

Washington

Shall Issue

Must Inform Officer: **NO**

Links

[State CCW Site](#)

[CCW App Instructions](#)

[CCW Application](#)

[State FAQ Site](#)

[State Statutes](#)

[State Admin Rules](#)

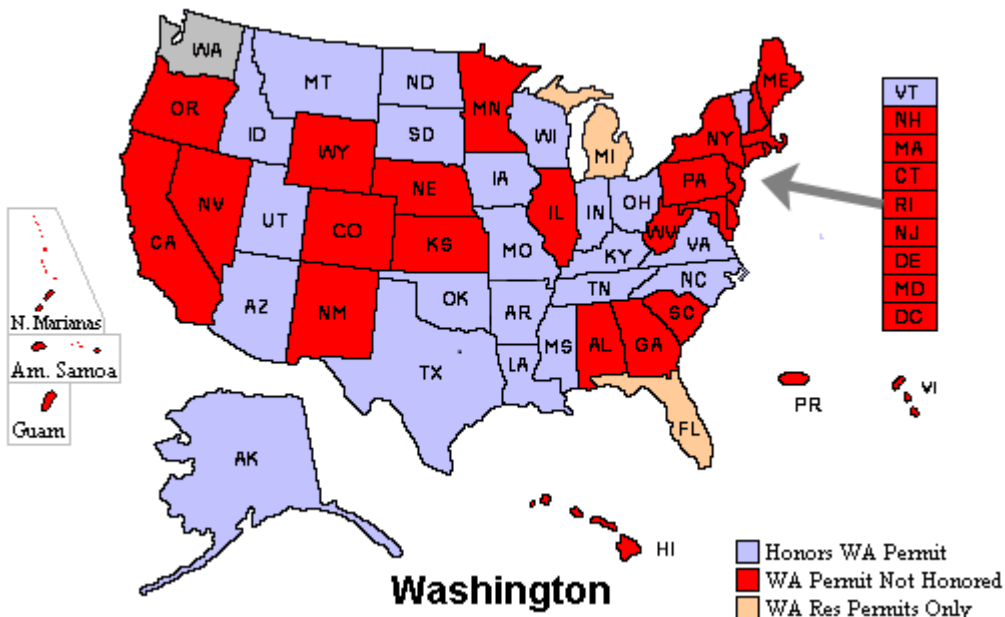
[State Reciprocity Info](#)

[State Attorney General](#)

[Firearm Laws/Rules](#)

[2nd CCW Site](#)

Last Updated: 1/6/12



Permits/Licenses This State Honors

Arkansas Florida Louisiana Michigan Mississippi Missouri
North Carolina North Dakota Ohio Oklahoma Tennessee Utah

Washington Honors Non-Resident Permits/Licenses From the States They Honor.

How to Apply for A Permit

Where do I apply for a concealed pistol license?

You may complete an application form at one of the following law enforcement offices:

- If you live in the unincorporated area of a county you must apply in person at your sheriff's office.
- If you live in an incorporated city within the county, you may apply in person at either the city police department or sheriff's office.
- If you are not a Washington State resident, you may apply at any local law enforcement agency in Washington.

What documents will I need to bring with me?

You will need to bring the following:

- Picture identification such as a Washington State driver license or identification card. If you don't have a Washington State driver license or identification card, you must provide proof you have lived in the state for at least the last 90 days.
- The \$55.25 fee in cash, check, or money order made payable to the law enforcement agency. This fee is non-refundable.
- If you are in the military, your military ID and orders listing your station location. More Info [Here](#).

Non-Resident Permits

Non-Residents apply the same way that Residents do. See Resident Permit Section above. I know of no Police/Sheriff Departments that will issue by mail. You must make a trip to Washington to apply. More Info [Here](#).

