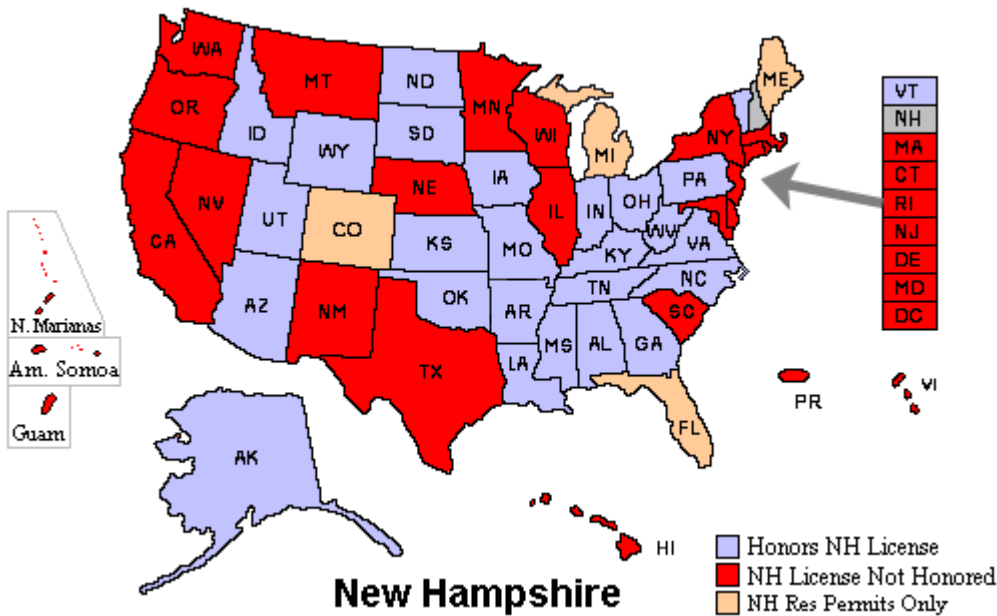


# New Hampshire

**Shall Issue**

**Must Inform Officer by Law: NO**  
(See Must Inform Section Below)



## New Hampshire

### Links

[State CCW Site](#)

[CCW Application](#)

[Non-Resident CCW Application](#)

[State FAQs](#)

[State Statutes](#)

[State Admin Rules](#)

[State Reciprocity Info](#)

[State Attorney General](#)

[State CCW Laws](#)

[Secretary of State](#)

**Last Updated: 11/20/17**

**Note:** [Alaska](#), [Arizona](#), [Kansas](#), [Maine](#), [Mississippi](#), [Missouri](#), [New Hampshire](#), [Vermont](#) and [West Virginia](#) have “Permitless Carry.” Anyone who can legally possess a firearm may carry it concealed in those states without a Permit/License. Check each states page for more information and any restrictions that may apply.

### Permits/Licenses This State Honors Listed Below

|          |               |                |              |          |
|----------|---------------|----------------|--------------|----------|
| Alabama  | Alaska        | Arizona        | Arkansas     | Colorado |
| Florida  | Georgia       | Idaho          | Indiana      | Iowa     |
| Kansas   | Kentucky      | Louisiana      | Maine        | Michigan |
| Missouri | Mississippi   | North Carolina | North Dakota | Ohio     |
| Oklahoma | Pennsylvania  | South Dakota   | Tennessee    | Utah     |
| Virginia | West Virginia | Wyoming        |              |          |

**Note:** Anyone who can legally possess a firearm can carry it concealed in New Hampshire under their Permitless Carry Law. Their Reciprocity laws and how they honored other states permits didn't change when they went permitless carry.

**Note:** New Hampshire residents can carry a concealed defensive firearm in the state of Oklahoma without any type of permit/license. You must carry your state issued ID when carrying your firearm in Oklahoma. See the Oklahoma page at [www.handgunlaw.us](http://www.handgunlaw.us) for more information on Oklahoma's law allowing those from permitless carry states to carry there.

