

# North Carolina

Shall Issue

Must Inform Officer: **YES**

## Links

[State CCW Site](#)

[State CCW Pamphlet](#)

[CCW Application](#)

[State Statutes](#)

[State Admin Rules](#)

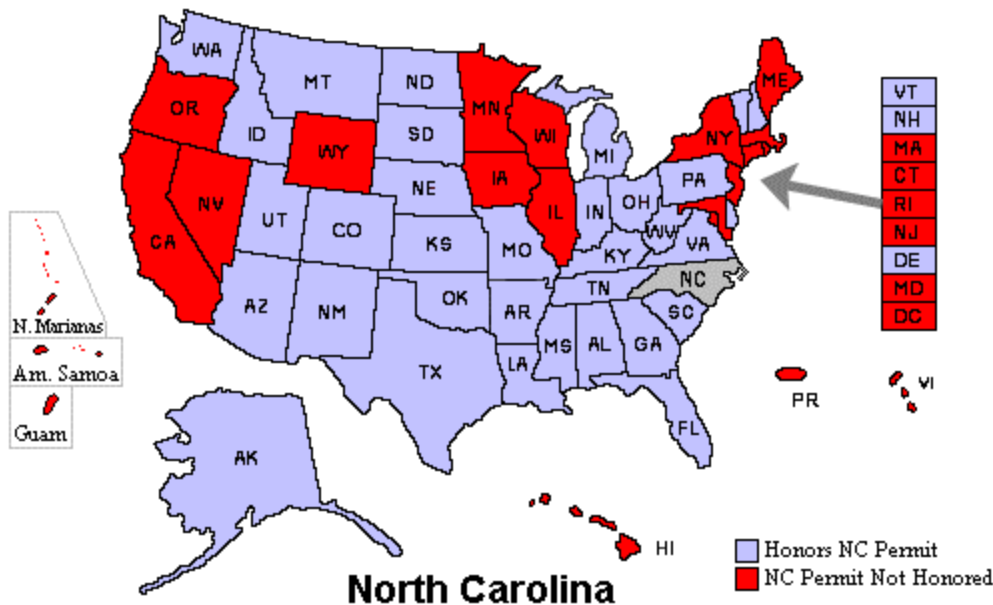
[State Reciprocity Info](#)

[State Attorney General](#)

[2<sup>nd</sup> CCW Info Site](#)

[Secretary of State](#)

Last Updated: 3/1/10



## Permits/Licenses This State Honors

Alabama	Alaska	Arizona	Arkansas	Colorado
Delaware	Florida	Georgia	Idaho	Indiana
Kansas	Kentucky	Louisiana	Michigan	Mississippi
Missouri	Montana	Nebraska	New Hampshire	North Dakota
Ohio	Oklahoma	Pennsylvania	South Carolina	South Dakota
Tennessee	Texas	Utah	Virginia	Washington
West Virginia				

## North Carolina Honors Non-Resident Permits/Licenses

### How to Apply for A Permit

In order to acquire a North Carolina permit, an individual must apply to the sheriff's office in the county in which he/she resides. As part of the application process, the applicant must accomplish the following:

1. Complete an application, under oath, on a form provided by the sheriff's office;
2. Pay a non-refundable fee of \$80.00; and
3. Allow the sheriff's office to take two (2) full sets of fingerprints, which may cost up to \$10.00;
4. Provide an original certificate of completion of an approved handgun safety course; and
5. Provide a release authorizing disclosure to the sheriff of any record concerning the applicant's mental health or capacity. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-415.13

Any person or entity who is given an original or photocopied release form as described in N.C.G.S. § 14-415.13(a)(5), shall promptly disclose to the sheriff, any records concerning the mental health or capacity of the applicant who signed the form and authorized the release of the records. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-415.14(c)

Permit/License is valid for 5 years.

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## Non-Resident Permits

North Carolina does not issue Permit/Licenses to Non-Residents.