Places Off-Limits Even With A Permit/License

[RCW 9.41.280:](#)

(1) It is unlawful for a person to carry onto, or to possess on, public or private elementary or secondary school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public or private schools" (3) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to: ... (e) Any person in possession of a pistol who has been issued a license under [RCW 9.41.070](#), or is exempt from the licensing requirement by [RCW 9.41.060](#), while picking up or dropping off a student;

[RCW 9.41.300](#)

- (a) The restricted access areas of a jail, or of a law enforcement facility, or any place used for the confinement of a person. Restricted access areas do not include common areas of egress or ingress open to the general public;
- (b) Those areas in any building which are used in connection with court proceedings, including courtrooms, jury rooms, judge's chambers, offices and areas used to conduct court business, waiting areas, and corridors adjacent to areas used in connection with court proceedings. The restricted areas do not include common areas of ingress and egress to the building that is used in connection with court proceedings, when it is possible to protect court areas without restricting ingress and egress to the building. ..The local judicial authority shall designate and clearly mark those areas where weapons are prohibited, and shall post notices at each entrance to the building of the prohibition against weapons in the restricted areas;
- (c) The restricted access areas of a public mental health facility certified by the department of social and health services for inpatient hospital care and state institutions for the care of the mentally ill, excluding those facilities solely for evaluation and treatment. Restricted access areas do not include common areas of egress and ingress open to the general public; or
- (d) That portion of an establishment classified by the state liquor control board as off-limits to persons under twenty-one years of age.

[RCW 70.108.150](#)

"It shall be unlawful for any person, except law enforcement officers, to carry, transport or convey, or to have in his possession or under his control any firearm while on the site of an outdoor music festival." From [RCW 70.108.020](#): 'For the purposes of this chapter the following words and phrases shall have the indicated meanings: (1) "Outdoor music festival" or "music festival" or "festival" means an assembly of persons gathered primarily for outdoor, live or recorded musical entertainment, where the predicted attendance is two thousand persons or more and where the duration of the program is five hours or longer: PROVIDED, That this definition shall not be applied to any regularly established permanent place of worship, stadium, athletic field, arena, auditorium, coliseum, or other similar permanently established places of assembly for assemblies which do not exceed by more than two hundred fifty people the maximum seating capacity of the structure where the assembly is held: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That this definition shall not apply to government sponsored fairs held on regularly established fairgrounds nor to assemblies required to be licensed under other laws or regulations of the state.' (emphasis in original)

[RCW 9.94.043](#)

Deadly weapons — Possession on Premises by Person Not a Prisoner — Penalty.

A person, other than a person serving a sentence in a penal institution of this state, is guilty of possession of contraband on the premises of a state correctional institution in the first degree if, without authorization to do so, the person knowingly possesses or has under his or her control a deadly weapon on or in the buildings or adjacent grounds subject to the care, control, or supervision of a state correctional institution. Deadly weapon is used as defined in RCW [9A.04.110](#): PROVIDED, That such correctional buildings, grounds, or property are properly posted pursuant to RCW [9.94.047](#), and such person has knowingly entered thereon: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the provisions of this section do not apply to a person licensed pursuant to RCW [9.41.070](#) who, upon entering the correctional institution premises, proceeds directly along an access road to the administration building and promptly checks his or her firearm(s) with the appropriate authorities. The person may reclaim his or her firearm(s) upon leaving, but he or she must immediately and directly depart from the premises.

Possession of contraband on the premises of a state correctional institution in the first degree is a class B felony.

[RCW 46.10.130](#)

Additional violations — Penalty. (Effective until July 1, 2011.)

(1) No person shall operate a snowmobile in such a way as to endanger human life.

(2) No person shall operate a snowmobile in such a way as to run down or harass deer, elk, or any wildlife, or any domestic animal, nor shall any person carry any loaded weapon upon, nor hunt from, any snowmobile except by permit issued by the director of fish and wildlife under RCW [77.32.237](#).

(3) Any person violating this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

[2003 c 53 § 234; 1994 c 264 § 37; 1989 c 297 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 182 § 11; 1971 ex.s. c 29 § 13.]

Washington State School for the Blind, and the Washington State School for the Deaf WAC 148-140-080 & 72-140-080

(4) No person or group may use or enter onto school facilities having in their possession firearms or other weapons, even if licensed to do so, except duly appointed and commissioned law enforcement officers.

Firearms, Weapons Prohibited In Administrative Hearings.

WAC 10-20-010(1), 10-20-030

(1) Firearms or other dangerous weapons are prohibited at all facilities owned, leased, or operated by the office of administrative hearings and in rooms where the office of administrative hearings is conducting an administrative hearing. This prohibition applies to all parties or witnesses at hearings, all office of administrative hearings employees, and all other persons present. However, it does not apply to law enforcement personnel, security personnel, or military personnel, all while engaged in official duties.

(3) Possession of a valid concealed weapons permit is not a defense to the prohibition in this section.

Places listed below that have Rules that state no firearms allowed on Premises. Washington State Administrative Rules cover these areas.

