

FLORIDA CONCEALED WEAPON OR FIREARM LICENSE

Application Instructions

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services issues licenses to eligible Florida residents and non-residents, permitting them to carry a concealed weapon or firearm.

With a concealed weapon or firearm license also comes a tremendous responsibility.

Individuals who choose to arm themselves with weapons should, therefore, be armed with the most indispensable weapon of all: knowledge.

Review provisions of the law that regulate the use of weapons and firearms before choosing to carry one.

Please make every effort to exercise your lawful right safely and responsibly.



07/2017

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

BEFORE COMPLETING A PAPER APPLICATION, READ THIS!

You can apply electronically for a Florida Concealed Weapon or Firearm License at one of the Division of Licensing's Regional Offices or at one of the authorized tax collector's offices located throughout the State of Florida. Either service is designed to allow applicants to complete the entire application process quickly and conveniently.

DO NOT COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION. At the time of your appointment, staff will assist you with completing an electronic application. Staff will also scan your fingerprints, take your photograph, and process your payment.

Information regarding both services is available on our website at www.mylicensesite.com.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES CAREFULLY. FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION IN ITS ENTIRETY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL CAUSE DELAYS IN THE PROCESSING OF YOUR APPLICATION.

TYPE OR PRINT IN BLACK INK WHEN COMPLETING THE APPLICATION. PLACE LETTERS AND NUMBERS WITHIN THE DESIGNATED BOXES.

IF YOU RECEIVED THE APPLICATION PACKAGE BY MAIL, RETURN YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION AND OTHER MATERIALS USING THE ENVELOPE INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE. IF YOU DOWNLOADED YOUR APPLICATION, USE AN ENVELOPE THAT IS LARGE ENOUGH TO ENSURE THE APPLICATION AND OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS LIE FLAT AND ARE NOT FOLDED OR CREASED.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- You must be at least 21 years of age unless you are a servicemember, as defined in Section 250.01, Florida Statutes, or you are a veteran of the United States Armed Forces who was discharged under honorable conditions.
- You must meet the CITIZENSHIP and RESIDENCY requirements set forth in the law. See the instructions for Question 5 in Section II below for further details.
- You must be able to provide a CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION from a firearms training class or other acceptable training document that evidences your competency with a firearm. See the instructions for Question 6 in Section II below for further details.
- You must not have a DISQUALIFYING CRIMINAL RECORD or other condition that would make you ineligible for licensure.

If you have any questions about your eligibility, you can complete the online preliminary eligibility questionnaire on our website at www.mylicensesite.com.

SECTION I APPLICANT INFORMATION

Please provide all personal identifying information requested in this section. Note the following specific instructions:

- **USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS:** Section 119.071(5)(a) 2, Florida Statutes, authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Licensing, to request social security numbers from applicants. Applicant social security numbers are maintained and used by the Division of Licensing for identification purposes, to prevent misidentification, and to facilitate the approval process by the Division. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Licensing, will not disclose an applicant's social security number without consent of the applicant to anyone outside of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Licensing, or as required by law. HOWEVER, SUBMISSION OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ON YOUR CONCEALED WEAPON LICENSE APPLICATION IS OPTIONAL AND VOLUNTARY. IF YOU CHOOSE NOT TO SUBMIT YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, IT WILL HAVE NO BEARING ON THE PROCESSING OF YOUR APPLICATION.
- **TELEPHONE NUMBER; EMAIL ADDRESS:** This information is requested to facilitate the application process should the Division need to contact you about your application. Including this information on your application is VOLUNTARY.
- **RESIDENCE ADDRESS:** You must provide a residence address. A Post Office Box is not acceptable.

MILITARY SERVICE SEEKING EXPEDITED PROCESSING:

Answer YES to this question ONLY IF:

- You are an active-duty United States military servicemember, as defined in Section 250.01, Florida Statutes; OR
- You are an honorably discharged United States veteran, as defined in Section 1.01, Florida Statutes; AND
- You are requesting expedited processing of your application.

MILITARY SERVICE SEEKING EXPEDITED PROCESSING CONTINUED:

IF you answered yes to this question and are an active-duty United States military servicemember, submit your completed application along with any of the following:

- a copy of your Common Access Card;
- a copy of your United States Uniform Services Identification Card;
- a copy of your current deployment orders.

IF you answered yes to this question and are an honorably discharged United States veteran, submit a copy of the DD Form 214 indicating honorable discharge from military service or another acceptable form of identification recognized by the Department of Veterans' Affairs establishing honorable discharge from military service.

SECTION II QUALIFYING DATA

You must provide responses to all the questions indicated in this section. Please read the detailed instructions included here for each of the 17 questions in this section.

