Puerto Rico

Must Inform Officer Immediately: NO
(See Must Inform Section Below)

Note: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Vermont and West Virginia have “Permitless Carry.” Anyone who can legally possess a firearm may carry concealed in these states without a Permit/License. Check each states page for more information and any restrictions that may apply.

North Dakota and Wyoming have “Permitless Carry” for their Residents only.

All References to Administrative Rules below are a translation from Spanish to English. They are not perfect but will give you a good idea of the Law. Admin Rules for other areas of PR Government are unavailable online and must be purchased. If you have any comments or information on the contents of this page please send us an email at admins@handgunlaw.us We appreciate any assistance you can give us.

You can view translations of the following Chapters of the Puerto Rico Administrative Rules at links below.

Chapter 2 - Issuing Weapons License
Chapter 13 – Registration of Weapons
Chapter 6 - Certificate Course of Use and Handling of Firearms
Chapter 12 - LEOSA Rules

Permits/Licenses This State Honors

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 2.18 People with a Gun License From Other Jurisdictions

In order to have the same rights and privileges as those enjoyed by persons with a firearms license in Puerto Rico, persons with firearms licenses from other jurisdictions must comply with the requirements of Law 168-
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2019. The NPPR Commissioner may establish memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with states and/or territories of the United States that have similar requirements to Act 168-2019.

Once the Commissioner of the NPPR establishes the MOUs, the person who complies with the established requirements and intends to introduce one or more weapons and/or ammunition into Puerto Rico must inform the Division of Weapons Registration and Licensing. Said notification will be made on form PPR-1062 entitled: "Notification of Intention to Introduce Weapons and/or Ammunition” with five (5) working days prior to the introduction of the weapons and/or ammunition into Puerto Rico. Whenever possible, the notification will be made through the following link: Puerto Rico Police. In these cases, the firearms will be registered in the Real Plus System.

**Note:** It looks like there is not Universal Recognition of all other states permit/licenses from what Administrative Rules Article 2.18 states until the Commissioner establishes a memorandum of understanding with another state which to Handgunlaw.us means a “Reciprocity Agreement!” It also looks like you have to give “5 Business Days” notice before you arrive in Puerto Rico if you wish to bring in a firearm or ammunition into Puerto Rico. It is very difficult to get clear answers on any questions.

**Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019**
**Article 11.01 Notification by Commercial Airline**

All commercial airlines that fly to Puerto Rico and that have received firearms and/or ammunition from a passenger to transport them to any airport within territorial limits of Puerto Rico as part of their luggage, will notify the Police Bureau of Puerto Rico in this account, at the time that said firearm and/or ammunition is to be delivered to the passenger. The airline will require the passenger and provide the Puerto Rico Police Bureau with the passenger’s name, address, telephone number, and other contact information in addition to the quality, type, caliber and registration information of the weapon/s and/or ammunition that is transported within the territorial limits of Puerto Rico.

Said information will be sent to the following email registodeamas@policia.pr.gov through form PPR-1053 entitled: “Notification of the Airline”. When feasible, said form will be sent through the following: http://policia.pr.gov/

**How to Apply for A Permit**

**Note:** Handgunlaw.us recommends you read all of Article 2 of the Administrative Rules. You can see a translation of all of Article 2 by going Here.

**Weapons License to Own and Carry a Concealed Firearm**

**Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019**
**Article 2.01 Requirements**

The Division of Arms Registry and License Issuance will issue arms licenses to all petitioners who meet the following requirements:

1. Have completed twenty-one (21) years of age.
2. Have a negative criminal record and not be accused and pending or in trial for some of the crimes listed in article 2.09 of the aforementioned law 168-2019 or equivalents, both in Puerto Rico and in any United States Jurisdiction, at the federal level or in any foreign country.
3. Not be addicted to controlled substances or habitual drunk.
4. Not be declared mentally incapable by a court with jurisdiction.
5. Not have been separated from the United States Armed Forces or the Puerto Rico Police Bureau under dishonorable conditions (Dishonorable Discharge.)

