

**STUDENT ACTIVATION**

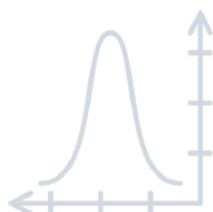
Drone Pilot



Drones (or UAVs—unmanned aerial vehicles) can go places that humans cannot; therefore, they are ideal for tasks such as emergency supply delivery, search and rescue missions, military efforts, and photographing places that are not easily accessible. With an increase in natural disasters and an emphasis on efficiency and decreased workload in many fields, drones are becoming commonplace in a plethora of industries—from insurance, to power and energy, to the United States Army!

DRONE PILOT^{1,2}

Drone pilots are certified remote pilots responsible for safely operating a drone. They must demonstrate an understanding of the regulations, operating requirements, and safety procedures of flying drones. They control the vehicle for the entirety of its mission, ensuring that it safely takes off, flies, completes its objective, and lands. They may also conduct safety tests, utilize cameras or communication equipment, and operate extension functions that allow it to pick up, deposit, or in some way manipulate materials.



¹ https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators/become_a_drone_pilot/

² <https://www.4cornerresources.com/job-descriptions/drone-pilot/>

³ <https://bestaccreditedcolleges.org/articles/drone-pilot-jobs-salary.html>



IS DRONE PILOT A GOOD CAREER FOR ME?

Me	Drone Pilot
I enjoy aviation and flight.	Drone pilots control unmanned aerial vehicles and often develop skills useful in commercial piloting.
I can multi-task well.	Drone pilots often must control a UAV, communicate, and complete objectives simultaneously, sometimes in high-pressure situations.
I have a curious mind. I like to predict and solve big problems.	Drones are often used during natural disaster and search and rescue operations where a drone pilot's problem-solving skills are invaluable.
I like working with my hands and figuring out how things work.	Drone pilots are skilled in working with electrical and mechanical equipment.
How does this career help me?	How does this career help the world?
Nearly every region of the United States is prepared to deal with some form of natural disaster, whether flooding, tornadoes, hurricanes, forest fires, etc. Drones help bring much needed emergency supplies to those suffering the effects of natural disasters, help in search and rescue efforts for those trapped, and assist insurance companies in rebuilding communities.	The US military and CIA both use drone technology as part of their tactical strategy. Drone technology can help them collect valuable intelligence and strike precisely and effectively during warfare, keeping the world a safer place.

What are some related careers?
<p>Avionics mechanics are responsible for the maintenance of an aircraft's navigation and communication equipment.</p> <p>Commercial airline pilots operate large planes used to transport passengers and cargo. They are responsible for developing flight plans, communicating with air traffic control, understanding the technology, and safely maneuvering the aircraft.</p>

Here are ways to practice the skills to be a successful **drone pilot**:

- Meet with your guidance counselor to review your class schedule and course choices. Figure out where you can fit in mechanics and computer classes, engineering experiences, or technology courses.
- Purchase or acquire a recreational drone and practice safely and accurately controlling it. Continue to move up in complexity and consider eventually getting your FAA drone license.
- Research various training and career opportunities with the United States Army regarding drone usage. Consider whether military service is something in which you are interested.