QUESTION 1

If you answer YES to this question: Complete only Sections I and III of the application form. Submit the application with a color photograph, a fee payment in the amount of \$300, and a letter of certification stating that you are a consular official engaged in security duties on behalf of your government. This letter must be written in English on embassy or consulate letterhead stationery, and it must be signed by the ambassador, the ambassador's designee, or the consul-general.

QUESTION 2

Answer YES to this question ONLY IF:

- You are CERTIFIED by the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer as defined in ss. 943.10(1), (2), (3), (6), (7), (8), or (9), Florida Statutes; AND,
- You are CURRENTLY EMPLOYED as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer or correctional probation officer.

If you answer YES to this question: Submit your complete application along with a color photograph, a check or money order in the amount of \$55 for the license fee, and an official letter on agency letterhead stating that you are currently employed with that agency as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer. This letter must be signed by the agency head, the agency's authorized representative, or the agency's personnel officer.

QUESTION 3

Answer YES to this question ONLY IF you retired from a Florida law enforcement agency by which you were employed as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer.

If you answer YES to this question and retired within the year immediately preceding the date on which you are submitting your application to the Division: submit your complete application along with a color photograph and a copy of an official document that shows the date of your retirement and the name of the public agency from which you retired. **You do not need to submit any fees.**

If you answer YES to this question and retired more than one year ago: submit a complete application, a fingerprint card, a color photograph, a copy of an official document that shows the date of your retirement and the name of the public agency from which you retired, and a fee payment in the amount of \$72 (license fee \$30 + fingerprint processing fee \$42).

PLEASE NOTE: You must have actually RETIRED as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer in order to qualify for the fee exemptions provided for in statute. Simply having been formerly employed at one time as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, or correctional probation officer is not sufficient. Note also that Florida law does not extend this fee exemption to federal law enforcement retirees or law enforcement retirees from other states.

QUESTION 4

Section 119.071 F. S., excludes from public disclosure specified information such as home addresses, telephone numbers, social security numbers, and photographs pertaining to certain individuals. To determine whether you qualify for an exemption, you can read the complete text of the law online at <http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/>.

Answer YES to this question ONLY IF you qualify for exemption as prescribed by s. 119.071, F. S.

EVEN IF YOU DO NOT QUALIFY FOR THE EXEMPTION AS DESCRIBED ABOVE: Section 790.0601, F.S., makes the personal identifying information of any concealed weapon licensee or applicant confidential and exempt from disclosure provisions of Florida's public records law EXCEPT IN THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS: (1) we have the express written consent of the applicant or licensee or his/her legally authorized representative to disclose information; (2) we receive a court order showing good cause for the disclosure of that information; or (3) we receive a request from a law enforcement agency in connection with the performance of that agency's lawful duties and responsibilities.

QUESTION 5

You must be a CITIZEN of the United States or a PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN and you must CURRENTLY RESIDE in this country in order to qualify for a Florida concealed weapon license. However, note the following special instructions:

- **If you are not currently residing in the United States because you are serving in the US Armed Forces:** submit a copy of your deployment documentation with your application.
- **If you are a PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN:** submit the documentation issued to you by the Department of Homeland Security, U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) giving you permanent resident alien status.
- **If you were born outside the United States and are now a US citizen,** submit a copy of any one of the following documents with your application: a U.S. passport, a Consular Report of Birth (Form FS-240), a Certification of Report of Birth (DS-1350), a Certificate of Naturalization (Form N-550 or N-570), or a Certificate of Citizenship (Form N-560 or N-561). These various documents are issued either by the U.S. Department of State or the USCIS.

QUESTION 6

Florida law requires you to submit proof of competency with a firearm in order to qualify for a concealed weapon license. A copy of a CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION or similar document from any of the following courses or classes is acceptable:

- any hunter education or hunter safety course approved by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission or a similar agency in another state;
- any National Rifle Association firearms safety or training course;
- any firearms safety or training course or class available to the general public offered by a law enforcement agency, junior college, college, or private or public institution or organization or firearms training school, utilizing instructors certified by the National Rifle Association, the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission, or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
- any law enforcement firearms safety or training course or class offered for security officers, investigators, special deputies, or any division or subdivision of law enforcement or security enforcement;
- any firearms training or safety course or class conducted by a state-certified instructor or by an instructor certified by the National Rifle Association.

The copy of the training certificate/document must be clear and legible. The certificate/document must include your name, your instructor's name, your instructor's qualifications/credentials (National Rifle Association instructor, law enforcement firearms instructor, Class "K" Firearms Instructor licensed by the State of Florida, etc.), and your instructor's license/certification number.