6. Do not incur or belong to organizations that commit acts of violence or directed to overthrow of the constituted government.

7. Not be under a court order, or have been at any time during the past twelve (12) months prior to the application date, that prohibits you from harassing, spying, threatening or approaching an intimate partner any family member of his or any person.

8. Be a citizen or legal resident of the United States of America.

9. Not be a person prevented by the “Federal Gun Control Act of 1968” from receiving, transporting or sending firearms or ammunition. Said Law establishes that the following persons will be prevented from receiving transporting or sending firearms and/or ammunition
   a. person who is a fugitive from justice;
   b. person who has renounced American citizenship;
   c. person who is illegally in the United States.

10. Have obtained a certificate of use and handling of Firearms by an instructor certified by the Puerto Rico Police Bureau as provided by Law 168-2019 above and these Regulations.

11. It is not a requirement to possess a firearm in order to obtain a weapons license.

Note: The License to Own is also your license to carry a Concealed Firearms. The License is valid for 5 years and initial cost minus Fingerprinting and Training Class is $200. Renewal is $100. You will be fingerprinted and it looks like it is Electronic Fingerprinting. The Police will certify instructors for the required training and should have a list of certified trainers. (We can’t find a list of Certified Instructors on the Puerto Rico Police Dept online page. Puerto Rico has 45 days in the first year of the law to issue 30 days after the first year. (Law took effect 1/1/20)
You will fill out a Firearms Application (Spanish/English)

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 2.02 Weapons License

(1) A weapons license is required to carry weapons and this will be done hidden or non-observable form.
   (i) Only one firearm is allowed at a time.

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 2.11 Special Weapon License for Victims of Domestic Violence and Stalking

1. Every victim of domestic violence and stalking to whom a court with jurisdiction has issued a protection order and who so requests will be issued a special weapons license, free of cost, which will be valid for ninety (90) days, as long as the victim of domestic violence and stalking complies with the requirements established in law 168 above and article 2.01 and 2.01 of these Regulations, except the payment of proof of Internal Revenue. (Note: Handgunlaw.us believes Internal Revenue really translates to there is no cost.) In addition, you must submit a copy of the current Protection Order issued by a competent court.

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 6.07 Course of Using and Handling – Renewal of Weapons License

In order to apply for or renew a firearms license, training in the use and handling of firearms will be required……
Once the person successfully completes the course, the Instructor certified by the Puerto Rico Police Bureau will complete from PPR-1061 titled: “Certification of Accreditation Participation and Compliance Training in the Course of Using and handling of Firearms” in original and copy. The original sent to the participant and the copy will be retained by the instructor for future reference. The certificate will be valid for one year. If a year has passed without the person requesting the license and weapons they must take the course again.

Note: Handgunlaw.us recommends you read all of Chapter 2 of the Admin Rules. You can view a Translation of all of Chapter 2 of the Admin Rules on How to Apply Here.

Renewal

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 6.07 Course of Use and Handling – Renewal of Weapons License

The course of use and handling of firearms for renewal of firearms will consist of the practical part in the shooting range. The Participant will perform a minimum of (50) shots and must be approved with a minimum of seventy (70) Percent.

Note: It looks like to renew you will need to shoot a qualification course. There may also be other requirements. We have over 4 years to find out more about this issue.

Places Off-Limits Even With A Permit/License

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
There will be a warning posted at all points of entry into Puerto Rico with the wording like below.

Firearms Warning

Every person, not authorized to have firearms under Puerto Rico laws, and who does not hold a valid weapons permit issued in any State, enclave, possession or territory of the United States of America, who brings a firearm with him/her or in is/her luggage, must give immediate notice to the Ports Authority Security Office and an officer of the Police Bureau of Puerto Rico upon arrival. Noncompliance with this notice may carry prison penalties. The Ports Authority Security Office and/or an Authorized Agent will inform you on how to proceed with your weapon.

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 1.05 Definitions

14. Gun License – means that license issued by the Gun Licensing Office that authorizes a person to possess and carry firearms and their ammunition.

