Permits/Licenses This State Honors

California does not honor any other states Permits/Licenses.

How to Apply for A Permit

Your Local Sheriff or Chief of Police Issues Permit/Licenses
Information on how to apply is “Here”.
Term of the Permit/License is 2 years
The Legal limit on cost is $100. $20 max can be asked for at initial application, the remaining $80 is collected at issuance.

PC 12054  (a) The licensing authority of any city, city and county, or county may charge an additional fee in an amount equal to the actual costs for processing the application for a new license, excluding fingerprint and training costs, but in no case to exceed one hundred dollars ($100), and shall transmit the additional fee, if any, to the city, city and county, or county treasury. The first 20 percent of this additional local fee may be collected upon filing of the initial application. The balance of the fee shall be collected only upon issuance of the license. “

12050. (a) (1) (A) The sheriff of a county, upon proof that the person applying is of good moral character, that good cause exists for the issuance, and that the person applying satisfies any one of the conditions specified in subparagraph (D) and has completed a course of training as described in subparagraph (E), may issue to that person a license to carry a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person in either one of the following formats:
(i) A license to carry concealed a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.
(ii) Where the population of the county is less than 200,000 persons according to the most recent federal decennial census, a license to carry loaded and exposed in that county a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

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Note: (From Calguns Foundation) There are also classes, Live Scan and other fees that bring the actual total to around $300 for a 2 year permit. There is no minimum training requirement for initial application, PC 12050 says the MAX is 16 hrs or a 24 hour POST class, but POST can only be required if ALL applicants must take it. The minimum time is 4 hours for renewal. Initial training could legally be a 10 minute video and still meet the requirements of 12050.

Non-Resident Permits

California does not issue Non-Resident Permit/Licenses.

Places Off-Limits Even With A Permit/License

Firearms and Picketing Activity

From the California Attorney Generals Web page on Firearms.

It is unlawful for any person to carry a loaded firearm upon his or her person or within any vehicle under his or her control or direction while engaged in picketing activity. (Penal Code § 12590(a)(2) Picketing activity means any informational activities conducted in a public place relating to a concerted refusal to work.

General Exceptions Are Not Applicable

The exceptions regarding loaded firearms provided for peace officers, bank guards, armored vehicle guards, licensed hunters or fishermen, private investigators, and other persons in Section 5. Loaded Firearms of this publication, do not apply if such individuals are engaged in picketing activities as described above. (Penal Code § 12590(c).

From the California Dept of Justice Standard Application for License to Carry a Concealed Weapon (CCW)

While exercising the privileges granted to the licensee under the terms of this license, the licensee shall not, when carrying a concealed weapon:

- Consume any alcoholic beverage.
- Be in a place having a primary purpose of dispensing alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption.
- Be under the influence of any medication or drug, whether prescribed or not.
- Refuse to show the license or surrender the concealed weapon to any peace officer upon demand.
- Impede any peace officer in the performance of his/her duties.
- Present himself/herself as a peace officer to any person unless he/she is, in fact, a peace officer as defined by California law.
- Unjustifiably display a concealed weapon.
- Carry a concealed weapon not listed on the permit
- Carry a concealed weapon at times or circumstances other than those specified in the permit.

Note: The above comes straight from the Application and some do not have the force of law. The Issuing Authority in CA can put restrictions on your License to Carry. If they put those restrictions on your License then you must adhere to those restrictions. (From the Calguns Foundation - California PC is silent on
consuming alcohol or being in places that serve alcohol. The verbiage on the license application re: alcohol and drugs has no force of law.)

Pursuant to U.S. Government Code - Title 49, Chapter 26, Section 1472 (1) and Federal Aviation Regulation 121.583, a license to carry a concealed weapon does not authorize a person to carry a firearm, tear gas, or any dangerous weapon aboard commercial airlines. Further, a person must declare that he/she is carrying such firearm, tear gas, or dangerous weapon BEFORE entering the boarding area of an air terminal where the security checks are made. Such violation can result in arrest by law enforcement.