Other acceptable forms of training documentation include the following:

- documentary evidence of experience with a firearm obtained through participation in organized shooting competition;
- active-duty military personnel may submit copies of any of the following documents that confirm your experience with a firearm gained during service: military orders including call to active-duty letter; a statement of military service signed by, or at the direction of, the adjutant, personnel officer, or commander of your unit or higher headquarters which identifies you and provides your date of entry for your current active-duty period;
- former military personnel can submit a DD Form 214 reflecting honorable discharge from military service.

PLEASE NOTE: Any National Rifle Association firearms safety or training course, any firearms safety or training course or class available to the general public offered by a law enforcement agency, junior college, college, or private or public institution or organization or firearms training school, utilizing instructors certified by the National Rifle Association, the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or any firearms training or safety course or class conducted by a state-certified instructor or by an instructor certified by the National Rifle Association must include live fire using a firearm and ammunition as defined in Section 790.001, Florida Statutes, in the physical presence of an instructor.

DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL TRAINING DOCUMENTS OR OTHER RELATED MATERIALS TO THE DIVISION.

QUESTION 7

If you have been convicted of a felony as described in section 790.23, Florida Statutes, and the felony conviction occurred within the State of Florida, your civil rights **and** firearm rights must be restored by the Florida Office of Executive Clemency in order to qualify you for a Florida concealed weapon license. Felony convictions occurring in another state require restoration of civil **and** firearm rights by the state in which the conviction occurred. If you were convicted of a felony under federal law, you must have a Presidential pardon or have been granted relief from federal firearm disabilities through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Please note - since 1992, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' annual appropriation has prohibited the expending of any funds to investigate or act upon applications for relief from Federal firearms disabilities submitted by individuals. For information on how to obtain a Presidential pardon, contact the Office of the Pardon Attorney; U.S. Department of Justice; 500 First Street, N.W.; Washington, DC 20530; www.justice.gov/pardon/.

If your civil rights and firearms rights have not been restored as described above, or if you cannot provide proof of restoration of civil rights and firearms rights, you are not eligible for a Concealed Weapon or Firearm License.

QUESTION 8

If you have had ADJUDICATION OF GUILT WITHHELD OR IMPOSITION OF SENTENCE SUSPENDED ON ANY FELONY, you are NOT ELIGIBLE for a Florida concealed weapon license unless a period of three years has elapsed since probation or any other conditions set by the court have been fulfilled (or the record has been expunged). If you answer YES to this question, you must submit a copy of the document issued by the court or probation office evidencing completion of probation or other court-imposed conditions. Alternatively, you can submit a copy of the court document ordering that the record be expunged.

QUESTION 9

If you have had ADJUDICATION OF GUILT WITHHELD OR IMPOSITION OF SENTENCE SUSPENDED ON A MISDEMEANOR CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, you are NOT ELIGIBLE for a Florida concealed weapon license unless a period of three years has elapsed since probation or any other conditions set by the court have been fulfilled (or the record has been expunged). If you answer YES to this question, you must submit a copy of the document issued by the court or probation office evidencing completion of probation or other court-imposed conditions. Alternatively, you can submit a copy of the court document ordering that the record be expunged.

QUESTION 10

If you have been FOUND GUILTY OF, HAD ADJUDICATION OF GUILT WITHHELD FOR, OR HAD IMPOSITION OF SENTENCE SUSPENDED FOR ONE OR MORE MISDEMEANOR CRIMES OF VIOLENCE, you are NOT ELIGIBLE for a Florida concealed weapon license unless a period of three years has elapsed since probation or any other conditions set by the court have been fulfilled (or the record has been sealed and expunged). If you answer YES to this question, you must submit a copy of the document issued by the court or probation office evidencing completion of probation or other court-imposed conditions. Alternatively, you can submit a copy of the court document ordering that the record be sealed and expunged.

QUESTION 11

If you have been CONVICTED OR FOUND GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, you are NOT ELIGIBLE for a Florida concealed weapon license. Owning or possessing a firearm by one who has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence is also punishable under federal law §18 USC 922.

A misdemeanor *crime of domestic violence* includes any misdemeanor conviction or suspended sentence involving the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon, committed by a current or former spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabiting with or has cohabited with the victim as a spouse, parent, or guardian, or by a person similarly situated to a spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim. Examples include, but are not limited to, spouse abuse, battery/domestic violence, child abuse, assault, etc. A person shall not be considered to have been convicted if the conviction or suspended sentence has been expunged or set aside, or is an offense for which the person has been pardoned or has had civil rights restored (if the law of the convicting state provides for the loss of civil rights upon conviction of such an offense) unless the pardon, expunction, or restoration of civil rights expressly provides that the person may not possess or receive firearms.

QUESTION 12

If you have been issued an injunction that is currently in force and effect that restrains you from committing acts of domestic violence or acts of repeat violence, you are NOT ELIGIBLE for a Florida concealed weapon license. The Division will suspend the processing of your application until you submit certified court documents showing that the injunction has been dissolved or dismissed.

