24-2332. Licenses for Concealed Pistols.

A person is eligible for issuance of a license to carry a concealed pistol (concealed carry license or license) only if the person:

(a) Is twenty-one (21) years of age;

(b) Meets all of the requirements for a person registering a firearm pursuant to the Firearms Control Regulations Act of 1975 (the Act), effective September 24, 1976 (D.C. Law 1-85; D.C. Official Code §§ 7-2501.01 et seq. (2012 Repl. & 2014 Supp.));

(c) Possesses a pistol registered pursuant to the Act;

(d) Does not currently suffer nor has suffered in the previous five (5) years from any mental illness or condition that creates a substantial risk that he or she is a danger to himself or herself or others; provided, that if the person no longer suffers such mental illness or condition, and that person has provided satisfactory documentation required under § 2337.3, then the Chief may determine that this requirement has been met;

(e) Has completed a firearms training course, or combination of courses, conducted by an instructor (or instructors) certified by the Chief;

(f) Has a bona fide residence or place of business:

(1) Within the District of Columbia;

(2) Within the United States and a license to carry a pistol concealed upon his or her person issued by the lawful authorities of any State or subdivision of the United States; or

(3) Within the United States and meets all registration and licensing requirements pursuant to the Act;

(g) Has demonstrated to the Chief good reason to fear injury to his or her person or property or has any other proper reason for carrying a pistol; and

(h) Is a suitable person to be so licensed.

24-2335. Suitability to Obtain a Concealed Carry License.

2335.1 A person is suitable to obtain a concealed carry license if he or she:

(a) Meets all of the requirements for a person registering a firearm pursuant to the Act;

(b) Has completed a firearms training course, or combination of courses, conducted by an instructor (or instructors) certified by the Chief;

(c) Is not presently an alcoholic, addict, or habitual user of a controlled dangerous substance, unless the habitual use of a controlled dangerous substance is under licensed medical direction;

(d) Has not exhibited a propensity for violence or instability that may reasonably render the person's possession of a concealed pistol a danger to the person or another; and

(e) Does not currently suffer nor has suffered in the previous five (5) years from any mental disorder, illness or condition that creates a substantial risk that he or she is a danger to himself or herself or others, or if the Chief has determined that the person is suitable based upon documentation provided by the person pursuant to § 2337.3.


24-2336. Firearms Training Course Requirements.

2336.1 To satisfy the firearms training eligibly requirement of § 2332.1(e), a person shall obtain a certificate of completion from an instructor (or instructors) certified by the Chief that includes at least sixteen (16) hours of training, and covers the following:

(a) Firearm safety, including firearm safety in the home, a discussion of prevention of access by minors, locking and storing of firearms, and use of safety devices such as secure lock boxes;

(b) Firearm nomenclature;

(c) The basic principles of marksmanship;

(d) The care, cleaning, maintenance, loading, unloading, and storage of pistols;

(e) Situational awareness, conflict management, and use of deadly force;

(f) Selection of pistols and ammunition for defensive purposes; and

(g) All applicable District and federal firearms laws, including the requirements of the Act, An Act To control the possession, sale, transfer, and use of pistols and other dangerous weapons in the District of Columbia, to provide penalties, to prescribe rules of evidence, and for other purposes, approved July 8, 1932 (47 Stat. 650; D.C. Official Code §§ 22-4501 et seq.), and District law pertaining to self-defense.
2336.2 In addition to the requirements of § 2336.1, a person shall complete at least two (2) hours of range training, including shooting a qualification course of fifty (50) rounds of ammunition from a maximum distance of fifteen (15) yards (forty-five (45) feet), and receiving a qualifying score of seventy percent (70%) as certified by the instructor.

2336.3 The Chief may, on a case by case basis, exempt a person from the requirements of §§ 2336.1 and 2336.2 if the person submits evidence that he or she has received firearms training in the U.S. military or has otherwise completed firearms training conducted by a firearms instructor that, as determined by the Chief, is equal to or greater than that required by the Act.

2336.4 An applicant may submit to the Chief the application required under § 2337 without including the certificate of completion of training required by this section; provided that if the Chief preliminarily approves the application pursuant to § 2339, the applicant has forty-five (45) days to submit the certificate of completion and successfully complete the range training.


