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/uas/media/Part_107_Summary.pdf)

For a full list of conditions to comply with during flight: [https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=e331c2fe611df1717386d29eee38b000&mc=true&node=pt14.2.107&rgn=div5](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=e331c2fe611df1717386d29eee38b000&mc=true&node=pt14.2.107&rgn=div5)

**REVISION HISTORY**

Last Revised:

Next Scheduled Review:

**REQUIRED DOCUMENT APPROVALS**

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As many as necessary.