

CLEARERVUE DRONE SERVICES

Ground School Reference Guide

Fundamentals · Required Documents · DroneZone Portal Walkthrough

Prepared for students of the ClearerVue 8-Module Ground School — Part 1 of the Pilot Training Path.
clearervuedrone.com · Licensed FAA Part 107 Commercial Pilot

SECTION 1

Flight Fundamentals

This section covers the foundational concepts every drone pilot needs before their first flight. It is meant as a working reference, not exam preparation — if you are pursuing Part 107 commercial certification, use this as your starting point, then move on to dedicated test-prep materials.

Airspace Basics

U.S. airspace is divided into classes (A through G), each with different rules about who can fly there and what permission is required. Most recreational and Part 107 flights happen in uncontrolled Class G airspace, where no special authorization is needed below 400 feet. Flying near airports usually means entering controlled airspace (Classes B, C, D, or E), which typically requires authorization through the FAA's LAANC system before takeoff.

Weather Awareness

Wind, visibility, and precipitation all affect whether a flight is safe to attempt. As a general guideline, avoid flying in winds exceeding your aircraft's rated tolerance (often 20-25 mph for consumer drones), maintain clear visual line of sight at all times, and never fly in fog, heavy rain, or storms. Always check conditions immediately before flight, not just the night before.

Core Safety Principles

- Maintain visual line of sight with your aircraft at all times.
- Never fly over people who are not part of your operation.
- Keep your drone below 400 feet unless flying near a taller structure.
- Yield right of way to all manned aircraft.
- Never fly under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Check for Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) before every flight.

TRUST vs. Part 107 — What's the Difference?

TRUST Certificate	Part 107 Certificate
For recreational flyers only	For commercial / paid drone operations
Free online test, no minimum score to fail	Proctored exam at an approved testing center
Certificate does not expire	Must renew every 24 months

Covers §44809 exception operations	Required for inspections, real estate, mapping, and other paid work
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SECTION 2

Required Documents & Information

Gather these before you sit down to register — having everything ready makes the process take a few minutes instead of a few tries.

For Every Registration

- A valid email address you check regularly
- A credit or debit card for the \$5.00 registration fee
- Your mailing address
- Make and model of your aircraft
- Aircraft serial number (found on the drone or in its manual/app)
- Aircraft takeoff weight

Additional — Part 107 Commercial Only

- Your FAA Remote Pilot Certificate number
- Separate registration per aircraft in your fleet

Tip: Take a clear photo of your drone's serial number before you begin. It's usually printed on a small label underneath the battery compartment or on the aircraft body itself, and is also visible in most manufacturer companion apps.

SECTION 3

How the Registration Portal Works

This mirrors the practice simulator from your course. Use this as a printable reference while you register your real drone for the first time.

1. Visit the website

Go to the official FAA DroneZone site to begin. Bookmark it for renewals later.

2. Create your account

Enter your name, email, and a password. A confirmation email will be sent to the address you provide.

3. Confirm your email

Open your inbox and click the confirmation link sent by the portal.

4. Log back in

Return to the site and log in using the account you just created.

5. Choose your dashboard

Select Recreational (§44809) or Part 107 Commercial, based on how you'll be flying.

6. Add your drone

Enter your aircraft's make, model, weight, and serial number.

7. Pay the \$5.00 fee

This one-time fee covers your registration for three years.

8. Get your registration number

Your number appears immediately. Mark it visibly on your drone — this is the equivalent of a license plate.

Reminder: Your registration number must be placed on the aircraft where it's visible without tools — engraving, permanent marker, or a printed label all work.

SECTION 4

Before You Move to Part 2

Once you've completed all 8 ground school modules and registered your drone, you're ready for the in-person Core Training Program — where you'll take your drone out of the box for the first time and fly with an instructor by your side.

- Completed all 8 ground school video modules
- Practiced the registration process using the interactive simulator
- Registered your real drone and received your registration number
- Marked your registration number visibly on your aircraft
- Reviewed the TRUST vs. Part 107 comparison and confirmed which path applies to you

Questions before your in-person session? Reach out anytime at hello@clearervuedrone.com.