24-2337. Concealed Carry Applications.

2337.1 A complete concealed carry license application shall be submitted to the Firearms Registration Section in the format and on forms prescribed by the Chief.

2337.2 The application shall include:

(a) The applicant's name, address, driver's license number or other government issued photo identification number, place and date of birth, height, weight, race, sex, eye and hair color, occupation, and home and work telephone numbers, and email (optional);

(b) If applying as a District resident or business owner, proof of a bona fide District residence or place of business;

(c) Evidence of completion or intent to complete the firearms training requirements in § 2336 by:

(1) Proof of the applicant's completion of a firearm training course within the past two (2) years in the manner prescribed by the Chief in § 2336;

(2) Support for the applicant's request for an exemption from the firearm training course requirement as permitted by the Act; or

(3) If the applicant chooses to seek a preliminary approval pursuant to § 2339, then the applicant shall certify that he or she will provide proof of completion of the firearms training requirements within forty-five (45) days of the Chief's provisional approval of the application pursuant to § 2339;

(d) A complete set of the applicant's fingerprints, taken and submitted in the manner prescribed by the Chief on the application;

(e) A declaration by the applicant as to whether or he or she currently suffers or has suffered in the previous five (5) years from any mental disorder, illness, or condition that creates a substantial risk that he or she is a danger to himself or herself or others. If the applicant attests to suffering from any mental disorder, illness, or condition, the applicant shall sign an authorization to disclose any treatment records related to those circumstances;

(f) An authorization by the applicant to the Department of Behavioral Health, or any other similar agency or department of another state to disclose to the Chief information as to whether the applicant:
(1) Suffers from a mental illness or condition and has a history of violence; or

(2) Has been voluntarily or involuntarily committed to a mental health facility or an institution that provides treatment or services for individuals with a mental illness or condition;

(g) Proof, including any documents, statements of third parties taken under oath and before a notary, or personal statements of the applicant to demonstrate to the Chief that the person has good reason to fear injury to his or her person or property or has any other proper reason for carrying a pistol;

(h) Any information reasonably required by the Chief, as part of the application form or materials, to complete an investigation required by § 2338;

(i) A declaration by the applicant that the applicant is not prohibited under federal or District law, or state law of the applicant's residence, from possessing a handgun;

(j) A declaration by the applicant, under the penalty of perjury, that all information in the application is true and accurate; and

(k) A declaration by the applicant acknowledging that the applicant shall be responsible for compliance with all federal and District laws, rules, regulations, and procedures that are applicable to this license.

2337.3 The Chief may find the applicant has satisfied the requirements of § 2331.1(d) if the applicant submits a notarized report under oath from a registered psychologist or psychiatrist, with which the applicant has bona fide patient relationship, stating that the psychologist or psychiatrist has examined the applicant within six (6) months prior to submitting the statement and found the applicant to no longer to be suffering from any mental illness or condition that creates a substantial risk that he or she is a danger to himself or herself or others.

2337.4 The application must be accompanied by the fees for Fingerprints and License to carry a pistol listed in §§ 2331.1(c) and (g), respectively.

2337.5 The Chief may waive some or the entire application fee for good cause shown on the application.

2337.6 Any knowing material omission or false statement made by or provided by the applicant may be considered grounds for denial of a conceal carry license, or revocation for a license falsely obtained, and may subject the person to criminal prosecution for perjury.


SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 62 DCR 9781, 9787 (July 17, 2015).

24-2338. Investigation of Application.

2338.1 The Chief shall conduct an investigation of every applicant within a reasonable period of time after receipt of a completed application.

2338.2 The following areas shall be a part of the investigation of every applicant and shall be considered by the Chief in determining whether a concealed carry license shall be issued:

(a) Age of the applicant;

(b) Occupation, profession, or employment of the applicant;

(c) Verification of the applicant's eligibility, including a firearms training course completion certificate from a certified trainer;

(d) Verification of the information supplied by the applicant in the application;
(e) Information received from personal references and other persons interviewed;

(f) Information received from business or employment references as may be necessary in the discretion of the investigator;

(g) Criminal record of applicant, including any juvenile record.

