

Abridged 4 Page Version of 9 Page FAA Advisory Circular 89-3

FAA-Recognized Identification Areas

1. **PURPOSE OF ADVISORY CIRCULAR AC 89-3** Provides guidance on applying for a FAA FRIA site.
 - 1.1 **Effects of Guidance** Doesn't have force of law but provides info on requirements under the law.
2. **AUDIENCE** Any person/club from eligible CBOs or Educational institutions.
3. **AC 89-3** may be found at D1 website Zoom page or at https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/advisory_circulars
4. **RELATED** Reading Material within AC 89-3.
5. **BACKGROUND** Pursuant FAA regulations part 89.115 persons may operate UA without RID within geographic boundaries of a FRIA site while maintain VLOS. Part 89 provides the process for requesting and getting FAA FRIA approval, its duration, renewal, and termination.
 - 5.1 **Operations in a FRIA** The UA and operator must be within FRIA boundaries and only fly VLOS.
 - 5.2 **A FIXED SITE** is a location with a standing airspace FAA authorization for recreational flying. A FRIA location is where UA may operate without RID. A FRIA and fixed site may overlap in controlled airspace.

6 REQUESTING A FRIA

- 6.1 **Eligibility** Only FAA-recognized CBOs and educational institutions are eligible to request a FRIA.
 - 6.1.1 **CBO** is a membership-based association meets criteria in 49 U.S.C. 44809(h). Educational Institutions include primary, secondary, trade schools, colleges, and universities.
- 6.2 **Who Can Submit FRIA Application** Individuals that have authority to act on behalf of a CBO or educational institution.
- 6.3 **When How to Apply** FRIA application may be made on FAA's DroneZone at <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/>
- 6.4 **What Information to Provide** is identified in 6.4.1 - 6.4.9 that follow. FAA may request additional info.
 - 6.4.1 **Names of FAA recognized CBO** listed on FAA website or Educational Institution.
 - 6.4.2 **Name of person requesting** FRIA on behalf of a CBO or educational institution.
 - 6.4.3 **Declaration from person** requesting a FRIA that they have been granted authority on behalf of a CBO or educational institution.
 - 6.4.4 **Primary Point of Contact** The application must include the name, physical address, mailing address, phone number, and email address of a PPOC for communications with the FAA.

The PPOC should be able to represent the CBO or educational institution with the FAA. The individual making the request and the PPOC can, but do not have to be, the same individual. The FAA will contact PPOC for all FRIA matters including if the FRIA is approved.

6.4.5 Physical Address of Proposed FRIA Location. If FRIA has no physical address, the applicant must provide a nearby physical address with written directions for accessing the FRIA. 1

6.4.6 Location of the Proposed FRIA Application must include FRIA location boundaries by specifying a geometric shape along with latitudes, longitudes, and any other info needed.

6.4.7 Airspace Authorization(s) or Letter(s) of Agreement (LOA) If required must be submitted. An airspace authorization or LOA is not a prerequisite for a FRIA in uncontrolled airspace.

6.4.8 Description of Purpose and Need Include the intended purpose of FRIA and why it is needed. Example, the purpose could be recreational flying of UA without remote ID.

6.4.9 Include estimate of expected utilization as average frequency and duration of UA flights at FRIA. Also the types of UA operated and times of day when operations may occur.

7 FAA ASSESSMENT OF FRIA REQUESTS

7.1 General. How FAA will assess FRIA application based on 89.215 and may request further info to fully assess application Criteria described below.

7.2 The Existence of FAA-Established Flight or Airspace Restrictions. Refer to § 89.215(a).

7.2.1 Special Use Airspace (SUA) FAA may establish restricted or prohibited areas under part v73 in the interest of national defense, security, or welfare because of their nature, or UA operation limitations. Due to the safety and security concerns in SUA areas, the FAA will deny FRIA requests.

7.2.2 Special Security Instructions (SSI) FAA may issue SSI within an Air Defense Identification Zone or a Defense Area for national security in agreement with DOD or another U.S. Federal security or intelligence agency. UAS-specific SSI are published via NOTAMs and depicted at <https://udds-faa.opendata.arcgis.com/>. FAA will deny FRIA requests in areas overlapping existing SSI.

7.2.3 Special Air Traffic Rules (SATR) for operating aircraft in specifically identified areas that may include Special Flight Rules Areas (SFRA) and Flight Restriction Zones (FRZ). Part 93. Due to the safety and security concerns in SATR areas, FAA will deny FRIA requests.

7.2.4 Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR) part 91 to restrict aircraft from operating within a defined area temporarily basis. The FAA may consider a TFR near or overlapping the requested FRIA in determining whether to approve a FRIA.

7.3 Safe and Efficient Use of Airspace by Other Aircraft. Refer to § 89.215(b).

7.3.1 FAA will consider the proximity of airports and heliports to a proposed FRIA location. Operations close to the ground between UA and other aircraft increases the severity of potential consequences. FAA

will deny a FRIA if UA without RID pose an unacceptable risk to the safe and efficient use of the airspace near an airport or heliport.

7.3.2 Proximity to Areas of Other Aviation-Related Activity FAA will assess whether a requested FRIA is near parachute jump areas, hang glider launch areas, and hot air balloon launch areas. The FAA will deny a FRIA if the operations of UA without RID pose an unacceptable risk to safe and efficient use of airspace.