Colleges/Universities, Licensed Child Care Facilities, Racing Association Grounds, An Emergency Respite Center, Licensed Pregnant and Parenting Teen Residential Programs And Their Facilities, Licensed Homes and Facilities That Provide Care To Children. Overnight Youth Shelter & Residence Operated By the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration

People who work or attend school at such places can be fired/expelled if they possess firearms on these listed properties. Some Colleges/Universities may have storage facilities for those who wish to possess firearms while attending college. Check with your school.

Note: The Administrative Rules of Washington have the information on carrying on College/Universities. You can see the code [Here](#) and look down to the listed College/University to see their rules on carry.

From the [Douglas Co. Sheriffs Dept.](#)

(3) INDIAN RESERVATION AND INDIAN PROPERTY

You must have written permission of the tribal judge. This also applies to certain casinos that are on Indian lands.

Carry in Vehicle With a Valid Permit/License

[RCW 9.41.050](#) Carrying firearms

(2)(a) A person shall not carry or place a loaded pistol in any vehicle unless the person has a license to carry a concealed pistol and: (i) The pistol is on the licensee's person, (ii) the licensee is within the vehicle at all times that the pistol is there, or (iii) the licensee is away from the vehicle and the pistol is locked within the vehicle and concealed from view from outside the vehicle.

Note: Some people have stated that the wording in the above law means that you must have the firearm on your person when in a vehicle. The AG's Office gave an answer to a Legislature in 1987 that stated it didn't have to be on your person. This letter is not an official AG Opinion. The law reads the same as it did in 1987 as far as I can ascertain. You can read that letter [Here](#).

Do "No Gun Signs" Have the Force of Law?

"NO"

"Handgunlaw.us highly recommends that you not enter a place that is posted "No Firearms" no matter what the state laws read/mean on signage. We recommend you print out the [No Guns = No Money Cards](#) and give one to the owner of the establishment that has the signage." As responsible gun owners and upholders of the 2nd Amendment we should also honor the rights of property owners to control their own property even if we disagree with them."

“No Firearm” signs in Washington have no force of law unless they are posted on property that is specifically mentioned in State Law as being off limits to those with a Permit/License to Carry. If you are in a place not specifically mentioned in the law that is posted and they ask you to leave, you must leave. If you refuse to leave then you are breaking the law and can be charged. Even if the property is not posted and you are asked to leave you must leave. Always be aware of the possibility that responding Police Officers who may have been called without your knowledge and may not know the laws on trespass etc. could arrest you even if you are within the law.

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

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

State Parks: YES WAC 352-32-120

State/National Forests: YES

WMA's: YES RCW 9.41.300

Road Side Rest Areas: YES

RV/Car Carry Without A Permit/License

It is illegal to carry a loaded firearm in any vehicle without a valid Permit/License.

[RCW 9.41.050](#) Carrying Firearms.

(1)(a) Except in the person's place of abode or fixed place of business, a person shall not carry a pistol concealed on his or her person without a license to carry a concealed pistol.

(b) Every licensee shall have his or her concealed pistol license in his or her immediate possession at all times that he or she is required by this section to have a concealed pistol license and shall display the same upon demand to any police officer or to any other person when and if required by law to do so. Any violation of this subsection (1)(b) shall be a class 1 civil infraction under chapter 7.80 RCW and shall be punished accordingly pursuant to chapter 7.80 RCW and the infraction rules for courts of limited jurisdiction.

(2)(a) A person shall not carry or place a loaded pistol in any vehicle unless the person has a license to carry a concealed pistol and:

(i) The pistol is on the licensee's person,

(ii) the licensee is within the vehicle at all times that the pistol is there, or

(iii) the licensee is away from the vehicle and the pistol is locked within the vehicle and concealed from view from outside the vehicle.

(b) A violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor.

(3)(a) A person at least eighteen years of age who is in possession of an unloaded pistol shall not leave the unloaded pistol in a vehicle unless the unloaded pistol is locked within the vehicle and concealed from view from outside the vehicle.

(b) A violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor.

(4) Nothing in this section permits the possession of firearms illegal to possess under state or federal law.

[2003 c 53 § 28; 1997 c 200 § 1; 1996 c 295 § 4; 1994 sp.s. c 7 § 405; 1982 1st ex.s. c 47 § 3; 1961 c 124 § 4; 1935 c 172 § 5; RRS § 2516-5.]