(h) Medical or mental health history of applicant as it may pertain to the applicant's fitness to carry, wear, or transport a handgun;

(i) Psychiatric or psychological background of the applicant as it may pertain to the applicant's fitness to carry, wear, or transport a handgun;

(j) The applicant's propensity for violence or instability that could reasonably render the applicant's wearing, carrying, or transporting of a handgun a danger to the applicant or to others;

(k) The applicant's use of intoxicating beverages or drugs;

(l) The reasons given by the applicant for carrying, wearing, or transporting a handgun, and whether those reasons demonstrate good cause;

(m) Whether the permit is necessary as a reasonable precaution for the applicant against apprehended danger; and

(n) Any other areas the Chief determines are reasonably necessary to determine if the applicant is eligible to obtain a concealed carry license.


SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 62 DCR 9781, 9789 (July 17, 2015).

24-2339. Preliminary Approval.

2339.1 The Chief shall issue a preliminary approval to carry a concealed pistol or provide a written denial of the application within a reasonable time after receiving an application containing all required supporting documents, with the exception of proof of completion of the firearms training requirements. A reasonable period of time shall normally be within ninety (90) days; however, the time may be extended by the Chief for an additional ninety (90) days where there is good cause for additional time to complete the investigation and the applicant is so notified in writing.

2339.2 After completing the investigation of the application, the Chief shall either:

(a) Deny the application pursuant to § 2340; or

(b) Issue a preliminary approval of the application.

2339.3 If the Chief issues a preliminary approval of the application, it shall:

(a) Be in writing;

(b) Notify the applicant that he or she has forty-five (45) days from the date of the preliminary approval to provide proof of completion of the firearms training course requirements in §§ 2336.1 and 2336.2; and

(c) Notify the applicant that the Chief may deny the application pursuant to § 2340 if the applicant fails to provide the documentation required under paragraph (b) within the allotted time.

2339.4 If the applicant provides the information required under § 2339.3(b), the application shall be deemed complete and the Chief shall issue the license pursuant to § 2340.
24-2340. Issuance or Denial.

2340.1 The Chief shall issue a license to carry a concealed pistol or provide a written denial of the application within a reasonable time after receiving a completed application. A reasonable period of time shall normally be within ninety (90) days; however, the time may be extended by the Chief for an additional ninety (90) days where there is good cause for additional time to complete the investigation and the applicant is so notified in writing.

2340.2 A completed application shall satisfy all the requirements prescribed by the Chief including evidence that applicant has satisfied the firearms training requirements in § 2336.

2340.3 A written denial provided by the Chief shall contain the reasons the application was denied and a statement of the applicant’s appeal rights.

2340.4 The Chief may limit the geographic area, circumstances, or times of the day, week, month, or year in which a license is valid or effective.

2340.5 Unless otherwise limited or revoked by the Chief pursuant to § 2341, a concealed carry license expires two (2) years from the date of issuance.

24-2341. Revocation, Limitation, and Summary Suspension.

2341.1 The Chief may revoke a concealed carry license on a finding that the licensee:

(1) No longer satisfies one or more of the concealed carry license qualifications set forth in the Act or any regulation authorized by the Act; or

(2) Failed to comply with one or more requirements or duties imposed upon the licensee by the Act or any regulation authorized by the Act.

2341.2 A concealed carry license may be limited, after its issuance, as described in § 2340.4, upon a finding by the Chief that such limitation is necessary to protect the health, safety, security, or welfare of the District and its residents.

2341.3 The Chief shall provide a written notice of revocation or limitation to a person whose license is revoked or limited. The written notice shall contain:
(a) The reasons the license was revoked or limited; and

(b) A statement that the revocation or limitation will take effect unless the licensee requests an appeal to the Concealed Pistol Licensing Review Board (Board) no later than fifteen (15) days after the receipt of the notice of revocation or limitation.

2341.4 Unless a licensee has requested an appeal pursuant to § 2341.6(b), a licensee whose concealed carry license is revoked shall return the license to the Firearms Registration Section within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the notice of revocation.

2341.5 The Chief may summarily suspend or limit, without a hearing, a concealed carry license, when the Chief has determined that the conduct of the licensee presents an imminent danger to the health and safety of a person or the public.