31. Carrying - means the immediate possession or physical possession of one or more loaded or unloaded firearms, on the person of the bearer or at his immediate reach. By immediate reach is understood at your fingertips and transportation of the same.

41. School Zone – means the premises of the school campus, weather public or private, in use, inside or outside of school hours, its parking area, as well as the entire stretch of public road located in front of a school, plus the section of public highway on each side of the front of a school and with a variable length, duly identified with the corresponding traffic signs and one hundred (100) meters perimeter from campus, whichever is greater.
42. **University Zone** – means the premises of the university, campus and/or technical institute of higher education whether public or private, its parking area and green area, and those buildings outside said campus belonging to the institution of higher education and any distance one hundred (100) meter perimeter from campus or off-campus university buildings.

**Note:** Handgunlaw.us can’t find in Puerto Rico Statutes or Admin Rules (Difficult to look at all their Admin Rules as you must purchase them at $1 a page) that Schools and Universities are Off Limits to those with Carry Permits. Handgunlaw.us believes they are as there would be no reason for them to define Schools/University in their firearm laws unless they were off limits. Schools/Universities could be partly covered by § 693 below.

**Title 23, Part II, Chapter 29**

**§ 466. Power to Carry Firearms  (Airport Carry)**

Any person authorized to make arrests as provided in the preceding section may carry firearms or other arms within the limits of an airport, as the Executive Director of the Ports Authority may by regulation direct or prescribe.

May 6, 1949, No. 187, p. 590, § 6, eff. 90 days after May 6, 1949.

**Note:** Handgunlaw.us takes this to mean that only Police can carry inside the terminal of any Airport in Puerto Rico.

**Title 1, Chapter 35**

**§ 693. Public Buildings Security Act**

(a) As a part of the minimum security norms to be adopted in all government dependencies, the following behaviors are hereby prohibited:

   (1) The bearing of any type of weapon shall not be permitted, except for those used by duly identified law enforcement officers, officers assigned to the government dependency in question, as well as those used by private security guards assigned to the same dependency.


**Title 24, Part VIII, Chapter 201A, SubChapter II**

**§ 6153s. It is hereby prohibited to carry weapons inside any mental healthcare institution. This prohibition excludes Commonwealth police officers and armed security officers in extraordinary public safety conditions, as well as in methadone treatment centers and their mobile or in-house units. If no extraordinary public safety issues should arise so as to warrant the carrying of weapons inside a mental healthcare institution, Commonwealth police officers and other security officers shall be under the obligation to surrender their weapons to the administrator of the institution, who shall see to their safekeeping and return the same to such officers, once they have completed their business within the institution.**

2008, No. 183, § 17

**Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019**

**Chapter 15, Sec. (22)**

Domestic Violence Shelters are governed by their own regulations and most likely do not permit firearms on their Premises.

**Title 25, Subtitle 1, Part V, Chpt 51B, Subchpt. II**

**§ 462l. Good Reasons for Empowering Law Enforcement Officers to Occupy Weapons Without a Warrant**

Any law enforcement officer shall occupy the license, firearm and/or ammunition, held by a citizen, on a temporary basis, when he has good reason to believe that the person with a firearm license has made or will make unlawful use of the firearms and ammunition to cause harm to others; for having made threats to commit a crime; for having expressed an intention to commit suicide; when he has repeatedly demonstrated
negligence or carelessness in the handling of the firearm; when the person with a firearm license is deemed to have a mental condition, is considered to be habitually drunk or addicted to controlled substances; or in any other situation of serious risk or danger that justifies this occupation…….

Open Carry is illegal. Must be Concealed. Can Carry Only One.

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 2.02 – Weapons License

(1) A weapons license is required to carry weapons and this will be done hidden or non-ostentatious form.
   (i) Only one firearm is allowed at a time.

Note: Even with a Legal License to carry in Puerto Rico you can only carry one firearm loaded and concealed. You can transport others but they must be unloaded and secured.

For Federal Restrictions on Firearms see the USA Page.