Other Places Off Limits to Carry.

PC 171b(b)(2)(B) Courthouse when you are a party to an action pending before the court
Family Law courts [depending on the presiding judge]

PC 12040 While masked so as to hide your identity, while on a public street or in a public place

Carrying Firearms: From the CA Attorney General

Any person over the age of 18 who is not prohibited from possessing firearms, and if otherwise lawful, may keep and carry a firearm or have a firearm loaded at his or her place of residence, temporary residence, campsite, or on private property owned or lawfully possessed by the person. (Penal Code §§ 12026, 12031(h) and (l).) Any person engaged in any lawful business (including nonprofit organizations) or any officer, employee, or agent authorized for lawful purposes connected with the business may possess a loaded firearm within the place of business if that person is over 18 years of age and not otherwise prohibited from possessing firearms. (Penal Code §§ 12026, 12031(h).)

NOTE: A person’s place of business, residence, temporary residence, campsite, or private property may be located in areas where possession of handguns or other firearms, whether loaded or unloaded, is otherwise prohibited. Such areas include, but are not limited to, state, federal, or private game reserves or refuges, federal and state parks, and other public lands. Questions regarding the applicability of such laws should be directed to your sheriff or chief of police, federal or state fisand game officers, or federal or state park rangers.

California Codes

Penal Code

12071.4.
(a) This section shall be known, and may be cited as, the Gun Show Enforcement and Security Act of 2000.
(e) All firearms transfers at the gun show or event shall be in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.
(d) Except for purposes of showing ammunition to a prospective buyer, ammunition at a gun show or event may be displayed only in closed original factory boxes or other closed containers.
(g) No person at a gun show or event, other than security personnel or sworn peace officers, shall possess at the same time both a firearm and ammunition that is designed to be fired in the firearm. Vendors having those items at the show for sale or exhibition are exempt from this prohibition.

Cal. Pen. Code § 12050:

(3) For purposes of this subdivision, a city or county may be considered an applicant's "principal place of employment or business" only if the applicant is physically present in the jurisdiction during a substantial part of his or her working hours for purposes of that employment or business.

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(b) A license may include any reasonable restrictions or conditions which the issuing authority deems warranted, including restrictions as to the time, place, manner, and circumstances under which the person may carry a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person.

(e) Any restrictions imposed pursuant to subdivision (b) shall be indicated on any license issued.

Note: Possession of AP Ammunition and/or Tracer ammunition for Long guns or handguns is a felony in California. When transporting firearms the magazines may be carried loaded and in the same container as the firearm. They can not be attached to the firearm if they contain ammunition. Open carry is becoming more common in California. Carrying an unloaded firearm openly is legal. Carrying a concealed loaded magazine even without a firearm present can get you arrested. Some consider a loaded magazine the same as a firearm and the 1000 foot rule on School Safety Zones exists in California. This could also apply to speed loaders. There is no case law concerning a loaded magazine being the same as a firearm. There are so many unknowns and the sight of a firearm can and will disturb some people. Use extreme Caution!

"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 California 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.

**Bullet Ban (San Francisco)**

**Police Code Article 9 SEC. 613.10. - License—Conditions.***

In addition to all other requirements and conditions stated in this Article, each license shall be subject to all of the following conditions, the breach of any of which shall be sufficient cause for revocation of the license by the Chief of Police:

The licensee shall not sell, lease or otherwise transfer to any person any ammunition that:

1. Serves no sporting purpose;
2. Is designed to expand upon impact and utilize the jacket, shot or materials embedded within the jacket or shot to project or disperse barbs or other objects that are intended to increase the damage to a human body or other target (including, but not limited to, Winchester Black Talon, Speer Gold Dot, Federal Hydra-Shok, Hornady XTP, Eldorado Starfire, Hollow Point Ammunition and Remington Golden Sabre ammunition; or
3. Is designed to fragment upon impact (including, but not limited to, Black Rhino bullets and Glaser Safety Slugs).