2341.6 At the time of the summary suspension or limitation of a concealed carry license, the Chief shall provide the licensee with written notice stating:

(a) The action that is being taken;

(b) The basis for the action; and

(c) The right of the licensee to request a hearing with the Board pursuant to § 2341.7.

2341.7 A licensee shall have the right to request a hearing by the Board within seventy-two (72) hours after service of notice of the summary suspension or limitation of the concealed carry license. The Board shall hold a hearing within seventy-two (72) hours after receipt of a timely request and shall issue a written decision within seventy-two (72) hours after the hearing.

2341.8 Upon receipt of a summary suspension notice issued pursuant to § 2341.6, the licensee shall immediately return his or her suspended license to the Chief.

2341.9 If the Board does not sustain a summary suspension, the suspended concealed carry license shall be returned to the licensee.


SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 62 DCR 9781, 9791 (July 17, 2015).

24-2342. Appeal.

2342.1 With the exception of an appeal of a summary suspension or limitation of a license, a person whose original or renewal license application is denied or whose license is revoked or limited may submit a written request to the Board to review the decision of the Chief within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the notice of denial, revocation, or limitation.

24-2343. Ammunition Carried by Licensee.

2343.1 A person issued a concealed carry license by the Chief, while carrying the pistol, shall not carry more ammunition than is required to fully load the pistol twice, and in no event shall that amount be greater than twenty (20) rounds of ammunition.

2343.2 A person issued a concealed carry license by the Chief may not carry any restricted pistol bullet as that term is defined in the Act.


SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 62 DCR 9781, 9792 (July 17, 2015).

24-2344. Pistol Carry Methods.

2344.1 A licensee shall carry any pistol in a manner that it is entirely hidden from view of the public when carried on or about a person, or when in a vehicle in such a way as it is entirely hidden from view of the public.

2344.2 A licensee shall carry any pistol in a holster on their person in a firmly secure manner that is reasonably designed to prevent loss, theft, or accidental discharge of the pistol.


24-2345. Non-Resident Applications for Concealed Carry License.

2345.1 A non-resident of the District, as defined by the Act, may apply to the Firearms Registration Section for a concealed carry license upon a showing that the applicant meets all of the eligibility requirements of § 2332.

2345.2 A non-resident may satisfy some or all of the firearms training requirements in § 2336 by providing proof of completion of a firearms training course in another state or subdivision of the United States.

2345.3 A non-resident shall obtain a certification from a firearms trainer that the applicant has received and completed training in District firearms law and the District law of self-defense.
2345.4 A non-resident must demonstrate to the Chief that he or she has a good reason to fear injury to his or her person or property, as defined by the Act and these regulations, by showing that the fear is from a cause that will likely be present in the District and is not a cause that is likely to be present only in another jurisdiction.

2345.5 A non-resident must demonstrate to the Chief that he or she has any other proper reason for carrying a pistol, as defined by the Act and these regulations, by showing that the other proper reason exists in the District.


24-2346. Signage to Prevent Entrance by Concealed Carry Licensee onto Non-Residential Private Property.

2346.1 Signs stating that the carrying of firearms is prohibited on any private property shall be clearly and conspicuously posted at any entrance, open to the public, of a building, premises, or real property.

2346.2 A sign shall be considered conspicuous if it is at least eight (8) inches by ten (10) inches in size and contains writing in contrasting ink using not less than thirty-six (36) point type.


24-2348. Safe Storage of Firearms at a Place of Business.

2348.1 No registrant shall store or keep any firearm on any premises under his or her control if he or she knows or reasonably should know that a minor or a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under D.C. Official Code § 22-4503 can gain access to the firearm.

2348.2 When not in storage, each registrant shall carry the firearm on his or her person or within such close proximity that he or she can readily retrieve or use it as if he or she carried it on his or her person; provided, that the firearm is entirely hidden from view of the public.

2348.3 If the firearm is stored at a place of business, it shall be stored in a gun safe, locked box, or other secure device affixed to the property.


SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 62 DCR 9781, 9795 (July 17, 2015).

24-2399. Definitions.

2399.1 When used in this chapter, and in forms prescribed under this chapter, where not otherwise distinctly expressed or manifestly incompatible with the intent of the Act or this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed:


Board - means the Concealed Pistol Licensing Review Board.

