

ASUTM

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM

CONCEALED CARRY ON CAMPUS

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Concealed Carry on Campus

SYSTEM POLICY: On September 15, 2017 the ASU System adopted a new weapons policy to comply with state law. Arkansas residents, who possess a concealed carry license and obtain additional training from a program offered by the Arkansas State Police, are allowed to possess a concealed handgun on certain locations on university property.

◆ Act 1078 of 2015

◆ Acts 562 and 859 of 2017

Effective Dates

When does the Arkansas law allowing concealed carry on campus take effect?

- ◆ The law is effective September 1, 2017, but Arkansas State Police officials estimate it will be after January 2018 until instructors are qualified to teach the required enhanced training.
- ◆ It will be 2018 before the first enhanced concealed carry license is issued.

Concealed Carry on Campus

Who is eligible to carry a concealed handgun on campus?

- ◆ A person in possession of a concealed carry license with the enhanced training endorsement.
- ◆ After completing the Arkansas State Police-approved enhanced training of up to eight (8) hours and receiving an endorsement, a concealed carry licensee may possess a concealed handgun in the buildings and on the grounds of a public university, public college, or community college.

Handguns on Campus

◆ **Will I encounter certain employees that openly carry a handgun?**

Yes.

University Police, Campus Police, and Public Safety officers may openly carry their service weapon.

◆ **Is open carry otherwise allowed on campus?**

No.

Anyone who sees an openly carried handgun on campus should call 911.

Faculty and Staff

Are faculty and staff allowed to carry a concealed handgun on campus?

- ◆ Yes, only if all of the enhanced concealed carry licensure requirements are met.

What are limitations for faculty and staff who are licensees carrying a concealed handgun on campus?

- ◆ Unless possessing or carrying a handgun is a requirement of an employee's job, (such as a law enforcement officer), possessing or carrying a handgun is a personal choice of the licensee and not a requirement of the employing university or college.
- ◆ A licensee who possesses a concealed handgun in the buildings and on the grounds of the campus at which the licensee is employed is not:
 - ◆ Acting in the course of or scope of their employment when carrying or using the handgun.
 - ◆ Entitled to workers' compensation benefits for injuries arising from his or her own negligent acts in possessing or using a concealed handgun.
 - ◆ Immune from personal liability with respect to possession or use of a concealed handgun.
 - ◆ Permitted to carry a concealed handgun openly or in any other manner in which the concealed handgun is visible to ordinary observation.

Storage

Where may a person authorized to carry on campus store a handgun?

Properly licensed individuals who decide to carry a concealed handgun must plan appropriately for its legal storage.

- ◆ A licensee may store a handgun in his or her own locked and unattended motor vehicle in a publicly owned and maintained parking lot.
- ◆ A licensee may not store a handgun in a state vehicle or ASU vehicle.
- ◆ A licensee may not store a handgun in a university or college-operated student dormitory or residence hall.
- ◆ A licensee may not store a handgun in a locked office or desk drawer.

Prohibited Areas on Campus

Where are the areas on campus that carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited?

State law exempts certain areas from concealed handgun carry including:

- Posted firearm-sensitive areas, such as a collegiate athletic event, that have security plans approved by the Arkansas State Police.
- Daycare facilities.
- Places owned or operated by a private entity. Private educational institutions, such as the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine, may choose to allow or prohibit carrying concealed handguns as they see fit.

Prohibited Areas on Campus

Where are the areas on campus that carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited?

GRIEVANCE and DISCIPLINARY hearings conducted in accordance with institutional procedures and lasting no more than nine (9) hours.

- ◇ (a) the meeting is held in a room that is no larger than necessary to complete the meeting;
- ◇ (b) the individual is given at least 24 hours' notice of the meeting; and
- ◇ (c) a notice is posted on the door in which the meeting is being held that possession of a handgun is prohibited.

FAQ's

- ◆ May I ban concealed handguns from my classroom?
 - ◆ Answer: No.
- ◆ May I give a student who lawfully possesses a concealed handgun on campus a lower grade because I object to handguns?
 - ◆ Answer: No.
- ◆ May I ban concealed handguns from my office?
 - ◆ Answer: No.
- ◆ Can I obtain a list of concealed handgun permit holders on campus?
 - ◆ Answer: No, that list is not open for public inspection under state law.
- ◆ I teach a class that operates in a lab with materials that are combustible. May I ban concealed handguns from my lab?
 - ◆ Answer: No.
- ◆ May a student display their concealed handgun on their desk or at some other location?
 - ◆ Answer: No. Handguns must be concealed.
- ◆ Is carrying a concealed handgun now a part of my job?
 - ◆ Answer: No

SUMMARY

- ◇ Law took effect on September 1, 2017.
- ◇ The enhanced training endorsement will likely not be available until 2018.
- ◇ Until a person who has a concealed carry license has received the enhanced training endorsement they cannot carry on a college campus.

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