This subsection does not apply to conventional hollow-point ammunition with a solid lead core when the purchase is made for official law enforcement purposes and the purchaser is authorized to make such a purchase.
purchase by the director of a public law enforcement agency such as the Chief of the San Francisco Police Department or the Sheriff of the City and County of San Francisco.

**Note:** San Francisco’s bullet ban is preempted, but that doesn’t mean that you won’t get charged and have to fight it.

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

**Carry Allowed in these Areas:**

- **State Parks:** YES (See Notes area at bottom of this Document for additional information)
- **State/National Forests:** YES 14 CCR s 1413
- **WMA’s:** NO F/G Code 10500
- **Road Side Rest Areas:** YES per CHP

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### RV/Car Carry Without A Permit/License

You must have a Permit/License to carry a loaded handgun in any vehicle.

The transportation or carrying of any pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person by any citizen of the United States over the age of 18 years who resides or is temporarily within this state, and is not within the excepted classes prescribed by Penal Code Sections 12021 or 12021.1 or Welfare and Institutions Code sections 8100 & 8103, provided that the following applies:

1. the firearm is within a motor vehicle and it is locked in the vehicle's trunk or in a locked container in the vehicle other than the utility or glove compartment,

2. and when the firearm is carried by the person to or from any motor vehicle for any lawful purpose, the firearm must be contained in a locked container while being physically carried. (Penal Code § 12026.1.)

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### Traveling with Firearms in California  (From the California Attorney General)

**HANDGUNS**

California Penal Code section 12025 does not prevent a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age who is not lawfully prohibited from firearm possession, and who resides or is temporarily in California, from transporting by motor vehicle any pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person provided the firearm is unloaded and stored in a locked container.

The term "locked container" means a secure container which is fully enclosed and locked by a padlock, key lock, combination lock, or similar locking device. This includes the trunk of a motor vehicle, but does not include the utility or glove compartment. For more information, refer to California Penal Code Section 12026.1.

**OPEN Handgun Transport**  You can transport a handgun unloaded if it is on the passenger seat next to a driver in a car, clearly visible, is 'open transport'. While legal, open transport is uncommon. Because this is uncommon, when transporting openly any interaction with law enforcement personnel could be uncomfortable.

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**Note:** In People v Hale the CA Court of Appeals ruled that a loaded magazine concealed along with a firearm that does not contain any ammo is considered loaded. The ruling stated:

"The carrying of concealed firearms is prohibited as a means of preventing physical harm to persons other than the offender." (People v. Jurado, 25 Cal. App. 3d 1027, 1032 [102 Cal. Rptr. 498].) In our opinion concealment of an essential component of a visible weapon, when done in such a fashion as to make the weapon readily available for use as a firearm, presents a threat to public order comparable to concealment of the entire firearm and falls within the prohibition of section 12025.

**SHOTGUNS AND RIFLES**

Nonconcealable firearms (rifles and shotguns) are not generally covered within the provisions of California Penal Code section 12025 and therefore are not required to be transported in a locked container. However, as with any firearm, nonconcealable firearms must be unloaded while they are being transported. A rifle or shotgun that is defined as an assault weapon pursuant to Penal Code 12276 or 12276.1 must be transported in accordance with Penal Code section 12026.1.

**REGISTERED ASSAULT WEAPONS**

California Penal Code section 12285(c)(7) requires that registered assault weapons may be transported only between specified locations and must be unloaded and in a locked container when transported.

The term "locked container" means a secure container which is fully enclosed and locked by a padlock, key lock, combination lock, or similar locking device. This includes the trunk of a motor vehicle, but does not include the utility or glove compartment. For more information, refer to California Penal Code Section 12026.1.

