



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

**FAA-S-ACS-10A**

# **Remote Pilot – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Certification and Recurrent Knowledge Testing)**

## **Airman Certification Standards**

**June 2018**

**Flight Standards Service  
Washington, DC 20591**

## **Acknowledgments**

The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Office of Safety Standards, Regulatory Support Division, Airman Testing Branch, P.O. Box 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125 developed this Airman Certification Standards (ACS) document with the assistance of the subject matter experts in the area related to small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS).

## **Availability**

This ACS is available for download from [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov). Please send comments regarding this document using the following link to the [Airman Testing Branch Mailbox](#). Material in FAA-S-ACS-10A will be effective June 11, 2018.

## Foreword

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has published the Remote Pilot – small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) Airman Certification Standard (ACS) document to communicate the aeronautical knowledge standards for certification and recurrent knowledge testing for a Remote Pilot Certificate with an sUAS rating.

The FAA views the ACS as the foundation to an integrated and systematic approach to airman certification. The ACS is part of the safety management system (SMS) framework that the FAA uses to mitigate risks associated with airman certification training and testing. Specifically, the ACS, associated guidance, and test question components of the airman certification system are constructed around the four functional components of an SMS:

- Safety Policy that defines and describes aeronautical knowledge and risk management as integrated components of the airman certification system;
- Safety Risk Management processes through which internal stakeholders identify and evaluate regulatory changes, safety recommendations, or other factors that require modification of airman testing and training materials;
- Safety Assurance processes to ensure the prompt and appropriate incorporation of changes arising from new regulations and safety recommendations; and
- Safety Promotion in the form of ongoing engagement with both external stakeholders and FAA policy divisions.

The FAA has developed the ACS with the goal to drive a systematic approach to all components of the airman certification system which includes the knowledge test question development, course development, and guidance material. The FAA acknowledges and appreciates the many hours that aviation experts, both internal and external to the FAA, have contributed toward this goal. This level of collaboration, a hallmark of a robust safety culture, strengthens and enhances aviation safety at every level of the airman certification system.

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## Revision History

Document #	Description	Revision Date
FAA-S-ACS-10	Remote Pilot – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Airman Certification Standards	July 2016
FAA-S-ACS-10A	Remote Pilot – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Certification and Recurrent Knowledge Testing) Airman Certification Standards	June 2018

## Major Enhancements to Version FAA-S-ACS-10A

- Revised Introduction and appendices to include information on recurrent testing and to account for FAA reorganization.
- Added asterisk (\*) to Task title applicable to recurrent testing.
- Updated Task References, as necessary.
- Updated the following Appendices:
  - [Appendix 1: Certification and Recurrent Knowledge Tests, Eligibility, and Testing Centers](#)
  - [Appendix 3: Airman Knowledge Test Report for Certification and Recurrent Testing](#)

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