



WHAT IS THE
FEDERAL AVIATION
ADMINISTRATION

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The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is responsible for the safety of civil aviation. The Federal Aviation Act of 1958 created the agency under the name Federal Aviation Agency. The FAA adopted its present name in 1967 when it became part of the Department of Transportation.

MAJOR ROLES INCLUDE:

- Regulating civil aviation to promote safety
- Encouraging and developing civil aeronautics, including new aviation technology
- Developing and operating a system of air traffic control and navigation for both civil and military aircraft
- Researching and developing the National Airspace System and civil aeronautics
- Developing and carrying out programs to control aircraft noise and other environmental effects of civil aviation
- Regulating U.S. commercial space transportation

FAA ACTIVITIES:

Safety Regulation

- "We issue and enforce regulations and minimum standards covering manufacturing, operating, and maintaining aircraft. We certify airmen and airports that serve air carriers."

Airspace And Air Traffic Management

- "The safe and efficient use of navigable airspace is one of our primary objectives. We operate a network of airport towers, air route traffic control centers, and flight service stations. We develop air traffic rules, assign the use of airspace, and control air traffic."

Air Navigation Facilities

- "We build or install visual and electronic aids to air navigation. We maintain, operate, and assure the quality of these facilities. We also sustain other systems to support air navigation and air traffic control, including voice and data communications equipment, radar facilities, computer systems, and visual display equipment at flight service stations."

Civil Aviation Abroad

- "We promote aviation safety and encourage civil aviation abroad. We exchange aeronautical information with foreign authorities; certify foreign repair shops, airmen, and mechanics; provide technical aid and training; negotiate bilateral airworthiness agreements with other countries; and take part in international conferences."

Commercial Space Transportation

- "We regulate and encourage the U.S. commercial space transportation industry. We license commercial space launch facilities and private launches of space payloads on expendable launch vehicles."

Research, Engineering, And Development

- “We do research on and develop the systems and procedures we need for a safe and efficient system of air navigation and air traffic control. We help develop better aircraft, engines, and equipment and test or evaluate aviation systems, devices, materials, and procedures. We also do aeromedical research.”

Other Programs

- “We register aircraft and record documents reflecting title or interest in aircraft and their parts. We administer an aviation insurance program, develop specifications for aeronautical charts, and publish information on airways, airport services, and other technical subjects in aeronautics.”

ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP:

An Administrator manages the FAA, assisted by a Deputy Administrator. Five Associate Administrators report to the Administrator and direct the line-of-business organizations that carry out the agency’s principle functions. The Chief Counsel and nine Assistant Administrators also report to the Administrator. The FAA also has nine geographical regions and two major centers, the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center and the William J. Hughes Technical Center.

- FAA Administrator: Steve Dickson
- FAA Deputy Administrator: Bradley Mims
- Critical UAS Offices within the FAA:
 - UAS Integration Office – led by Jay Merkle
 - Flight Standards – led by Ricardo Domingo
 - Aircraft Certification Office – led by Earl Lawrence
 - Policy – led by Laurence Wildgoose



STEVE DICKSON, FAA ADMINISTRATOR

Steve Dickson was sworn in as the FAA administrator by U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao on August 12, after being confirmed for a five-year term by the U.S. Senate on July 24, 2019

WHO IS AUVSI?

The Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, the world's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of unmanned systems and robotics, represents corporations and professionals from more than 60 countries involved in industry, government and academia. AUVSI members work in the defense, civil and commercial markets.

We are recognized by government officials, regulators and the media as the voice for the unmanned and automated systems industry. Our members and staff represent the community in congressional hearings, participate in coalitions and rulemaking committees, and collaborate with key trade associations and stakeholders to serve the industry.

To learn more, visit aupsi.org/our-impact.