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

- Schools, public or private, all levels including universities. A curricular or extracurricular activity sponsored by a school. This also applies to all property owned by any school. [§14-269.2](#)
- Assemblies and establishments where admission was charged. [§14-269.3](#)
- Assemblies and establishments where alcohol is both sold and consumed. [§14-269.3](#)
- State Capitol Building, the Executive Mansion, the Western Residence of the Governor, or on the grounds of any of these buildings, and any building housing any court of the General Court of Justice. [§14-269.4](#)
- State office buildings or any portion of a building in which there're State offices. [§14-415.11\(c\)](#)
- Law Enforcement or Correctional Facilities. [§14-415.11\(c\)](#)
- Financial Institutions. [§14-415.11\(c\)](#)
- Events Occurring in Public: It shall be unlawful for any person participating in, affiliated with, or present as a spectator at any parade, funeral procession, picket line, or demonstration upon any private health care facility or upon any public place owned or under the control of the State or any of its political subdivisions to willfully or intentionally possess or have immediate access to any dangerous weapon. [§14-277.2](#)
- Areas of emergencies or riots. [§14-288.7](#)
- Where notice of carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited by the posting of a conspicuous notice or statement. [§14-415.11\(c\)](#)

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

### Carry Allowed in these Areas:

**State Parks:** NO 15A NCAC 12B .0901

**State/National Forests:** NO

**WMA's:** NO

**Road Side Rest Areas:** YES §14-269.4

## RV/Car Carry Without A Permit/License

### Transporting Weapons

Roy Cooper

Attorney General

Given this general prohibition of carrying concealed weapons, individuals must be ever vigilant to ensure that their particular situation cannot be construed as concealing a weapon either on or about them without being properly authorized to do so with a valid North Carolina concealed handgun permit. Therefore, the person's accessibility to the weapon is of prime importance. It is for these reasons, that when transporting a weapon in a vehicle, even greater care must be exercised to ensure that the weapon is not concealed and within the ready access to an occupant of the vehicle. North Carolina law does not specifically address how to transport a weapon in an automobile. Therefore, the central question becomes: when is the weapon concealed and readily accessible to an occupant of the automobile? Obviously, a weapon would be concealed

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and readily accessible, and therefore in violation of our law, if it were placed in such areas of a vehicle as, under the seat of the automobile; in a bag in the back seat; in an unlocked glove compartment; or in some other manner is covered or hidden within the easy reach of an occupant of the vehicle. A previous opinion from this office was that a weapon would not be concealed if it were placed in a locked glove compartment, unless the key to the glove compartment was in the lock and the person was in close proximity and had ready access to it. A concern with this mode of transportation however is that it is quite susceptible to different interpretations, based on the various factors involved. Therefore, this may not be the most legally defensible method of transporting a weapon, and is discouraged.

While a weapon carried openly in an automobile would not be concealed, there are other problems attendant to this method of carrying a weapon. The principal drawback, of course, is in the event of a person being stopped by a law enforcement official, the officer may not readily know that person's purpose and intent for carrying a weapon. As such, it is imperative that a person immediately notify an officer of the presence of any weapon in the automobile, for the officer's and the vehicle's occupants' safety. Another obvious drawback is that a valuable weapon may be in plain view for potential thieves to see. The prohibition to carrying concealed weapons applies not only to handguns and other weapons commonly thought of as being easily hidden, but also to "long guns" as well. Therefore, shotguns and rifles concealed behind the seat of pickup trucks, and elsewhere in other vehicles, could similarly violate our law.

As to those vehicles with no easily discernible trunk area, for example vans, the question turns on a factual determination of when the weapon is within ready and easy access to an occupant of the vehicle. If the weapon is concealed near, in close proximity to, or within the convenient control and access of an occupant, which would allow him to use the weapon quickly, then a fair probability exists that the occupant is in violation of the law. Therefore, care must be exercised by any occupant of a vehicle to ensure that the weapons are securely locked away in as remote an area as possible in relation to the passenger compartment of the vehicle. It is important to emphasize that these prohibitions apply to passengers, as well as the driver of a vehicle.