### Reciprocity/How This State Honors Other States Permit/Licenses

#### Title XII 159:6-d Full Faith and Credit for Licenses From Other States; Reciprocity. –

The director of the division of state police shall negotiate and enter into reciprocal agreements with other jurisdictions to recognize in those jurisdictions the validity of the license issued under RSA 159:6. The

director shall apply to every jurisdiction with which New Hampshire does not have a reciprocity agreement, at least once every 5 years to obtain recognition in those jurisdictions of the license issued under RSA 159:6. Any such agreement executed shall not expire unless an expiration date is required under the statutes of the reciprocal jurisdiction. **Source.** 1993, 130:1, eff. Jan. 1, 1994. 2017, 1:2, eff. Feb. 22, 2017.

## Permitless Carry

### [Title XII 159:6](#) License to Carry.

**III.** The availability of a license to carry a loaded pistol or revolver under this section or under any other provision of law shall not be construed to impose a prohibition on the unlicensed transport or carry of a firearm in a vehicle, or on or about one's person, whether openly or concealed, loaded or unloaded, by a resident, nonresident, or alien if that individual is not otherwise prohibited by statute from possessing a firearm in the state of New Hampshire. **Source....** .eff. Aug. 17, 2012. 2015, 124:1, eff. June 8, 2015. 2017, 1:1, eff. Feb. 22, 2017.

## How to Apply for a Permit

**Note:** Even though New Hampshire is a Permitless Carry state they will still issue permits to residents and non-residents to carry and that process has not changed.

Local Police/Sheriff issue resident permits. Contact them for forms or print one from online. Take it to your Police/Sheriff along with your State Photo Drivers License/ID. The process is simple and straight forward. Cost is \$10 and the License/Permit is valid for 5 years.

## Non-Resident Permits

The New Hampshire State Police issue Non-Resident permits. Contact them at:

Department of Safety  
Division of State Police  
Permits and Licensing Unit  
33 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03305

They will send you the proper paperwork or you can download and print off an application and fill it out and mail it in. Cost is \$100 and the Permit/License is valid for 5 years.

**Note:** The New Hampshire Supreme Court ruled June 2, 2016 that a Non-Resident did not have to have a permit from their home state before they could apply.

### [Non-Resident Permit Application](#)

## Places Off-Limits Even With a Permit/License

### [Title XII § 159:19](#) Courtroom Security.

**I.** No person shall knowingly carry a loaded or unloaded pistol, revolver, or firearm or any other deadly weapon as defined in RSA 625:11, V, whether open or concealed or whether licensed or unlicensed, upon the person or within any of the person's possessions owned or within the person's control in a courtroom or area used by a court. Whoever violates the provisions of this paragraph shall be guilty of a class B felony.

**II.** Firearms may be secured at the entrance to a courthouse by courthouse security personnel.

**III.** For purposes of paragraph I, "area used by a court" means:

(a) In a building dedicated exclusively to court use, the entire building exclusive of the area between the entrance and the courthouse security.

(b) In any other building which includes a court facility, courtrooms, jury assembly rooms, deliberation rooms, conference and interview rooms, the judge's chambers, other court staff facilities, holding facilities, and corridors, stairways, waiting areas, and elevators directly connecting these rooms and facilities.

**IV.** The provisions of this section shall not apply to marshals, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, police or other duly appointed or elected law enforcement officers, bailiffs and court security officers, or persons with prior authorization of the court for the purpose of introducing weapons into evidence and as otherwise provided for in RSA 159:5.

**V.** It shall be an affirmative defense to any prosecution under paragraph I that there was no notice of the provisions of paragraph I posted in a conspicuous place at each public entrance to the court building.

Source. 1985, 258:2. 2000, 175:1, eff. Jan. 1, 2001.

For Federal Restrictions on Firearms see the [USA Page](#).

## Do "No Gun Signs" Have the Force of Law?

**"NO"**

"No Firearm" signs in New Hampshire 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.

"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."

