

# SCU Aviation & Drone Operations – Field Guide

This field guide provides key safety requirements for operating aircraft and drones under Southern Cross University control. All staff, students, and contractors must comply with Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulations and SCU WHS procedures and Manuals.

## Before You Fly

- Complete risk assessment for each flight (location, weather, airspace).
- Confirm pilot/drone operator is licensed and current (CASA RePL/ReOC as applicable).
- Check aircraft/RPA is inspected, batteries charged safely, and maintenance up to date.
- Ensure communication and emergency contact arrangements are in place.

## During Operations

- Operate only within approved areas, conditions, and altitude limits.
- Maintain visual line of sight with RPA at all times unless CASA-approved BVLOS.
- Apply SCU fitness-for-work requirements: no drugs/alcohol, manage fatigue.
- Consult and coordinate with other workers, contractors, and students on site.

## Emergency Preparedness

- Carry emergency equipment (first aid kit, fire extinguisher, comms device).
- Follow SCU Critical Incident Management procedure in case of crash or near miss.
- Notify CASA and ATSB if required; always report to SCU WHS within 24 hrs.

## After Flight

- Log flight details, incidents, and maintenance actions in the flight register.
- Store aircraft/RPA and batteries safely in designated locations.
- Review operations and update risk assessments if conditions or hazards changed.

***Reminder: CASA rules apply alongside WHS law – always plan, consult, and stop work if unsafe.***

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