***Background***

A number of public schools, districts, and ESDs have purchased unmanned “drones” called small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) in State and Federal legislation. Federal and State rules require registration of an sUAS and adherence to safety precautions regarding certain restricted spaces. A good source of information about legal and safe use of a sUAS can be found at <https://www.faa.gov/uas/> .

***FAA Registration***

Federal registration requirements for an sUAS are based on the use and weight of the sUAS . An sUAS that is between 0.55 and 55 pounds must be registered. The registration process depends on whether or not the sUAS is being used for hobby, recreational, or commercial purposes. A recent memorandum released by the FAA provides some additional clarity about use of an sUAS for educational purposes but does not specifically address how the sUAS should be registered. The full memorandum can be found at:

<http://www.faa.gov/uas/regulations_policies/media/Interpretation-Educational-Use-of-UAS.pdf>

Historically the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has required commercial operators of an sUAS to acquire a Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA) which had to be submitted in paper form and took 60 to 90 days for processing. On April 16, 2016 the FAA issued rules describing a new online process for issuing the COA. The new rules can be found at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-04-21/pdf/2016-09199.pdf> . Furthermore, the full set of rules defining requirements for commercial use were published on June 21, 2016. A summary of those rules can be found at:

<http://www.faa.gov/uas/media/Part_107_Summary.pdf>

An sUAS can be registered with the FAA at <https://registermyuas.faa.gov/>. There are two options for registration. Consult the links provided above to determine which would be the most appropriate option for registration.

***Oregon Registration***

The Oregon Department of Aviation requires all agencies to register an sUAS owned by the agency. This includes public schools and ESDs. You will need your registration number from your FAA registration to complete the Oregon form. The Oregon form is available at:

[http://www.oregon.gov/aviation/docs/Aircraft\_registration\_form%202016.pdf](https://www.oregon.gov/aviation/docs/Aircraft_registration_form%202016.pdf)

The following guidelines should be used when completing the form:

1. Do not enter an FAA Pilot Number.
2. Use your Federal registration number in place of the “N” number of the aircraft.
3. Identify the aircraft classification as UAS-Public Under 55 lbs.
4. Send the form(s) and fee to the address listed on the form.

***Questions***

The Oregon Department of Education provides this information as a service to educators. This information was current as of May 17, 2016. It is the responsibility of the sUAS owner to contact the appropriate State and Federal agencies for the most current requirements. The following web resources may be helpful in determining current rules.

FAA - <https://www.faa.gov/uas/>

Oregon Department of Aviation - [http://www.oregon.gov/aviation/Pages/index.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/aviation/Pages/index.aspx)