RCW 9.41.060 Exceptions to Restrictions on Carrying Firearms.

The provisions of RCW 9.41.050 shall not apply to:

- (4) Any person engaged in the business of manufacturing, repairing, or dealing in firearms, or the agent or representative of the person, if possessing, using, or carrying a pistol in the usual or ordinary course of the business;
- (6) Regularly enrolled members of clubs organized for the purpose of target shooting, when those members are at or are going to or from their places of target practice;
- (7) Regularly enrolled members of clubs organized for the purpose of modern and antique firearm collecting, when those members are at or are going to or from their collector's gun shows and exhibits;
- (8) Any person engaging in a lawful outdoor recreational activity such as hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, or horseback riding, only if, considering all of the attendant circumstances, including but not limited to whether the person has a valid hunting or fishing license, it is reasonable to conclude that the person is participating in lawful outdoor activities or is traveling to or from a legitimate outdoor recreation area;
- (9) Any person while carrying a pistol unloaded and in a closed opaque case or secure wrapper

State Preemption

RCW 9.41.290 State Preemption.

The state of Washington hereby fully occupies and preempts the entire field of firearms regulation within the boundaries of the state, including the registration, licensing, possession, purchase, sale, acquisition, transfer, discharge, and transportation of firearms, or any other element relating to firearms or parts thereof, including ammunition and reloader components. Cities, towns, and counties or other municipalities may enact only those laws and ordinances relating to firearms that are specifically authorized by state law, as in RCW 9.41.300, and are consistent with this chapter. Such local ordinances shall have the same penalty as provided for by state law. Local laws and ordinances that are inconsistent with, more restrictive than, or exceed the requirements of state law shall not be enacted and are preempted and repealed, regardless of the nature of the code, charter, or home rule status of such city, town, county, or municipality.

[1994 sp.s. c 7 § 428; 1985 c 428 § 1; 1983 c 232 § 12.]

Deadly Force Laws

Chapter 9A.16 RCW Defenses

9A.16.010 Definitions.

9A.16.020 Use of force -- When lawful.

9A.16.030 Homicide -- When excusable.

9A.16.040 Justifiable homicide or use of deadly force by public officer, peace officer, person aiding.

9A.16.050 Homicide -- By other person -- When justifiable.

9A.16.060 Duress.

9A.16.070 Entrapment.

9A.16.080 Action for being detained on mercantile establishment premises for investigation -- "Reasonable grounds" as defense.

9A.16.090 Intoxication.

9A.16.100 Use of force on children -- Policy -- Actions presumed unreasonable.

9A.16.110 Defending against violent crime -- Reimbursement.

Knife Laws State/Cities

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

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

YES

Note: A "YES" above means you can carry into places like described below. "NO" means you can't. Handgunlaw.us definition of "Restaurant Carry" is carry in a restaurant that serves alcohol. Places like Friday's, Chili's or Red Lobster. This may or may not mean the bar or the bar area of a restaurant. But you can carry your firearm into a restaurant that serves alcohol and sit and eat without consuming. Handgunlaw.us recommends you not sit at the Bar or in the Bar area of such restaurants. In some states it is illegal to be in the Bar area of such restaurants. 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. If you want further info on carrying in places that serve alcohol check your state laws.

Chemical Sprays/Stun Gun/Higher Capacity Magazine Laws

Bellingham , WA City Ordinance 10.30. Bans Stun Devices/Electric Weapons.

Handgunlaw.us could find no restrictions in Washington States Law concerning Chemical Sprays, Stun Guns Or Higher Capacity Magazine Bans. As noted above Bellingham, WA has restrictions on Stun Devices/Electric weapons and other cities in Washington could have similar bans.

LEOSA State Information

[Washington State LEOSA Information](#)

[WA Assoc. of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs LEOSA Information](#)

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

- [Washington AG - Possession of firearms in facilities used exclusively by schools](#)
- [Washington AG - Correction Officers and Concealed Carry as LEO.](#)
- [Washington AG - Facilities Being Used For School Functions](#)
- [Washington AG - Correction Officers are LEO's](#)
- [Washington AG - Opinion on Carry on City Property](#)

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Airport Carry: Parking Lot & Terminal OK 9.41.300

Training Valid for: No set time period

Time Period to Establish Residency: Upon obtaining a Washington Drivers License/ID

Minimum Age for Permit/License: 21

Permit/License Info Public Information: NO

State Fire arm Laws: 9.41.010 thru 9.41.810 & 9A.56.300 & 42.17.318 & 77.15.460 & 77.108.150

State Deadly Force Laws: 9A.16.010 thru 9A.16.110

State Knife Laws: 9.41.250 & 9.41.270

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: RCW 9.91.160

Body Armor Laws: No laws found.