**State Preemption**

**California Government Code 53071**

It is the intention of the Legislature to occupy the whole field of regulation of the registration or licensing of commercially manufactured firearms as encompassed by the provisions of the Penal Code, and such provisions shall be exclusive of all local regulations, relating to registration or licensing of commercially manufactured firearms, by any political subdivision as defined in Section 1721 of the Labor Code.

**Deadly Force Laws**

**California Penal Code**

**Section 196-199**

196. Homicide is justifiable when committed by public officers and those acting by their command in their aid and assistance, either

197. Homicide is also justifiable when committed by any person in any of the following cases:

198. A bare fear of the commission of any of the
198.5. Any person using force intended or likely to cause death or great bodily injury within his or her residence

199. The homicide appearing to be justifiable or excusable, the person indicted must, upon his trial, be fully acquitted and discharged.

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 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. 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.

Chemical Sprays/Stun Gun/Higher Capacity Magazine Laws

Large Capacity Magazines

With limited exceptions, California law prohibits any person from manufacturing, importing into the state, keeping for sale, offering or exposing for sale, giving, or lending any large capacity magazine. Cal. Penal Code § 12020(a)(2), (b). A "large capacity magazine" is defined as any ammunition feeding device with the capacity to accept more than ten rounds, but does not include any .22 caliber tube ammunition feeding device, any feeding device that has been permanently altered so that it cannot accommodate more than ten rounds, or any tubular magazine that is contained in a lever-action firearm. Section 12020(c)(25). California does not ban the possession of large capacity magazines.

Upon a showing of good cause, the California Department of Justice may issue permits for the possession, transportation, or sale of large capacity ammunition magazines between a licensed California firearms dealer and an out-of-state customer. Section 12079(a). This requirement applies for only the out-of-state importation and exportation of large capacity ammunition magazines, including the transportation of such magazines as necessary to complete a transfer to or from an out of state source. See Cal. Code Regs. tit. 11, § 978.40.

Large capacity magazines may be manufactured for any federal, state, or local government or law enforcement agency, or for use by agency employees in the discharge of their official duties, whether on or off duty. Section 12020(b)(30). Large capacity magazines may also be purchased or loaned for the sole use as a motion picture, television or video prop. Section 12020(b)(31), (32)(A). Such magazines may also be resold to law enforcement agencies, government agencies, or the military, pursuant to applicable federal regulations. Section 12020(b)(32)(C).

For additional large capacity ammunition magazine regulations, see Cal. Code Regs. tit. 11, §§ 978.40-978.44.
Stun Devices/Electric Weapons:

5 CCR § 100015
Stun guns and TASERS are not permitted on the property of any state universities.

PC Part 1 Title 7 Chpt. 7 - Part 171b
Illegal to have stun guns within any state or local public building or at any meeting required to be open to the public

PC 626.10. upon the grounds of, or within, any public or private school providing instruction in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive.

Chemical Sprays:

Penal Code 12403.7 Misuse of tear gas in California comes with state penalties of up to a $1000 fine and/or up to three years in prison Minors, drug addicts or persons convicted of felonies, assault or misuse of tear gas are legally prohibited from possessing tear gas. To be legally purchased, possessed or used in California, any canister must have a label that says "WARNING: The use of this substance or device for any purpose other than self-defense is a crime under the law. The contents are dangerous--use with care." The maximum legal net weight for a canister is 2.5 ounces, or 70 grams of OC.

LEOSA State Information

California LEOSA Info 1
California LEOSA Info 2

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

- California AG - Court Ruling on CCW Issue Standards
- California AG - City Regs on Ammo Sales
- California AG – Private Property Posting

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Airport Carry: From California Code: Sterile area of Airport (From the Application for a Permit from the state of California) Pursuant to U.S. Government Code - Title 49, Chapter 26, Section 1472 (1) and Federal Aviation Regulation 121.583, a license to carry a concealed weapon does not authorize a person to carry a firearm, tear gas, or any dangerous weapon aboard commercial airlines. Note: People have been arrested and guns confiscated for just having them in their vehicle upon driving on LAX property. Handgunlaw.us urges extreme caution and do watch out for signage upon entering any Airport property in California.

