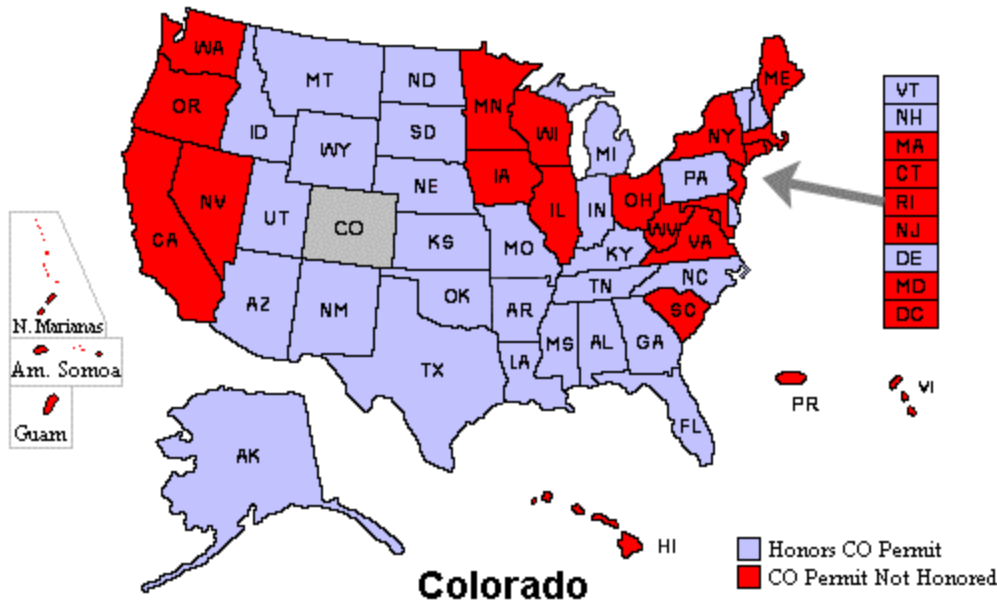


# Colorado

Shall Issue

Must Inform Officer: **NO**



## Links

- [State CCW Site](#)
- [State CCW Pamphlet](#)
- [CCW Application](#)
- [State FAO Site](#)
- [State Statutes](#)
- [State Admin Rules](#)
- [State Reciprocity Info](#)
- [State Attorney General](#)
- [2<sup>nd</sup> CCW Info Site](#)
- [Secretary of State](#)

Last Updated: 2/10/10

## Permits/Licenses This State Honors

Alabama	Alaska	Arizona	Arkansas	Delaware	Florida
Georgia	Idaho	Indiana	Kansas	Kentucky	Louisiana
Michigan	Mississippi	Missouri	Montana,	Nebraska	New Hampshire
New Mexico	North Carolina	North Dakota	Oklahoma	Pennsylvania	South Dakota
Tennessee	Texas	Utah	Wyoming		

**Colorado will only honor permits from residents of the states they honor. They will not honor a non resident permit from any state.**

## How to Apply for A Permit

Your Local Sheriff issues Permit/Licenses. Contact them and they will give you the application and Information you need to apply for a permit/license. Find your Sheriff "[Here](#)".

A Colorado permit to carry is valid for 5 years.

Cost is \$152.50 but the cost may vary from Sheriff to Sheriff.

**18-12-205.** Sheriff - application - procedure - background check.

**(I) (a)** To obtain a permit, a person shall submit a permit application on a statewide standardized form developed by the sheriffs and available from each sheriff. The permit application form shall solicit only the following information from the applicant:

**(I)** The applicant's full name, date of birth, and address;

**(II)** The applicant's birth name, if different from the name provided pursuant to subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (a), and any other names the applicant may have used or by which the applicant may have been known;

**(III)** The applicant's home address or addresses for the ten-year period immediately preceding submittal of the application;

**(IV)** Whether the applicant is a resident of this state as of the date of application and whether the applicant has a valid driver's license or other state-issued photo identification or military order proving residence; and

**(V)** Whether the applicant meets the criteria for obtaining a permit specified in section 18-12-203 (1).

**(b)** The permit application form shall not require the applicant to waive or release a right or privilege, including but not limited to waiver or release of privileged or confidential information contained in medical records.

**(2) (a)** An applicant shall complete the permit application form and return it, in person, to the sheriff of the county or city and county in which the applicant resides, to the sheriff of the county or city and county in which the applicant maintains a secondary residence or owns or leases real property used by the applicant in a business, or to the sheriff that previously issued a permit to the applicant. The applicant shall sign the completed permit application form in person before the sheriff. The applicant shall provide his or her signature voluntarily upon a sworn oath that the applicant knows the contents of the permit application and that the information contained in the permit application is true and correct. An applicant who knowingly and intentionally makes a false or misleading statement on a permit application or deliberately omits any material information requested on the application commits perjury as described in section 18-8-503. Upon conviction, the applicant shall be punished as provided in section 18-1.3-501. In addition, the applicant shall be denied the right to obtain or possess a permit, and the sheriff shall revoke the applicant's permit if issued prior to conviction.

