



Fact Sheet Drone Exclusion Zone Around Airport



FAA regulations govern the use of drones within the vicinity of the Santa Barbara Airport. What you can do, vary depending on the kind of drone use to the nature of for non-recreational purposes within 5 nautical miles of the Santa Barbara Airport (which encompasses all of UCSB, Isla Vista, Goleta, and parts of Santa Barbara).

FLYING DRONES ON-CAMPUS

The operation of drones on campus, whether the drones are being used for business and/or research or for fun and recreation, requires the approval of the UCSB Police and Risk Management office. The campus has established a drone Flight Request review and approval process to minimize the risks that arise out of drone use (go to [Drones for Research & Business or Recreational Drones](#)). The review and approval process ensures that that drone use on campus complies with local, state, and federal laws and regulations and is safe and legal. On campus drone operations cannot proceed without approval. All on-campus UAS flights are restricted to the area south of Campbell Hall and to the west of Steck Traffic Circle at a maximum altitude of 100 ft. AGL (see [FS: Campus Map - UAS Ops](#)). The Santa Barbara Airport must be notified of all on-campus UAS flights in advance.

FLYING UC DRONES OFF-CAMPUS (INCLUDING WITHIN 5 MILES OF AIRPORT)

UC faculty, staff, and students who fly UC drones off-campus, including within 5 miles of the Santa Barbara Airport, must follow the same approval process described above and as described in detail on the UCSB Risk Management website. Go to [Drones for Research & Business](#) for detailed information on the use of UC-owned drones for business and/or research.

FLYING PERSONAL DRONES OR MODEL AIRCRAFT OFF-CAMPUS WITHIN 5 MILES OF AIRPORT FOR FUN AND RECREATION

The airport must be notified in advance if you are flying a personally-owned drone or model aircraft for fun or recreation within 5 miles of the Santa Barbara Airport, the area within the orange dashed line in the map above. The Airport also requires notification that the flight has concluded. (Public Law 112-95, Section 336 - special Rule for Model Aircraft). Go to [Recreational Drones](#) for detailed information on the use of personally-owned drones and model aircraft for fun and recreation.