QUESTION 13

You are NOT ELIGIBLE for a Florida concealed weapon license if any of the following conditions applies to you: (1) you have been adjudicated incapacitated under section 744.331, F.S., or similar laws of any other state; (2) you have been committed to a mental institution in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 394, FS, or similar laws of any other state; (3) you have been adjudicated mentally defective or incompetent in any court. **Your eligibility for licensure would be restored only if you had received relief from federal firearms disabilities through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) or relief from disabilities pursuant to Section 790.065(2)(a)4.d., Florida Statutes.**

QUESTION 14

You are NOT ELIGIBLE for a Florida concealed weapon license if you answer YES to any one of these questions pertaining to committal for controlled substance abuse, committal for alcohol abuse, or DUI conviction DURING THE THREE YEARS PRECEDING THE DATE ON WHICH YOU SUBMITTED YOUR APPLICATION.

QUESTION 15

You are NOT ELIGIBLE for licensure if you are UNDER ARREST OR CURRENTLY CHARGED with any felony, or crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year; or any crime of violence, including crimes of domestic violence; or any crime under the provisions of Chapter 893, Florida Statutes, or similar laws of any other state relating to controlled substances. If you choose to submit an application anyway, the Division will suspend the processing of your application until the Division receives a certified court document indicating the final disposition of your case. If that court document indicates that the case did not result in a conviction or a withholding of adjudication on a disqualifying crime, the suspension will be lifted and the processing of your application will continue. If you are convicted or receive a withhold of adjudication on a disqualifying crime, your application will be denied.

QUESTION 16

The term “**fugitive from justice**” means any person who has fled from any State to avoid prosecution for a crime or to avoid giving testimony in any criminal proceeding. If you answer YES to this question or if the background check reveals that you are a fugitive from justice, the Division will suspend the processing of your application until you submit a certified copy of a court document reflecting the final disposition of your case.

QUESTION 17

You are NOT ELIGIBLE for a Florida concealed weapon license if you were discharged from military service under **DISHONORABLE CONDITIONS**.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **FINGERPRINTS:** The law requires you to submit a COMPLETE AND LEGIBLE SET OF PRINTS. Please read the included information pertaining to fingerprint submissions. Law enforcement authorities occasionally find that fingerprints are insufficiently legible for a complete background check. If this occurs with your fingerprints, we will inform you by letter and request a second fingerprint submission from you.
- **PHOTOGRAPH:** You must also submit a PASSPORT-TYPE COLOR PHOTOGRAPH. Please refer to the included photograph instructions for details concerning the appearance of the photograph.
- **FEES:** The total fee for the Florida Concealed Weapon or Firearm License is \$97. This total actually consists of two separate fees:

License Fee:	\$55
Fingerprint Processing Fee:	\$42

IMPORTANT NOTE CONCERNING FEES

- If you had your fingerprints electronically scanned at a local law enforcement agency, you do not need to remit the \$42 fingerprint processing fee to the Division. Please refer to the included ELECTRONIC FINGERPRINT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS.
- If you are a CONSULAR SECURITY OFFICIAL, a \$300 license fee must be submitted with your application.
- If you are a FLORIDA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, CORRECTIONAL OFFICER, OR CORRECTIONAL PROBATION OFFICER (ACTIVE or RETIRED), refer to the instructions for QUESTION 2 and QUESTION 3 for information concerning the required fees.

Fees must be paid with a check or money order made payable to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Do not send cash. The Department will assume no liability for cash sent through the mail. Fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

- **FAMILIARITY WITH FLORIDA LAW:** You are required by law to read and become knowledgeable of the provisions of Chapter 790, Florida Statutes, relating to weapons and firearms, prior to submitting your application for a Florida Concealed Weapon or Firearm License. A link to Chapter 790, Florida Statutes is provided at mylicensesite.com, under Laws and Regulations.

Be sure to check your application!

Before mailing your application, please review it carefully to ensure that it is COMPLETE and ACCURATE. You should include the following items with your application.

- TRAINING DOCUMENTATION as described in the section pertaining to QUESTION 6 above
- CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCY DOCUMENTATION as described in the section pertaining to QUESTION 5 above (if applicable)
- COURT DOCUMENTATION REFLECTING FINAL DISPOSITION OF ANY ARRESTS (if applicable)
- PHOTOGRAPH
- A COMPLETE AND LEGIBLE SET OF FINGERPRINTS OR A COPY OF YOUR RECEIPT FOR YOUR ELECTRONIC FINGERPRINT SUBMISSION
- A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER FOR THE APPROPRIATE FEES

Check with your local post office to ensure the postage for your package is sufficient.