**(b)** An applicant shall also submit to the sheriff a permit fee not to exceed one hundred dollars for processing the permit application. The sheriff shall set the amount of the permit fee as provided in subsection (5) of this section. In addition, the applicant shall submit an amount specified by the director of the bureau, pursuant to section 24-72-306, C.R.S., for processing the applicant's fingerprints through the bureau and through the federal bureau of investigation. Neither the permit fee nor the fingerprint processing fee shall be refundable in the event the sheriff denies the applicant's permit application or suspends or revokes the permit subsequent to issuance.

**(3)** In addition to the items specified in subsection (2) of this section, an applicant, when submitting the completed permit application, shall submit the following items to the sheriff:

**(a)** Documentary evidence demonstrating competence with a handgun as specified in section 18-12-203 (1) (h); and

**(b)** A full frontal view color photograph of the applicant's head taken within the thirty days immediately preceding submittal of the permit application; except that the applicant need not submit a photograph if the sheriff photographs the applicant for purposes of issuing a permit. Any photograph submitted shall show the applicant's full head, including hair and facial features, and the depiction of the applicant's head shall measure one and one-eighth inches wide and one and one-fourth inches high.

**(4) (a)** The sheriff shall witness an applicant's signature on the permit application as provided in subsection (2) of this section and verify that the person making application for a permit is the same person who appears in any photograph submitted and the same person who signed the permit application form. To verify the applicant's identity, the applicant shall present to the sheriff the applicant's valid Colorado driver's license or valid Colorado or military photo identification.

**(b)** After verifying the applicant's identity, the sheriff shall take two complete sets of the applicant's fingerprints. The sheriff shall submit both sets of fingerprints to the bureau, and the sheriff shall not retain a set of the applicant's fingerprints.

**(c)** After receipt of a permit application and the items specified in this section, the sheriff shall verify that the applicant meets the criteria specified in section 18-12-203 (1) and is not a danger as described in section 18-12-203 (2). The verification at a minimum shall include requesting the bureau to conduct a search of the national instant criminal background check system and a search of the state integrated criminal justice information system to determine whether the applicant meets the criteria specified in section 18-12-203 (1). In addition, if the applicant resides in a municipality or town, the sheriff shall consult with the police department of the municipality or town in which the applicant resides, and the sheriff may consult with other local law enforcement agencies.

**(5)** The sheriff in each county or city and county in the state shall establish the amount of the new and renewal permit fees within his or her jurisdiction. The amount of the new and renewal permit fees shall comply with the limits specified in paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of this section and section 18-12-211 (1), respectively. The fee amounts shall reflect the actual direct and indirect costs to the sheriff of processing permit applications and renewal applications pursuant to this part 2.

Source: L. 2003: Entire part added, p. 640, § 1, effective May 17.

## Non-Resident Permits

Colorado does not issue Non-Resident Permit/Licenses.

## Places Off-Limits Even With A Permit/License

### **18-12-214. Authority granted by permit - carrying restrictions.**

**(1) (a)** A permit to carry a concealed handgun authorizes the permittee to carry a concealed handgun in all areas of the state, except as specifically limited in this section. A permit does not authorize the permittee to use a handgun in a manner that would violate a provision of state law. A local government does not have authority to adopt or enforce an ordinance or resolution that would conflict with any provision of this part 2.

**(b)** A peace officer may temporarily disarm a permittee, incident to a lawful stop of the permittee. The peace officer shall return the handgun to the permittee prior to discharging the permittee from the scene.

**(2)** A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun into a place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law. Page 18-senate bill 03-024

**(3)** A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun onto the real property, or into any improvements erected thereon, of a public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school; except that:

**(a)** A permittee may have a handgun on the real property of the public school so long as the handgun remains in his or her vehicle and, if the permittee is not in the vehicle, the handgun is in a compartment within the vehicle and the vehicle is locked.

**(b)** A permittee who is employed or retained by contract by a school district as a school security officer may carry a concealed handgun onto the real property, or into any improvement erected thereon, of a public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school while the permittee is on duty.

(c) A permittee may carry a concealed handgun on undeveloped real property owned by a school district that is used for hunting or other shooting sports.

(4) A permit issued pursuant to this part 2 does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun into a public building at which:

(a) Security personnel and electronic weapons screening devices are permanently in place at each entrance to the building;

(b) Security personnel electronically screen each person who enters the building to determine whether the person is carrying a weapon of any kind; and (c) Security personnel require each person who is carrying a weapon of any kind to leave the weapon in possession of security personnel while the person is in the building.