Bona fide patient relationship - means a relationship between a psychiatrist or psychologist and a patient in which:

(a) A complete assessment of the patient's mental health history, current mental health condition, and a current mental health examination has taken place; and

(b) Where the psychiatrist or psychologist has responsibility for the ongoing care and mental health treatment of the patient.

Bona fide residence - means a dwelling place of a person that is documented by two (2) or more of the following:

(a) Voter registration indicating the address of the dwelling place;

(b) Motor vehicle registration indicating the address of the dwelling place;

(c) Motor vehicle driver permit indicating the address of the dwelling place;

(d) Withholding and payment of individual income taxes indicating the address of the dwelling place including:

(1) Copies of certified District or state income tax returns; and

(2) Copies of certified federal tax returns filed with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service;

(c) Certified deed or lease or rental agreement for real property indicating the address of the dwelling place;

(f) Cancelled checks or receipts for mortgage or rental payments;

(g) Utility bills and payment receipts indicating the address of the dwelling place;

(h) A copy of a bank account statement in the name of the applicant at the address of the dwelling place;

(i) Copies of credit card or brokerage account statements mailed to the applicant at the address of the dwelling place; or

(j) Copies of automobile insurance statements mailed to the applicant at the address of the dwelling place.

Chief - means the Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department or his or her designee.

Dealer - any person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or otherwise dealing in firearms, ammunition, or destructive devices at wholesale or retail; any person engaged in the business of repairing, testing, or analyzing firearms; any person engaged in the business of making or fitting special barrels, stocks, or trigger mechanisms for firearms or destructive devices; or any person repairing, testing, analyzing, or making any destructive device or ammunition.

Director - the commanding officer or acting commanding officer of the Police Business Services Division of the Metropolitan Police Department or their delegates.

Explosive or explosives - any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that contains any oxidizing and combustible units, or other ingredients, in such proportion, quantities, or packing that an ignition by fire, friction, concussion,
percussion, or detonator, or any part of the compound or mixture, may cause a sudden generation of highly heated gases that results in gaseous pressures capable of producing destructive effects on contiguous objects or of destroying life or limb. (Art. 9, § 3 of the Police Regulations).

Firearms Registration Section - a part of the Police Business Services Division of the Metropolitan Police Department, located in 300 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.  20001.

Home - the principal place of residence of an individual in the District and limited to the interior of a house, condominium unit, cooperative unit, apartment, houseboat, or a mobile home, so long as that structure is not capable of unassisted movement. The term home does not include any common areas of any condominium unit, cooperative unit, or apartment.

Intrafamily offense- shall have the same meaning as provided in D.C. Official Code § 16-1001(8) (2012 Repl.).

Licensee - means a person issued a license for a concealed pistol.

Licensed dealer - a deadly weapons dealer licensed under the Act and this chapter.

Machine gun - means any firearm which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The term "machine gun" shall also include the frame or receiver of any such firearm, any part designed and intended solely and exclusively, or combination of parts designed and intended, for use in converting a firearm into a machine gun, and any combination of parts from which a machine gun can be assembled if such parts are in the possession or under the control of a person.

Pistol - any firearm originally designed to be fired by use of a single hand or with a barrel less than 12 inches in length.

Place of business- means a business that is located in an immovable structure at a fixed location, as documented by a business license or certificate of occupancy, and that is operated and owned entirely, or in substantial part, by a firearm registrant.

Security Officers Management Branch - a part of the Police Business Services Division of the Metropolitan Police Department, located at 2000 14th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

Supervisor - the person in charge of the Firearms Registration Section.


SOURCE: Final Rulemaking published at 23 DCR 8942 (May 6, 1977), incorporating by reference the text of Proposed Rulemaking published at 23 DCR 7061 (March 4, 1977), 35 DCRR § 301, November 1980, Special Edition; as amended by: Article 9, § 3 of the Police Regulations (May 1981); Final Rulemaking published at 56 DCR 4380, 4386 (June 5, 2009); Final Rulemaking published at 60 DCR 17215, 17230 (December 27, 2013); and Final Rulemaking published at 62 DCR 9781, 9796 (July 17, 2015).