## Must Inform Officer Immediately on Contact By Law?

**"NO"**

**[Title XII 159:6 License to Carry.](#)**

**III.** The availability of a license to carry a loaded pistol or revolver under this section or under any other provision of law shall not be construed to impose a prohibition on the unlicensed transport or carry of a firearm in a vehicle, or on or about one's person, whether openly or concealed, loaded or unloaded, by a resident, nonresident, or alien if that individual is not otherwise prohibited by statute from possessing a firearm in the state of New Hampshire.

## Carry In State Parks//WMA/Road Side Rest Areas & St. /Nat. Forests

### Carry Allowed in these Areas:

State Parks: **YES** [Admin Rule 7301.10](#)

State/National Forests: **YES** [Admin Rule 7301.10](#)

State Fish & Game Refuges **YES** [Title XVIII 212:17](#)

Road Side Rest Areas: **YES**

## RV/Car Carry Without a Permit/License

### [Title XII 159:6](#) License to Carry.

**III.** The availability of a license to carry a loaded pistol or revolver under this section or under any other provision of law shall not be construed to impose a prohibition on the unlicensed transport or carry of a firearm in a vehicle, or on or about one's person, whether openly or concealed, loaded or unloaded, by a resident, nonresident, or alien if that individual is not otherwise prohibited by statute from possessing a firearm in the state of New Hampshire.

## Open Carry (Without a Valid Permit/License)

Open Carry is legal. New Hampshire also has Permitless Carry. Anyone who can legally possess a firearm can carry open or concealed without any type of permit/license.

### [Title XII 159:6](#) License to Carry.

**III.** The availability of a license to carry a loaded pistol or revolver under this section or under any other provision of law shall not be construed to impose a prohibition on the unlicensed transport or carry of a firearm in a vehicle, or on or about one's person, whether openly or concealed, loaded or unloaded, by a resident, nonresident, or alien if that individual is not otherwise prohibited by statute from possessing a firearm in the state of New Hampshire.

The state preempts all firearm laws in the state and local authorities can't have Laws/Ordinances against open carry. Remember that if you enter any property and the owner/responsible person ask you to leave you must leave. Failure to leave can result in Trespass Charges. The Minimum age for Open Carry is 18. From what I hear Open Carry is not rare in New Hampshire.

In some states Open Carry is forbidden in places where those with a valid permit/license can carry. This is not the last word on Open Carry in this state. Check at [www.opencarry.org](http://www.opencarry.org) or go to Google and type in State Name Open Carry or Open Carry State Name for a search for open carry info in this state. Check with the [State's RKBA](#) Organization/s. Also see "Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases" Section for any written opinions/Cases on Open Carry.

## State Preemption

### State Jurisdiction [Title XII 159:26](#) Firearms and Ammunition; Authority of the State.

**I.** To the extent consistent with federal law, the state of New Hampshire shall have authority and jurisdiction over the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other

matter pertaining to firearms, firearms components, ammunition, or firearms supplies in the state. Except as otherwise specifically provided by statute, no ordinance or regulation of a political subdivision may regulate the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearms components, ammunition, or firearms supplies in the state. Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting a political subdivision's right to adopt zoning ordinances for the purpose of regulating firearms businesses in the same manner as other businesses or to take any action allowed under RSA 207:59.

**II.** Upon the effective date of this section, all municipal ordinances and regulations not authorized under paragraph I relative to the sale, purchase, ownership, use, possession, transportation, licensing, permitting, taxation, or other matter pertaining to firearms, firearm components, ammunition, or firearms supplies shall be null and void.

## Deadly Force Laws

### [Title LXII: Criminal Code](#) [Chapter 627: Justification](#)

§627:1 General Rule

§627:1-a Civil Immunity.

§627:2 Public Duty

§627:3 Competing Harms

§627:4 Physical Force in Defense of a Person

§627:5 Physical Force in Law Enforcement

§627:6 Physical Force by Persons with Special Responsibilities

§627:7 Use of Force in Defense of Premises

§627:8 Use of Force in Property Offenses

§627:8-a Use of Force by Merchants

§627:8-b Detention Powers of County Fair Security Guards

§627:9 Definitions

## Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click [“Here”](#)

## Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

**YES**

**Note:** A “**YES**” above means you can carry into places like described below. “**NO**” means you can’t. Handgunlaw.us definition of “Restaurant Carry” is carry in a restaurant that serves alcohol. Places like Friday’s or Red Lobster unless posted with “No Gun Signs.” 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 without consuming. 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. If you want further info on carrying in places that serve alcohol check your state laws.