(5) nothing in this part 2 shall be construed to limit, restrict, or prohibit in any manner the existing rights of a private property owner, private tenant, private employer, or private business entity.

(6) the provisions of this section apply to temporary emergency permits issued pursuant to section 18-12-209.

Courts have upheld the right of Denver to ban so called Saturday Night Specials and Assault Weapons. Click [“Here”](#) to see information on these banned firearms in Denver.

## Carry In State Parks/State & National Forests/WMA/Road Side Rest Areas

### Carry Allowed in these Areas:

**State Parks:** YES CRS 18-12-214.

**State/National Forests:** YES CRS 18-12-214.

**WMA's:** YES CRS 18-12-214.

**Road Side Rest Areas:** YES

## RV/Car Carry Without A Permit/License

**18-12-204.** Permit Contents - Validity - Carrying Requirements.

(3) (a) a person who may lawfully possess a handgun may carry a handgun under the following circumstances without obtaining a permit and the handgun shall not be considered concealed:

(I) the handgun is in the possession of a person who is in a private automobile or in some other private means of conveyance and who carries the handgun for a legal use, including self-defense

## State Preemption

**18-12-105.6.** Limitation on local ordinances regarding firearms In private vehicles.

(1) The general assembly hereby finds that:

(a) A person carrying a weapon in a private automobile or other Private means of conveyance for hunting or for lawful protection of such Person's or another's person or property, as permitted in sections 18-12-105 (2) (b) and 18-12-105.5 (3) (c), may tend to travel within a county, city and county, or municipal jurisdiction or in or through different County, city and county, and municipal jurisdictions, en route to the Person's

destination;

(b) Inconsistent laws exist in local jurisdictions with regard to the Circumstances under which weapons may be carried in automobiles and Other private means of conveyance;

(c) This inconsistency creates a confusing patchwork of laws that Unfairly subjects a person who lawfully travels with a weapon in or through One jurisdiction to criminal penalties because he or she travels within a jurisdiction or into or through another jurisdiction;

(d) This inconsistency places citizens in the position of not knowing When they may be violating local laws while traveling within a jurisdiction or in, through, or between different jurisdictions, and Therefore being unable to avoid committing a crime.

(2) (a) Based on the findings specified in subsection (1) of this Section, the general assembly concludes that the carrying of weapons in Private automobiles or other private means of conveyance for hunting or For lawful protection of a person's or another's person or property while Traveling into, or through, or within, a municipal, county, or city and County jurisdiction, regardless of the number of times the person stops in A jurisdiction, is a matter of statewide concern and is not an offense.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no municipality, County, or city and county shall have the authority to enact or enforce any Ordinance or resolution that would restrict a person's ability to travel with A weapon in a private automobile or other private means of conveyance FOR HUNTING OR for lawful protection of a person's or another's person or Property while traveling into, or through, or within, a municipal, county, Or city and county jurisdiction, regardless of the number of times the person Stops in a jurisdiction.

Source: L. 2000: Entire section added, p. 1009, § 2, effective August 2. L. 2003: Entire section amended, p. 651, § 1, effective March 18.

## **ANNOTATION**

Law reviews: For article, "In the Crosshairs: Colorado's New Gun Laws", see 33 Colo. Law. 11 (January 2004).

This section clarifies the scope of § 18-12-105 (2)(b) and indicates the general assembly's intent that local ordinances on carrying weapons in private vehicles be preempted only insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this section. *Trinen v. City & County of Denver*, 53 P.3d 754 (Colo. App. 2002).

The use of the limiting language "into or through" in subsection (2) reflects the general assembly's intent not to restrict local weapons ordinances insofar as they apply to travel wholly within local jurisdictions. *Trinen v. City & County of Denver*, 53 P.3d 754 (Colo. App. 2002). (Decided under law as it existed prior to the 2003 amendments to subsection (2)).

### **29-11.7-101. Legislative declaration.**

(1) The general assembly hereby finds that:

(a) Section 3 of article II of the state constitution, the article referred to as the state bill of rights, declares that all persons have certain inalienable rights, which include the right to defend their lives and liberties;

(b) Section 13 of article II of the state constitution protects the fundamental right of a person to keep and bear arms and implements section 3 of article II of the state constitution;

- (c) The general assembly recognizes a duty to protect and defend the fundamental civil rights set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection (1);
- (d) There exists a widespread inconsistency among jurisdictions within the state with regard to firearms regulations;
- (e) This inconsistency among local government laws regulating lawful firearm possession and ownership has extraterritorial impact on state citizens and the general public by subjecting them to criminal and civil penalties in some jurisdictions for conduct wholly lawful in other jurisdictions;
- (f) Inconsistency among local governments of laws regulating the possession and ownership of firearms results in persons being treated differently under the law solely on the basis of where they reside, and a person's residence in a particular county or city or city and county is not a rational classification when it is the basis for denial of equal treatment under the law;
- (g) This inconsistency places citizens in the position of not knowing when they may be violating the local laws and therefore being unable to avoid violating the law and becoming subject to criminal and other penalties.