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? NO 9.41.070

Is carrying of a Concealed Firearm with Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal? Yes RCW 9.41.060 & WAC 232-12-054 & WAC 232-12-051

Notes

What Does WA Consider A Loaded Firearm?

[RCW 9.41.010](#) Terms Defined.

Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(10) "Loaded" means:

- (a) There is a cartridge in the chamber of the firearm;
- (b) Cartridges are in a clip that is locked in place in the firearm;
- (c) There is a cartridge in the cylinder of the firearm, if the firearm is a revolver;
- (d) There is a cartridge in the tube or magazine that is inserted in the action; or
- (e) There is a ball in the barrel and the firearm is capped or primed if the firearm is a muzzle loader.

RCW 77.15.460 Loaded Firearm in Vehicle — Unlawful Use or Possession — Penalty.

(1) A person is guilty of unlawful possession of a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle if:

(5) For purposes of this section, a firearm shall not be considered loaded if the detachable clip or magazine is not inserted in or attached to the firearm.

Permit/License Image

In Washington local officials issue licenses. Washington licenses can have a different format depending on the county that issued the license. The back of the license is blank.

Gary Jay Slider
SIGN ABOVE AND CARRY ON PERSON

LICENSE NUMBER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL <input type="checkbox"/> LATE <input type="checkbox"/> REPLACEMENT	EXPIRES	MO.	DAY	YR.
E 234389			11	16	13
LICENSE TO CARRY CONCEALED PISTOL STATE OF WASHINGTON					
NAME (LAST)	(FIRST)	(MIDDLE NAME)			
SLIDER	GARY	JAY			
RESIDENTIAL STREET ADDRESS					
2343 ROSEMONT CIRCLE DR.					
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE			
BRIDGEPORT	WA	98813			
DRIVER'S LICENSE NO. OR STATE ID.					RACE
WA E0324548					W
BIRTHDAY	SEX	WEIGHT	HEIGHT	EYES	HAIR
11 16 87	M	190	5 10	BLU	BRO
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	LB. LB.	FT. INCHES	COLOR

The person described hereon is licensed to carry concealed pistols as described by law until the expiration date shown above.

SPOKANE POLICE DEPT
Issuing agency
WA111688
ORI Number
X Staci A. Standiford
Signature of licensing authority

You must have your concealed pistol license in your immediate possession at all times that you are required by law to have a concealed pistol license, and you must display it upon demand to any police officer or to any other person when and if required by law to do so. Failure to do so is a class 1 infraction, and you will be punished accordingly under RCW 7.90.

This image has been digitally assembled from 2 or more images. It may not be 100% accurate but gives a good representation of the actual Permit/License.

Updates to this Page

- 5/26/09 – AR added as a state that honors a WA Permit/License
- 6/24/09 - Washington now honors an AR Permit/License
- 8/23/09 – All links checked and repaired if needed.
- 11/22/09 – Places off Limits updated.
- 2/9/10 – LEOSA Link Added
- 3/8/10 - WA now honors FL permit/license.
- 3/17/10 – Link Updated
- 5/11/10 – Airport Carry info updated.
- 8/9/10 – Link Repaired. All Links Checked.
- 1/1/11 – IA Now Honors WA. Notes Section Added. Permit/License Image Added.
- 1/5/11 - Places Off Limits Updated.
- 1/20/11 – Gun Signage information updated.
- 2/7/11 – WA & ND Sign Reciprocity Agreement.
- 4/5/11 – Broken Links Repaired. All Links Checked.
- 4/17/11 – Information on carrying while hunting added.
- 8/15/11 – Link and Note added for College/university Rules on Carrying.
- 8/21/11 – Tennessee added as state that Washington Honors.
- 8/26/11 - Updated Washington License Image Added.
- 9/9/11 – Broken LEOSA Link Repaired. All Links Checked.
- 10/7/11 - Redundant Law Quote in "Places Off Limits" Section Removed.
- 11/1/11 – WI Added as State That Honors WA.
- 1/6/12 – Information on Carrying in Vehicle Added to Places Off Limits Section.