## Chemical Sprays/Stun Gun/Higher Capacity Magazine Laws

Handgunlaw.us could find no restrictions in New Hampshire Law concerning Chemical Sprays, Stun Guns Or Higher Capacity Magazine Bans.

## LEOSA State Information

No State LEOSA Information Available. See the LEOSA Section on the [USA Page](#) at Handgunlaw.us for more LEOSA Information.

## Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

[NH Supreme Court – Ammunition must be In the Firearm and not just near it.](#)

[NH Supreme Court – Non-Res Do Not Have to Have Permit From Their Home State](#) (6/16)

## Airport Carry/Misc. Information

**Airport Carry:** No Statute/Rule/Reg found that states it is illegal to carry in Parking Lot/Terminal.

**Training Valid for:** No Set Time Period.

**Time Period to Establish Residency:** Upon obtaining a New Hampshire Drivers License/ID

**Minimum Age for Permit/License:** No min age listed in Laws

**Permit/License Info Public Information:** NO

**State Reciprocity/How They Honor Other States Statute:** Title XII 159:6-d

**State Fire arm Laws:** 12-159 thru 12-159-D

**State Deadly Force Laws:** 62-627.1 thru 62-627.9

**State Knife Laws:** 62-625.11 & 12-159:16 & 12-159-24

NH Has Preempted all Knife Laws in the state.

**Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws:** 12-159:20 thru 12-159:23

**Body Armor Laws:** 62-650-B1 & B2

**Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms?** NO 159:6

**Is carrying of a Concealed Firearm with Permit/License**

**for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal?**

**YES** Except During Muzzle Loading Season & While Shining. NH Statutes Title XVIII Sec 208.5 & NH Hunting & Trapping Digest

## Notes

**What Does NH Consider A Loaded Firearm?**

### [General Hunting Regulations](#)

Carry a loaded firearm with ammunition in the chamber, clip or magazine, or cocked crossbow, while the  
www.handgunlaw.us

firearm or crossbow is in or on (includes leaning on or contact with) any type of motorized vehicle, moving or stationary; a muzzleloader is considered unloaded if the ignition source (i.e., primer cap or flint or primer powder) is removed from the firearm.

### **Title XII 159:6 License to Carry.**

**III.** The availability of a license to carry a loaded pistol or revolver under this section or under any other provision of law shall not be construed to impose a prohibition on the unlicensed transport or carry of a firearm in a vehicle, or on or about one's person, whether openly or concealed, loaded or unloaded, by a resident, nonresident, or alien if that individual is not otherwise prohibited by statute from possessing a firearm in the state of New Hampshire.

## **State Emergency Powers**

### **Title I 4:46 Taking of Private Property; Compensation and Use. –**

**I.** Whenever a state of emergency is declared or invoked and the taking of real or personal property is required, the governor with the advice and consent of the executive council may, by warrant specifying the particular real property and the personal property by specification of the types, quantities, and general location, together with the names of the owners, when known, authorize the commissioner of safety, by his or her agents, to:

- (a) Take possession of any private real estate and the improvements on it for a limited period.
- (b) Take title in the name of the state to any such improvement when the exigencies of the situation require its destruction.
- (c) Take possession or title in the name of the state to:
  - (1) Any high explosives.
  - (2) Any horses, vehicles, motor vehicles, aircraft, ships, boats, or any other means of conveyance, including the rolling stock of railroads or of motor bus transportation.
  - (3) Any cattle, poultry, provisions for man or beast, clothing, bedding, medicines and medical supplies in excess of the reasonable and immediate needs of the owner and the owner's household.
  - (4) Any fuel for heating or other necessary purposes.
  - (5) Any gasoline or other means of engine propulsion, or any communications equipment or systems.

