



UAS4STEM Collegiate Drone Challenge

World's largest model aircraft group expands UAS4STEM program.

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Muncie, IN—The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), the nation's leading voice for model aircraft flying hobbyists, has brought its UAS4STEM Drone Challenge to the college level! With support from DJI and Pix4D, the Collegiate Drone Challenge will host a student competition to create an accurate 3D model of the AMA Headquarters; a skill needed for success in the Drone industry.

The UAS4STEM Collegiate Challenge is designed for university students to learn, practice, and demonstrate professional unmanned aircraft system (UAS) knowledge, mission planning, flight skills, data collection, analysis, and safety practices in a competitive environment. Teams will utilize Pix4D mapping software and produce professional orthomosaic images. After successful completion of the challenge, students will have gained critical knowledge needed to deploy drones within a high-demand job industry.

“Following the success of UAS4STEM with high school students across the country, it only made sense to add a collegiate challenge,” said director of education for the AMA, Bill Pritchett. “Our new partnership with UAA will provide college students with opportunities to simulate real life uses for UAS. We look forward to sharing AMA's many years of experience and UAS knowledge with young people, all at a reasonable cost allowing for greater participation.”

All participating teams are required to complete an online curriculum to ensure that all students have learned about multirotor safety and operation in the National Airspace System (NAS). The online ground school will also provide students with the knowledge needed to pass the FAA's Part 107 exam. Participants will also have access to a 10% educational discount on DJI products.

“DJI is pleased to support the Collegiate Challenge and encourage students to learn about the incredible potential and exciting opportunities that drone technology has created for a new generation,” said Romeo Durscher, DJI Director of Education. “With more than 100,000 new jobs projected to be created by drone technology by 2025, the Collegiate Challenge is a way for the industry to jumpstart interest in making the most of drone technology, and for smart students to prepare for a career that will transform how technology can help business and society.”

The national competition will be held April 21st, 2018 at the AMA Headquarters in Muncie, Indiana. Program registration fees include temporary PIX4D licenses for each student, the online curriculum, UMASC membership for teams, and competition entry fees. Team registration begins November 1st.

For more information about UAS4STEM, [Pix4D education solutions](#), and [DJI's education discount](#), please visit [UAS4STEM.ORG](#)

Contact via email: [Bill Pritchett](#), AMA Director of Education

To view the AMA, DJI, and Pix4D introduction video, visit <https://youtu.be/MeLBnectbkE>

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The Academy of Model Aeronautics, founded in 1936, continues to be devoted to national airspace safety. It serves as the nation's collective voice for approximately 200,000 modelers in 2,400 clubs in the United States and Puerto Rico. Headquartered in Muncie, Indiana, AMA is a membership organization representing those who fly model aircraft for recreation and educational purposes. For more information, visit www.modelaircraft.org.