(From: <http://www.jus.state.nc.us/NCJA/ncfirearmslaws.pdf>)

## State Preemption

### **§ 14-409.40. Statewide uniformity of local regulation. (General Law)**

**(a)** It is declared by the General Assembly that the regulation of firearms is properly an issue of general, statewide concern, and that the entire field of regulation of firearms is preempted from regulation by local governments except as provided by this section.

**(a1)** The General Assembly further declares that the lawful design, marketing, manufacture, distribution, sale, or transfer of firearms or ammunition to the public is not an unreasonably dangerous activity and does not constitute a nuisance per se and furthermore, that it is the unlawful use of firearms and ammunition, rather than their lawful design, marketing, manufacture, distribution, sale, or transfer that is the proximate cause of injuries arising from their unlawful use. This subsection applies only to causes of action brought under subsection (g) of this section.

**(b)** Unless otherwise permitted by statute, no county or municipality, by ordinance, resolution, or other enactment, shall regulate in any manner the possession, ownership, storage, transfer, sale, purchase, licensing, or registration of firearms, firearms ammunition, components of firearms, dealers in firearms, or dealers in handgun components or parts.

(c) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, a county or municipality, by zoning or other ordinance, may regulate or prohibit the sale of firearms at a location only if there is a lawful, general, similar regulation or prohibition of commercial activities at that location. Nothing in this subsection shall restrict the right of a county or municipality to adopt a general zoning plan that prohibits any commercial activity within a fixed distance of a school or other educational institution except with a special use permit issued for a commercial activity found not to pose a danger to the health, safety, or general welfare of persons attending the school or educational institution within the fixed distance.

(d) No county or municipality, by zoning or other ordinance, shall regulate in any manner firearms shows with regulations more stringent than those applying to shows of other types of items.

(e) A county or municipality may regulate the transport, carrying, or possession of firearms by employees of the local unit of government in the course of their employment with that local unit of government.

(f) Nothing contained in this section prohibits municipalities or counties from application of their authority under G.S. 153A-129, 160A-189, 14-269, 14-269.2, 14-269.3, 14-269.4, 14-277.2, 14-415.11, 14-415.23, including prohibiting the possession of firearms in public-owned buildings, on the grounds or parking areas of those buildings, or in public parks or recreation areas, except nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a person from storing a firearm within a motor vehicle while the vehicle is on these grounds or areas. Nothing contained in this section prohibits municipalities or counties from exercising powers provided by law in declared states of emergency under Article 36A of this Chapter.

(g) The authority to bring suit and the right to recover against any firearms or ammunition marketer, manufacturer, distributor, dealer, seller, or trade association by or on behalf of any governmental unit, created by or pursuant to an act of the General Assembly or the Constitution, or any department, agency, or authority thereof, for damages, abatement, injunctive relief, or any other remedy resulting from or relating to the lawful design, marketing, manufacture, distribution, sale, or transfer of firearms or ammunition to the public is reserved exclusively to the State. Any action brought by the State pursuant to this section shall be brought by the Attorney General on behalf of the State. This section shall not prohibit a political subdivision or local governmental unit from bringing an action against a firearms or ammunition marketer, manufacturer, distributor, dealer, seller, or trade association for breach of contract or warranty for defect of materials or workmanship as to firearms or ammunition purchased by the political subdivision or local governmental unit. (1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 727, s. 1.)(Revised and Approved 7:24 p.m. this 15th day of August, 2002)

#### **§14-415.23. Statewide uniformity. (CCW Specific)**

It is the intent of the General Assembly to prescribe a uniform system for the regulation of legally carrying a concealed handgun. To insure uniformity, no political subdivisions, boards, or agencies of the State nor any county, city, municipality, municipal corporation, town, township, village, nor any department or agency thereof, may enact ordinances, rules, or regulations concerning legally carrying a concealed handgun. A unit of local government may adopt an ordinance to permit the posting of a prohibition against carrying a concealed handgun, in accordance with G.S. 14-415.11(c), on local government buildings, their appurtenant premises, and parks. (1995, c. 398, s. 1.)

