



Iowa Department of Transportation

Office of Aviation
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515-239-1691
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aircraftregistration@dot.iowa.gov

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Dear aerial applicators and consultants,

As most of you are aware, the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) is responsible for the administration and enforcement of aircraft registration laws in Iowa. Aerial applicators licensed through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) need to be informed of aircraft registration requirements in Iowa, and take appropriate action prior to performing aerial application in the state.

Unless specifically exempted, a certificate of registration is required to operate an aircraft in Iowa (in addition to being registered with the FAA). Iowa law requires residents and businesses in Iowa to register an aircraft. Iowa Code also states that “nonresident owners of aircraft providing the furnishing of services for compensation, or intrastate transportation of merchandise in Iowa, must register aircraft with the Iowa Department of Transportation prior to conducting those operations”.

Aerial applicators in Iowa must comply with all state and federal laws to be licensed through IDALS, including aircraft registration laws. Additionally, aerial applicator consultants must verify that aerial applicators operating under their consultation also comply with requirements of the Iowa DOT prior to performing aerial applications.

Nearly 90% of airports in Iowa support aerial applicator operations. Aircraft registration fees and aviation fuel taxes fund aviation programs in Iowa, including direct investments in the aviation infrastructure important to your operations in Iowa.

The Iowa DOT takes enforcement of aircraft registration laws seriously. Anyone found performing aerial applicator services in Iowa prior to registering their aircraft will be required to cease operations until the aircraft is properly registered. Failure to register will result in interruptions of aerial applicator operations and penalties, and could result in action against an aerial applicator’s or consultant’s license. Known refusal to comply with aircraft registration laws could result in criminal charges.

The process for aircraft owners to register is simple and is outlined in the handout with this letter. If you have any additional questions, please visit the Iowa DOT Office of Aviation website at www.iowa.gov/aviation, or call us at 515-239-1691.

Sincerely,

Aircraft Registration
Iowa Department of Transportation

Registering Agricultural Aircraft in Iowa

- 1) Log on to iowadot.gov/aviation. From the "Aircraft Registration" page, download an Aircraft Registration Application.
- 2) Complete the Aircraft Registration Application, while taking note of the following:
 - a. Aircraft used exclusively for aerial application are exempt from Use Tax.
 - b. To obtain manufactured list price, contact the Iowa DOT Office of Aviation at 515-239-1691 or aircraftregistration@dot.iowa.gov.
 - c. Since many aerial applicators prefer to do paperwork in the winter time, please make a note on the application what month of the year you would like future renewals to be paid in so you don't receive renewal notices in season.
- 3) Mail the application with payment of registration fees to the address on the application:
 - a. The Office of Aviation is not set up for walk ins, however, call 515-239-1691 if you would like to arrange to deliver the application in person.
- 4) Verify registration prior to performing aerial application services:
 - a. Allow 2-3 weeks for aircraft registration applications to be processed and for certificates of registration to be mailed.
 - b. If you need to expedite registration confirmation, please include a note with the application asking for a phone call or email to confirm the application has been received and approved.
 - c. Once confirmation is received, you may operate the aircraft. This can usually be done the day the application is received. You may also contact the Iowa DOT Office of Aviation at 515-239-1691 to confirm if the aircraft registration application has been received and approved.
- 5) Pay renewal notices or cancel registration for subsequent years:
 - a. Once registered, you will receive automatic renewal notices every year. To renew the registration, return with payment as directed on the notice.
 - b. If the aircraft will not be used in Iowa for the year, return the notice with a note asking to deregister the aircraft in Iowa.