

Connecticut Pistol Permit Information & FAQ



CT Residents are required to complete a handgun safety course to apply for a Pistol Permit. You will also be required to undergo a background investigation, criminal history check and submit fingerprints and photographs in connection with your application. (In most cases, this will all be done by the Town where you live.) The licensing statute also contains a "suitability clause" which provides that the issuing authority may deny such application, if it determines that the applicant is not a suitable person to possess or carry a pistol or revolver. The suitability clause applies both to the issuance of new permits and revocation of existing permits.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **How long is my course completion certificate valid for?**
One year from when you took the NRA Basic Pistol safety class.
- **How do I get a permit to carry a gun in the State of Connecticut?**
After attending the state approved safety class with Protective Dynamics, your next step will be to go to the police department (PD) in the town that you reside in. They will provide you with an application and detailed instructions on their requirements and associated fees. After background check has cleared (usually 8-10 weeks), the PD will issue a temporary permit which is only good for 60 days, which will need to be taken to the DPS Headquarters in Middletown to receive your Connecticut Pistol Permit.
- **What are the total fees that I will pay for my CT Pistol Permit after attending the NRA Basic Pistol safety class?**
Total fees are currently \$206.50 and may change without any notice.
- **How long is my Pistol Permit valid for?**
The permit is valid for 5 years from date of issue unless revoked or suspended. Renewal rate is currently \$70.00
- **How do I change my address on my Pistol Permit?**
You can either call or E-mail the information to the Department of Public Safety within **48 hours**, and give them your permit number, name, date of birth, old address, and new address.

The current fine and penalty for not changing your address is a minimum \$2500.00 fine and revoked permit.

- **What states will honor Connecticut's Pistol Permit?**
Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Wisconsin. **Keep in mind that this list can change at any time without notice and it's your responsibility to check before attempting travel.**
- **Permits/Licenses that Connecticut honors?**
Connecticut does not honor any other states permits/licenses.

Transport vs. Carry

- **What is the definition of transport?** To transport, is to have an unloaded firearm, in a locked case or bag and stowed in the farthest possible point in vehicle from the passenger compartment.
- **What is the definition of carry?** To carry is to have the firearm readily accessible, whether from a holster or storage point within the vehicle (like your center console) that is within arm's reach. Your CT pistol permit is only valid in Connecticut. If you travel out of state and wish to carry it, you must have a permit in those states. (See us about bordering & multi-state permits)

Websites to check out...

- www.protectivedynamics.net
- www.ct.gov/dps
- www.nra.org
- www.wheretoshoot.org
- www.nssf.org

Always consult a lawyer for clarification of these laws and remember that ignorance is not a excuse when something goes wrong.

Sec. 53a-19. Use of physical force in defense of person.

(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, a person is justified in using reasonable physical force upon another person to defend himself or a third person from what he reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of physical force, and he may use such degree of force which he reasonably believes to be necessary for such purpose; except that deadly physical force may not be used unless the actor reasonably believes that such other person is (1) using or about to use deadly physical force, or (2) inflicting or about to inflict great bodily harm.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, a person is not justified in using deadly physical force upon another person if he knows that he can avoid the necessity of using such force with complete safety (1) by retreating, except that the actor shall not be required to retreat if he is in his dwelling, as defined in section 53a-100, or place of work and was not the initial aggressor, or if he is a peace officer or a private person assisting such peace officer at his direction, and acting pursuant to section 53a-22, or (2) by surrendering possession of property to a person asserting a claim of right thereto, or (3) by complying with a demand that he abstain from performing an act which he is not obliged to perform.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, a person is not justified in using physical force when (1) with intent to cause physical injury or death to another person, he provokes the use of physical force by such other person, or (2) he is the initial aggressor, except that his use of physical force upon another person under such circumstances is justifiable if he withdraws from the encounter and effectively communicates to such other person his intent to do so, but such other person notwithstanding continues or threatens the use of physical force, or (3) the physical force involved was the product of a combat by agreement not specifically authorized by law.

Sec. 29-37i. (Formerly Sec. 29-37c). Responsibilities re storage of loaded firearms with respect to minors.

No person shall store or keep any loaded firearm on any premises under his control if he knows or reasonably should know that a minor is likely to gain access to the firearm without the permission of the parent or guardian of the minor unless such person (1) keeps the firearm in a securely locked box or other container or in a location which a reasonable person would believe to be secure or (2) carries the firearm on his person or within such close proximity thereto that he can readily retrieve and use it as if he carried it on his person. For the purposes of this section, "minor" means any person under the age of sixteen years.