## **Deadly Force Laws**

### **§ 14-51.1. Use of deadly physical force against an intruder.**

## Knife Laws State/Cities

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

## Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

**NO**

**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

### Stun Devices/Electric Weapons:

§ 14-269 Not allowed to carry in schools. (Note: I have found references that state in NC you must carry a stun gun openly. I can not find that in their law. Use Caution)

### Chemical Sprays:

**14-401.6.** Possession and use of self-defense sprays is lawful for non felons so long as the device does not exceed 150 cubic centimeters (150cc).

## LEOSA State Information

### [State LEOSA Information](#)

### **B. Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004**

Current, out-of-state sworn law enforcement officers may carry concealed handguns in certain areas of North Carolina, if the officer meets all the criteria set forth under the federal law known as the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 (18 U.S.C. 926B). A qualified officer would be one who is an employee of a governmental agency; is authorized by law to enforce criminal laws with the statutory powers of arrest; is authorized to carry firearms by their agency; regularly qualifies with their firearm; is not under the influence of alcohol or drugs; and is not prohibited by federal law from receiving a firearm. The officer must carry valid photographic identification as an officer. While carrying in North Carolina, the out-of-state officer may not carry in either public or private areas where the possession of firearms is prohibited.

Also, pursuant to the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 (18 U.S.C. 926B), certain qualified retired officers may be eligible to carry concealed handguns in North Carolina. A qualified retired officer is one who retired in good standing from a public agency as a law enforcement officer; had statutory powers of arrest; had an aggregate of fifteen (15) years or more service (unless retired due to a service-connected disability); qualified annually with their handgun; is not under the influence of alcohol or drugs; and is not prohibited by federal law from receiving a firearm. While carrying in North Carolina, the qualified retired officer may not carry in either public or private areas where the possession of firearms is prohibited. A person meeting the definition of a qualified retired law enforcement officer may carry a concealed handgun in North Carolina, if they are carrying photographic credentials identifying them as a retired qualified law

enforcement officer, and the person has qualified with their handgun annually, either with the agency from which they retired, or as certified by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission (the Commission). To gain such qualification from the Commission, the qualified retired officer must make application to the Commission by submitting a verification of firearms qualification, conducted by a firearms instructor who is certified by the Commission as a Law Enforcement Firearms Instructor. The qualified retired officer must also submit a copy of their photographic identification showing their retired status, and other information required by the Commission. A person making any intentional misrepresentation on this form is guilty of a Class 2 Misdemeanor and may have their firearms qualification revoked. This status does not exempt the person from any other registration or training requirements necessary in the private protective services profession. Forms for this process may be obtained from the Criminal Justice Commission. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-415.26

## Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

Handgunlaw.us can find no AG Opinions or Court Cases concerning the carrying of firearms. This does not mean there are no AG Opinions or Court Cases. We could just not find any.

## Airport Carry/Misc. Information

**Airport Carry:** No Carry on any real property at Charlotte-Douglas Intl., Charlotte Ordinance Sec. 15-14 State Law § 14-409.40(f) Overrides Local by Allowing for the storage in vehicles. (I would Have it unloaded)

**Training Valid for:** No set time period.

**Time Period to Establish Residency:** 30 Days

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

**Permit/License Info Public Information:** YES

**State Fire arm Laws:** 14-415-10 thru 14-415-24 & 14-269 thru 14277.2

**State Deadly Force Laws:** 14-51.1

**State Knife Laws:** 14-269(d) & 14-269.2(d)

**Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws:** 14-269 & 14-401.6.

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

**Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms?** NO

## Updates to this Page

5/28/09 – Reciprocity Link Repaired

6/9/09 – Broken Links repaired.

8/22/09 – All links checked and repaired if needed.

8/31/09 - NE now honors a NC Permit.

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**12/23/09** – A curricular or extracurricular activity sponsored by a school added to Places Off Limits.  
**3/1/10** – NC Now Honors a NE Permit/License