Do “No Gun Signs” Have the Force of Law?

“????????” We have not seen anything addressing this issue.

We are unable to determine if “No Gun” signs have the force of law in Puerto Rico. Until we get more information Handgunlaw.us believes you should treat every “No Gun” sign as having the force of law.

Must Inform Officer by Law?

“NO” There is no mention of having to inform immediately in the Statutes or Administrative Rules covering the Carrying of Firearms only that they must carry their permit or face a fine.

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 2.16 Issue of Fines

g. A person with a current weapons license carries or transports a firearm or part thereof without having their weapons license with them and cannot prove that they are authorized to carry weapons;

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

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

State Parks: Unknown
State/National Forests: Unknown
State WMA’s: Unknown
Road Side Rest Areas: Unknown

RV/Car Carry Without A Permit/License

Translation of Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019
Article 2.02 – Weapons License
www.handgunlaw.us
(1) A weapons license is required to carry weapons and this will be done hidden or non-ostentatious form.

(i) Only one firearm is allowed at a time.

State Preemption

We can find no Preemption Statutes or Administrative Rules on this Issue. That does not mean one doesn’t exist.

Deadly Force Laws

Title 33, Subtitle 4, Part II Chapter 290,
Subchapter III - Causes for Exclusion from Criminal Liability

§ 4653. Allowed risk
§ 4654. Self-defense
§ 4655. State of necessity
§ 4656. Exercise of right or performance of duty
§ 4657. Obedience to superior orders
§ 4658. Error
§ 4659. Entrapment
§ 4660. Intimidation or violence
§ 4661. Insignificant conduct
§ 4662. Provisions applicable to this section

Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click “Here”

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

Unknown

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 or Red Lobster unless posted with “No Gun Signs.” 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

Unable to find any laws on Chemical Sprays/Stun Guns or restrictions on Higher Capacity Magazines.
LEOSA State Information

You can read a translated copy of the Puerto Rico Admin Rules covering LEOSA Here. You can see them in their original Spanish Here in Chapter 12.

See the LEOSA Section on the USA Page at Handgunlaw.us for more LEOSA Information.

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

There are no new cases since their Firearms laws of 2000 were declared Unconstitutional.

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Airport Carry: NO Title 23, Part II, Chapter 29 § 466.

Training Valid for: 1 Year

Time Period to Establish Residency: Unknown

Minimum Age for Permit/License: 21

Permit/License Info Public Information: NO Chpt 15, A, (18) Admin Rules for 168-2019

State Firearm Laws: Title 25, Subtitle 1, Part V, Chpt. 51B, Subchpt. VI § 461 thru § 467k

State Deadly Force Laws: Title 33, Subtitle 4, Part II Chapter 290. Subchapter 3 - § 4653 - § 4661

State Knife Laws: Title 25, Subtitle 1, Part V, Chpt. 51B Subchapter VI, § 466e & § 466f

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: Unknown

Body Armor Laws: Unknown

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? Unknown

State Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s: Title 25, Subtitle 1, Part V, Chpt. 51B, Subchpt. VI, § 4660

Is Carrying of a Concealed Firearm With Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal? Unknown

Notes

List of Chapters in the Administrative Rules on Act 168 of 2019 if you wish to go to them and translate that part of the Rules or read them in Spanish.

Chapter 1. Title
Chapter 2. Weapons License
Chapter 3. Shooting Club License
Chapter 4. Gunsmith License
Chapter 5. Special Long Arms License for the Transport of Values
Chapter 6. Certificate Course of Use and Handling of Firearms
Chapter 7. Cinematography and Filmmakers
What Does PR Consider a Loaded Firearm?

Puerto Rico law does not define Loaded. Their firearm laws use the word Loaded or Unloaded but doesn’t give a definition.

Note: At least we can’t find nothing in Puerto Rico Law that defines Loaded or Unloaded. With no definition on what the state considers a loaded firearm at the minimum I would have no cartridge in the firing chamber, cylinder, internal or attached magazine or attached to the firearm in any way.