7.4 Safety and Security of Persons or Property on the Ground FAA will assess a proposed FRIA location that overlaps areas where the public may gather or transit, such as housing developments, playgrounds, athletic fields, shopping centers, public roadways, and sensitive or secure facilities, such as military bases, prisons, and power plants. FAA will deny a FRIA where there is an unacceptable impact to the safety and security of persons or property on the ground especially without RID.

7.5 Need for the FRIA in the Proposed Location and Proximity of Other FRIAs. The FAA will assess the Intended purpose and need for proposed FRIAs. FRIAs should not be so closely located or cover too large an area such that their existence undermines the RID rule because law enforcement or the public would not be able to associate a UA without RID with the particular location of the operator. FAA will also assess whether close FRIAs support the same needs and if one or the other sizes exceed the reported needs and may deny a FRIA where an established FRIA can already support the area needs or purpose. If purpose or need don't support larger areas the FAA may deny a FRIA.

8 FAA RESPONSE

8.1 Approvals If the FAA approves a FRIA it will be in effect 48 months following the date of approval. The FRIA process and FAA's actions follow:

8.1.1 Notice of Approval FAA will notify the PPOC when the FRIA is approved and its effective date and expiration.

8.1.2 Publication of Approved FRIAs will be on FAA's UAS Data Delivery Service website that follows <https://uddsfaa.opendata.arcgis.com/>.

8.2 Denials The FAA will deny a request for a FRIA if, following its assessment, the provided data and documentation do not meet one or more of the eligibility requirements in paragraph 6 (refer to § 89.205) or the criteria described in paragraph 7 (refer to § 89.215). These criteria are assessed independently. A denial may be made for missing, incomplete, or ambiguous information in the application, associated documentation, or requests for further information. The FAA will notify the PPOC applicant and will include the reason(s) for the denial. When a FRIA is denied, an applicant may submit a new FRIA application that addresses the reason for the denial.

9 AMENDMENTS, RENEWALS, EXPIRATIONS, AND TERMINATIONS

9.1 Amendments may be made to approved FRIAs by having the CBO or educational institution that requested the FRIA submit requested changes via the FAA's FRIA application website and must be submitted by an individual with the appropriate authority to act on behalf of the CBO or educational institution.

9.1.1 Required Submissions If there are changes to the information submitted in the FRIA application, including but not limited to a change in PPOC, the changes must be submitted to FAA within 10 days of the change.

9.1.2 Changes to Boundaries A CBO or educational institution that has an approved FRIA may request amendments to the geographic boundaries of the FRIA, pursuant to § 89.220(b). FAA will assess the request against applicable criteria described in paragraph 7. Operations without RID may not be conducted within the new boundaries unless the FAA has approved the requested amendment.

9.1.3 Ongoing Review FRIAs are subject to ongoing FAA review. Certain changes or developments near or at a FRIA, such as the construction of a new airport or housing development, may lead the FAA to modify or to terminate the FRIA. The FAA will notify the PPOC for the FRIA if a change leads to the modification or termination of a FRIA.

9.2 Renewals A CBO or educational institution may submit a request to renew a FRIA via the FAA's FRIA application website. Requests for renewal must be made no later than 120 days before the FRIA's expiration date. Requests submitted after that time, but prior to the expiration date, may not be processed in time for an FAA decision prior to expiration. If the FRIA expires while the FAA is still reviewing the renewal request, the FRIA will no longer be effective and the UA operating in the location must meet applicable RID requirements. The FAA will review renewal requests against the criteria in 89.225(b) paragraph 7.

9.3 Expirations As described in §§ 89.225(a) and 89.230(a), FRIAs are in effect for 48 calendar-months following the date of approval, and expire automatically unless renewed. If a FRIA expires, a CBO or educational institution may submit a new FRIA application in order to reestablish the expired FRIA.

9.4 Terminations As described in § 89.230, FRIAs may be terminated prior to the expiration date for either of the reasons discussed below.

9.4.1 Termination by Request Pursuant to § 89.230(b)(1), if an established FRIA is no longer needed, the PPOC can submit a request that the FAA terminate the FRIA via the FAA's FRIA application website. A CBO or educational institution that wishes to reestablish a FRIA that was previously terminated by request may submit a new FRIA application in order to reestablish the FRIA.

9.4.2 Termination by FAA All FRIAs are subject to ongoing review by FAA. In accordance with § 89.230(b), if the FAA finds that a FRIA poses a risk to aviation safety, public safety, homeland security, or national security, the FRIA is no longer associated with an FAA-recognized CBO or educational institution, or if the person who requested the FRIA provided false or misleading information during the submission, amendment, or renewal process, the FAA may terminate the FRIA. When terminated, the FAA will issue a notice to the PPOC with the reasons for termination. A person may petition the FAA to reconsider the termination within 30 calendar-days of its termination as stated in § 89.230(c). Instructions for submitting a petition will be provided in the notice of termination to the PPOC. A petition for reconsideration must provide the reasons justifying the request and include any supporting documentation. Upon consideration of the information submitted, FAA will notify the petitioner of their decision for reconsideration.

10 AC FEEDBACK FORM For your convenience, the AC Feedback Form is the last page of this AC. Note any deficiencies found, clarifications needed, or suggested improvements regarding the contents of this AC on the Feedback Form.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REFER TO SAME SECTION NUMBERS OF UNABRIDGED VERSION OF AC 89-3