**I-a.** Under no circumstances shall this section be construed to authorize the taking, confiscation, or seizure of firearms, ammunition, or ammunition components.

**II.** Takings under this section shall be strictly limited to the necessities of the situation. The person proposing to take possession of any such property in the name of the state shall present to the owner or person in possession or control of the property a copy of the warrant under which the person purports to act certified by the commissioner of safety. Upon taking possession or control of such property the person shall present a receipt specifically listing the property so taken and specifically referring to the warrant authorizing the taking.

**Note:** Federal Law can apply if the state is receiving monetary and/or other assistance from the Federal Government. See [US Code 42-5207](#) for Federal Law as it applies to States of Emergencies. The state quoted code may also not be all of the law on Emergency Powers held by the state. You should read the entire code on Emergency Powers etc for this state by following the link to the state code.



## Minimum Age for Possessing and Transporting of Handguns.

New Hampshire 18 Y/O [Title 12 159:12](#)

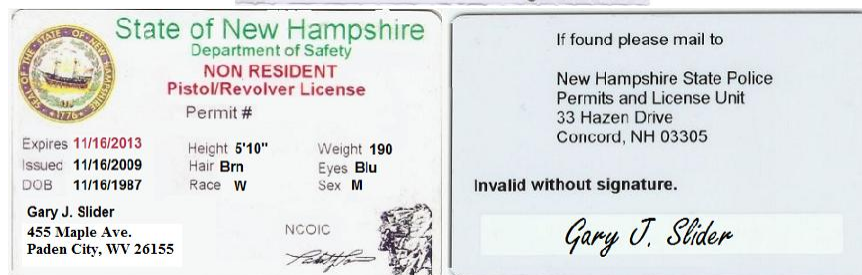
This is the minimum age for possessing and transporting a handgun unloaded and secured in a vehicle without any type of permit/license to carry firearms.

**Note:** In some states Possession and Transportation CAN be very restrictive in that you can ONLY possess and transport a handgun to and from a Shooting Range, Gun Shop, property you own or other places you can legally possess a handgun. Some states do not have this restriction.

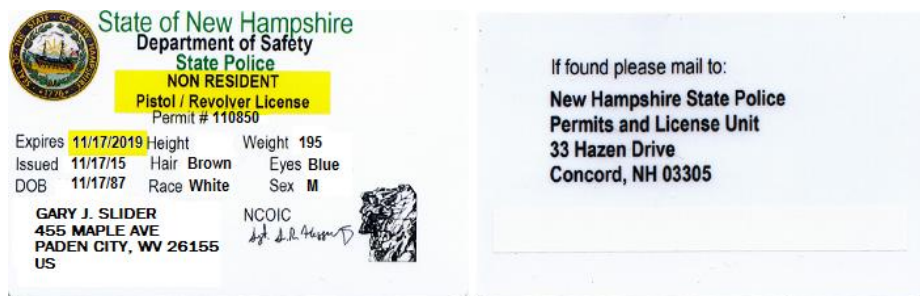
This is not the last word on possession and transporting of handguns in this, or any other state. Study your state law further for more information. See “RV/Car Carry” Section Above for more information.

## Permit/License Image

Local Authorities issue Resident Licenses. Different Issuing Authorities could have different formats.



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



New Non-Resident Permit Format

## Updates to this Page

[Archive of Previous Updates](#) 2

**2/24/17** – New Law Passed. Reciprocity Statute and Note on Carry in Oklahoma Updated in Permits This State Honors Section. Note Added to and Term of Permit Changed From 4 to 5 Years in How to Apply Section. RV/Car Carry Section Updated. Permitless Carry Section Added,

**3/21/17** – State FAQ Link in Links Section Removed. NH St. Police No Longer Has FAQs on Permits/Firearms.

**6/8/17** – State FAQ Link Added to Links Section. NH St. Police Published New FAQs.

**8/20/17** – All Links Checked.

**11/20/17** – General Hunting Regs With What NH Considers a Loaded Firearm Added to Notes Section.

[www.handgunlaw.us](http://www.handgunlaw.us)