State Emergency Powers

Title 25, Subtitle 1, Part I, Chapter 9B, SubChapter I.
§ 172m. Governor of Puerto Rico—Special powers

In emergency or disaster situations, the Governor of Puerto Rico may decree, through a proclamation, the existence of a state of emergency or disaster, as the case may be, throughout the entire territory of Puerto Rico or part thereof. In addition to any other powers conferred by law, the Governor, while said state of emergency or disaster lasts, shall have the following powers:

(a) Request from the President of the United States any type of federal assistance granted by federal legislation in effect, and accept and use said assistance at his discretion, subject exclusively to the conditions established in the laws that grant the same.

(b) Order, amend and revoke those regulations, and issue, amend and cancel those orders the Governor may deem convenient to prevail during the state of emergency or disaster.

(c) Enforce those Commonwealth regulations, orders, plans or measures pertinent to emergency or disaster situations or change the same according to the Governor’s better judgment.

(d) Order the removal of rubble and debris remaining as a consequence of an emergency or disaster situation, subject to the conditions set forth hereinafter.

(e) Acquire through purchase or donation any real or personal property, or any rights thereon, that in the Governor’s judgment are deemed useful, convenient or necessary during a state of emergency or disaster.

(f) Acquire through eminent domain any real or personal property, or any rights thereon, that in the Governor’s judgment are deemed useful, convenient or necessary during a state of emergency or disaster, pursuant to the provisions of §§ 2901 et seq. of Title 32, and subject to the additional provisions set forth hereinafter.

Note: Handgunlaw.us can find no specific laws on the “Emergency Powers” of the Governor or other state officials concerning the banning of Firearms carrying or sales etc. That does not mean there are no laws covering this topic. If there are no laws limiting a Governor in what they can or cannot do they can do just about anything they deem appropriate in an Emergency and let things get sorted out after the emergency is
past. Looking at New Orleans after Katrina shows you what they can or will do if there are or are not laws restraining State Government(s).

Note: Federal Law can apply if the state is receiving monetary and/or other assistance from the Federal Government. See [US Code 42-5207](https://www.codeoffederalregulations.gov/gpo/resource.html?rc=42_5207) for Federal Law as it applies to States of Emergencies.

### Minimum Age for Possessing and Transporting of Handguns.

**21 Years of Age**

Note: It looks like the min age will remain 21 but there is a section of the law that allows minors to obtain a permit shoot at a range etc. and it may allow transport if less than 21. We are still researching this.

This is the minimum age for possessing and transporting a handgun unloaded and secured in a vehicle without any type of permit/license to carry firearms. Some states (and counties) require Firearms Identification Cards, and/or registration.

Note: In some states Possession and Transportation CAN be very restrictive in that you can ONLY possess and transport a handgun to and from a Shooting Range, Gun Shop, property you own or other places you can legally possess a handgun. Some states do not have this restriction.

This is not the last word on possession and transporting of handguns in this, or any other state. Study your state law further for more information. See “RV/Car Carry” Section Above for more information.

### Permit/License Image

The License Image below is the old Licenses issued before the new law. Handgunlaw.us doesn’t know if this will continue to be the Possession/Carry License or they will create a new one.

![Permit/License Image](image)

His 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

- **Archive of Previous Updates**

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  4/1/19 – All Links Checked.
  7/1/19 - Kentucky and South Dakota added to Note under map at top of page as Permitless Carry states.
  11/1/19 – Oklahoma added to Note under map at top of page as Permitless Carry state.
  12/16/19 – Notice at Top of Page Added About New PR Law.
  12/20/19 - Notice Updated at Top of Page.
  5/1/20 - Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s Added to Airport Carry/Misc Info Section if Applicable.
  7/1/20 - Links Section Updated. Wording at Top of Page Added. All Sections updated.
  7/7/20 - Most Sections Updated. With Information Covering New Firearms Law Administrative Rules.
  7/10/20 – Link to Translation of Chapters 2 & 13 Added to Top Section. Formatting and Links Repaired.