Training Valid for: Initial training must be 16 to 24 hours in length. Refresher training must be a minimum of 4 hours. The refresher training can be regulated by the local Issuer of the Permit/License.

Time Period to Establish Residency: None Apparent (Probably Upon Obtaining Drivers License)

Minimum Age for Permit/License: 18
Permit/License Info Public Information: Unknown

State Firearm Laws: PC 12000 thru 12133

State Deadly Force Laws: PC 196-199

State Knife Laws: PC 12020 & 653k & 626.10 & 12001.1 & 12028

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: PC 12401 thru 12426

Body Armor Laws: PC 12360 thru 12370

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? NO 12050

Permit/License Image

Permit/Licenses in California are issued by Local Officials. The format of Permit/Licenses may vary from County to County.

Ventura Co.

Kern County

These images have been digitally assembled from 2 or more images. they may not be 100% accurate but gives a good representation of the actual Permit/License.

Notes:

Concerning Carry in California State Parks:

"Itaya, Adrian" AITAY@parks.ca.gov wrote:

To: (Name Removed by Handgunlaw.us)
My apologies for the delay-
The California Department of Parks and Recreation through its legal section, has determined that CCR 4314 exempts the following:

(1) California Peace Officers who are otherwise permitted to carry firearms
(2) Honorably retired California Peace Officers with concealed weapons privileges
(3) Citizens with concealed firearms privileges

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Adrian E. Itaya
California State Parks
Public Safety Division
(916) 651-0403
aitay@parks.ca.gov

What Does CA Consider A Loaded Firearm?

California Penal Code 12031

(c) 6. (g) A firearm shall be deemed to be loaded for the purposes of this section when there is an unexpended cartridge or shell, consisting of a case that holds a charge of powder and a bullet or shot, in, or attached in any manner to, the firearm, including, but not limited to, in the firing chamber, magazine, or clip thereof attached to the firearm; except that a muzzle-loader firearm shall be deemed to be loaded when it is capped or primed and has a powder charge and ball or shot in the barrel or cylinder.

Note: In People v Hale the CA Court of Appeals ruled that a loaded magazine concealed along with a firearm that does not contain any ammo is considered loaded. The ruling stated:

"The carrying of concealed firearms is prohibited as a means of preventing physical harm to persons other than the offender." (People v. Jurado, 25 Cal. App. 3d 1027, 1032 [102 Cal. Rptr. 498].) In our opinion concealment of an essential component of a visible weapon, when done in such a fashion as to make the weapon readily available for use as a firearm, presents a threat to public order comparable to concealment of the entire firearm and falls within the prohibition of section 12025.

Must Inform Officer – I have been hearing from CCW holders in CA stating that some Issuing Authorities are putting a restriction on issued Permit/Licenses that the holder must inform any Police Office that contacts you on any type of official capacity. CA law does not state you have to inform an officer on any official contact with them. If an issuing authority puts that restriction on your permit/license then you must inform.

Updates to This Page:

1/16/09 – Airport Carry. Note added about arrests for just having firearms in vehicles.
2/24/09 – State Park Carry updated and Notes section added for explanation.
5/27/09 - AG Link Repaired
8/19/08 – All Links checked and any broken links repaired.
8/31/09 – NE added as state that honors CA Permit.
11/10/09 – Places off limits updated.
3/17/10 – 2nd CCW Link added. All other Links checked.
4/18/10 – Stun Devices Section Updated.
11/15/10 – San Francisco HP Bullet Ban Added. Note Section wording added on informing Officer if that restriction is put on your Permit/License.
1/5/11 – Costs note added. Law on placing restrictions by issuing authority added.
1/10/11 – Places Off Limits Updated. License Cost Updated.
2/1/11 – RV/Carry Carry Section updated with info on open carry of handgun in vehicle.
4/5/11 – All Links Checked.