

GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the New York State Fair to follow all laws, rules and regulations of the State of New York and the United States of America. It is also the policy of the New York State Fair to ensure each and every visitor, regardless of their purpose of visit, experiences an enjoyable experience.

REFERENCE

Code of Federal Regulations of the United States of America; Title 14, Chapter I, Part 101; and Code of Federal Regulations of the United States of America; Title 14, Chapter I, Part 107 NFPA Standard 2400

PROCEDURE

Any vendor, exhibitor, contractor or other person/organization that requests to operate an unmanned aircraft system on or near the New York State Fairgrounds or its affiliated parking lots (otherwise referred to as a drone) must comply with all local, state and Federal laws regarding their operations.

Recreational UAS Operators

For “recreational operators” as defined in Code of Federal Regulations of the United States of America; Title 14, Chapter I, Part 101; operators who are identified in this group will not be authorized to operate an unmanned aircraft system (otherwise referred to as a drone) on or near the properties owned by the State of New York, aka New York State Fairgrounds, or its affiliated parking lots, at any time.

Commercial UAS Operators

For “commercial operators” as defined in Code of Federal Regulations of the United States of America; Title 14, Chapter I, Part 101; operators who are identified in this group can be authorized to operate an unmanned aircraft system (otherwise referred to as a drone) on or near the properties owned by the State of New York, aka New York State Fairgrounds, or its affiliated parking lots provided the operator adheres to the following procedure. NOTE: each application for UAS Operations Permit is subject to review and approval by State Fair officials.

Procedure for Commercial Operators seeking a UAS Operation Permit:

Complete “Unmanned Aircraft Systems to Videotape Over the NYS Fairgrounds” application online at: <https://newyorkstatefair.wufoo.com/forms/qbkI9ed1h6li50/> along with all required documentation as attachments for review and determination.

Required documents to be submitted with application must include the following:

- a. 107 certificate copy
- b. Registration number of each drone that is to be utilized
- c. Insurance form naming NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYS Fairgrounds) as an additional insured

- d. ANY Part 107 waivers operator currently possesses
- e. A brief statement as to the purpose of operation, to include the estimated flight duration, specific day(s)/date(s) of operation*, and specific flight path verbalized or drawn on map of fairgrounds (available on Fair website).
- f. Remote ID of unit(s) (if known – currently not Federally mandated but is expected)
- g. Name of Pilot in Command and names of visual observers** including cell phone number/email address to be used in the event of communication during event
- h. Once submitted, the application and required documents shall undergo a risk assessment by NYS Fair officials to include, but not limited to consideration of mission and goals; professional qualifications of the pilot in command; visual observer staffing; satisfaction of regulatory requirements; weather and environmental factors/conditions, potential hazards and overall operational readiness. If approved, the applicant shall be notified of such with an approved permit. If disapproved, the applicant shall be notified of such with a non-approved permit.

NOTE: application returned disapproved shall not be subject to any grievance or contestation procedure, and will be considered as final.

*- if application is submitted with the intention of being a blanket permit for the calendar year, and if approved; permittee shall be required to submit items d, e and f for EACH operational period/event during the calendar year, at least ten (10) business days in advance of a planned event. For acute events, submission as soon as possible but in advance (suggest that permittee call the NYS Fair Emergency Management Office in these circumstances).

** - based on the flight path submitted, the NYS Fair may require operator to have more than one (1) visual observer for safety purposes – if more than one visual observer is required, information will be noted clearly on the approved permit.

Approved operating permits will be distributed by State Fair officials as follows: NYS Fair Security Manager, NYS Police Troop D, Town of Geddes Police Department, and Onondaga County Sheriff's Office for situational awareness in the event of any complaint being filed from residents in the operating area.

NOTE: NO INITIAL (NEW) PERMIT APPLICATIONS SHALL BE PROCESSED OR ISSUED FOR ANY PURPOSE BETWEEN THE DATES OF AUGUST 1 – SEPTEMBER 10.

Violations shall be immediately reported to the New York State Police and the Federal Aviation Administration, Flight Standards District Office located in Rochester, New York.

Any questions regarding this policy shall be directed to the NYS Fair Emergency Management Office, Security Manager, or Public Information Office during normal business hours.