(2) Based on the findings specified in subsection (1) of this section, the general assembly concludes that:

- (a) The regulation of firearms is a matter of statewide concern;
- (b) It is necessary to provide statewide laws concerning the possession and ownership of a firearm to ensure that law-abiding persons are not unfairly placed in the position of unknowingly committing crimes involving firearms.

Source: L. 2003: Entire article added, p. 652, § 2, effective March 18.

**29-11.7-102.** Firearms database - prohibited.

- (1) A local government, including a law enforcement agency, shall not maintain a list or other form of record or database of:
- (a) Persons who purchase or exchange firearms or who leave firearms for repair or sale on consignment;
- (b) Persons who transfer firearms, unless the persons are federally licensed firearms dealers;
- (c) The descriptions, including serial numbers, of firearms purchased, transferred, exchanged, or left for repair or sale on consignment.

Source: L. 2003: Entire article added, p. 653, § 2, effective March 18.

**29-11.7-103.** Regulation - type of firearm - prohibited.

A local government may not enact an ordinance, regulation, or other law that prohibits the sale, purchase, or possession of a firearm that a person may lawfully sell, purchase, or possess under state or federal law. Any such ordinance, regulation, or other law enacted by a local government prior to March 18, 2003, is void and unenforceable.

Source: L. 2003: Entire article added, p. 653, § 2, effective March 18.

#### **29-11.7-104.** Regulation - carrying - posting.

A local government may enact an ordinance, regulation, or other law that prohibits the open carrying of a firearm in a building or specific area within the local government's jurisdiction. If a local government enacts an ordinance, regulation, or other law that prohibits the open carrying of a firearm in a building or specific area, the local government shall post signs at the public entrances to the building or specific area informing persons that the open carrying of firearms is prohibited in the building or specific area.

Source: L. 2003: Entire article added, p. 653, § 2, effective March 18.

## **Deadly Force Laws**

### **Title 18, Article 1, Part 7**

**18-1-701.** Execution of public duty.

**18-1-702.** Choice of evils.

**18-1-703.** Use of physical force - special relationships.

**18-1-704.** Use of physical force in defense of a person.

**18-1-704.5.** Use of deadly physical force against an intruder.

**18-1-705.** Use of physical force in defense of premises.

**18-1-706.** Use of physical force in defense of property.

**18-1-707.** Use of physical force in making an arrest or in preventing an escape.

**18-1-708.** Duress.

**18-1-709.** Entrapment.

**18-1-710.** Affirmative defense.

## **Knife Laws State/Cities**

**To access State/Local Knife Laws Click [“Here”](#)**

## **Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol**

**YES**

**Note: What is defined as carry in a restaurant that serves alcohol is a place like Friday's or Red Lobster. This does not mean a bar or the bar area of a restaurant. Handgunlaw.us believes you should never consume alcohol when carrying your firearm. In some states it is illegal to take even one drink while carrying a firearm.**

## **Chemical Sprays/Stun Gun/Higher Capacity Magazine Laws**

Handgunlaw.us could find no restrictions in Colorado Law concerning Chemical Sprays, Stun Guns Or Higher Capacity Magazine Bans. Local laws could apply.

## LEOSA State Information

[Colorado information on LEOSA](#)

[CO State Police Info on LEOSA and Training](#)

## Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

[Colorado AG - Universities Can Ban CCW Holders from Carrying](#)

## Airport Carry/Misc. Information

**Airport Carry:** No laws found.

**Training Valid for:** No time period found in law.

**Time Period to Establish Residency:** Law Says Legal Resident

**Minimum Age for Permit/License:** 21

**Permit/License Info Public Information:** NO

**State Fire arm Laws:** CRS 18-12-201 thru 216 & CRS 29-11.7-101 thru 104 & CRS 18-12-101 Thru 111 & CRS 33-14-117 & CRS 33-6-125

**State Deadly Force Laws:** 18-1-701 thru 18-1-710

**State Knife Laws:** 18-12-101 thru 18-12-111

**Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws:** 18-12-106.5 & 107 (Elec)

**Body Armor Laws:** No laws found.

**Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms?** NO 18-12-204

**Colorado City Restrictions on Firearms:** [City Restrictions](#)

## Updates to this Page

8/18/09 – All Links checked and repaired if needed.

8/31/09 - NE added as state that honors a CO permit.

10/23/09 - CO finally adds NE to list of states it honors.

2/10/10 – LEOSA Link Added