



## **Air Operations Specialist Group Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Subcommittee**

### **New UAS Program Considerations & Recommendations**

The FIRESCOPE UAS Subcommittee has created this document as a reference for public safety agencies to use when developing a UAS program. The information contained in this document reflects considerations and recommendations when initiating and developing a new UAS program. This document is intended to serve as basic guide and is not inclusive of every element required to establish and maintain a successful UAS program.

- Obtain administration acceptance and proof of concept
  - Consider addressing items listed below prior to approaching administration
- Define operational use cases and jurisdictional needs
  - Consider consulting with operations to identify potential jurisdictional usage needs and explain capabilities/limitations/restrictions
- Determine legal operative model (COA vs. Part 107)
  - Understand the difference between Certificate of Authorization (COA) and FAA Part 107 and how that impacts your jurisdiction and the airspace
- Address privacy concerns
  - Understand that the public might have privacy concerns about public safety UAS usage and execute transparency while mitigating those concerns
- Communicate with government and public stakeholders
  - Consider public forum meetings, notifications to adjoining agencies and governmental bodies
- Establish a UAS program budget
  - Consider equipment, maintenance, replacement, insurance, personnel, training, and ancillary equipment
- Develop UAS program policies and procedures
  - Consider training, maintenance, deployment, data retention and usage, mishap management, organizational chart/defined roles, and record keeping for pilots, flights, and data collected
- Develop a UAS program operations manual
  - Create an operations manual that is consistent with your respective jurisdictional needs and Operations Division guidance without conflicting with other standing policies and procedures
- Develop a UAS training program
  - Consider including initial, qualification, certification, recurrent, specialized, and ongoing components
- Select and procure equipment

- Equipment, payload, and third-party software selection should be based upon your jurisdictional and operational needs
- Additional resources:
  - <https://www.iafc.org/topics-and-tools/resources/resource/uas-policy>
  - [https://www.faa.gov/uas/public\\_safety\\_gov/public\\_safety\\_toolkit/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/public_safety_gov/public_safety_toolkit/)
  - [https://www.faa.gov/uas/public\\_safety\\_gov/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/public_safety_gov/)
  - [https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational\\_fliers/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/recreational_fliers/)
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