

Canadians Wanting to Carry a Firearm in the USA

All Links Checked: 7/1/2023

This was posted by Wendell on the [Canadiangunnutz](#) firearms forum. The post was made in 2008 but he keeps updating his pinned post when things change. This is a good place to start your research if you are a Canadian Citizen seeking a way to carry a firearm while visiting the USA and looking for information. It is posted here with permission.

STEP BY STEP

1. Apply to the [Canadian Firearms Program](#) for a restricted (& non-restricted) [Possession and Acquisition License](#) (PAL).
2. Get your [Passport](#).
3. Apply for an ATF [Form 6NIA](#) - Application and Permit for Temporary Importation of Firearms and Ammunition by Nonimmigrant Aliens.

(Step 3 assumes that you are not a citizen of the United States. A citizen of the United States should just skip step 3.)

When you get your Form 6NIA, you can carry concealed in many places in many states, you can possess and transport a firearm and ammunition in most states in the USA, and you can also carry openly in some states.

Note from Handgunlaw.us: Even though these states are Permitless Carry Idaho states, “U.S. Citizens.” West Virginia states “U.S. Citizen or Legal Resident”. Wyoming states “Residents of the United States.” These states do honor all other states permits so getting a New Hampshire Permit should make you legal in these states. Ohio requires the person live in the USA.

Then,

4. Apply for your [New Hampshire License](#).

When you have your non-resident New Hampshire license you will also enjoy the right to carry in some other states (~24, at last count) that will honor your non-resident New Hampshire license.

5. If you will be admitted to the USA under a non-immigrant visa (rather than a visa waiver), or if any state that you plan to visit requires you to have a valid hunting license, **buy a hunting license**. (You can buy a license online, from many states.)
6. This part is very important. Before you go, **re-visit the website [handgunlaw.us](#) to re-read their page(s)** for the state(s) that you plan to visit, because **there might have been recent changes** of which you are unaware. The administrators of handgunlaw.us do an outstanding job of keeping their website up-to-date. Each page also includes corroborative links (on the right side of each page) to the respective state, so that you can easily **confirm (or deny) that the provided information is both current and accurate**. (N.B.: If you fail to do this, you might be setting yourself up for an unpleasant surprise.)
7. Enjoy your trip!

HUNTING LICENSES

North Dakota Hunting License

<http://gf.nd.gov/hunting/>

Alaska's License and Permits Website

<http://www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/license/>

Alaska Concealed Handgun Permits

<https://dps.alaska.gov/statewide/r-i/permitslicensing/concealedhandguns>

Maine Hunting Licenses

https://moses.informe.org/cgi-bin/online/moses_v3/index

U.S. FEDERAL LAW

ATF

<https://www.atf.gov/>

ATF Home/Firearms/Frequently Asked Questions/Nonimmigrant Aliens

<https://www.atf.gov/qa-category/nonimmigrant-aliens>

ATF P 5300.18 — Nonimmigrant Aliens Purchasing Firearms and Ammunition in the United States

<https://www.atf.gov/file/56441/download>

ATF F 5330.3D (Form 6NIA) — Application and Permit for Temporary Importation of Firearms and Ammunition by Nonimmigrant Aliens

<https://www.atf.gov/file/11386/download>

ATF Federal Firearms Regulations Reference Guide

<https://www.atf.gov/publications/download/p/atf-p-5300-4.pdf>

STATE LAW

Alaska

Alaska's laws do not prohibit anyone 21 or older who may legally possess a firearm from carrying it concealed or open. A firearms permit is not required. There are general restrictions on where a firearm may be carried. See the outline in the "In Alaska" information tab below. Several states have provisions that allow 18-21 year olds to have concealed carry permits. Those permits do not override Alaska laws, and a person under 21 is NOT allowed to carry a concealed handgun in Alaska. The Alaska Concealed Handgun Permit (ACHP) is only available to Alaska residents who choose to obtain a concealed carry permit.

<https://dps.alaska.gov/statewide/r-i/permitslicensing/concealedhandguns>

Vermont

<https://ago.vermont.gov/about-the-attorney-generals-office/divisions/criminal-justice/gun-laws/>

Maine

<https://www.maine.gov/dps/msp/licenses-permits/concealed-carry-maine>

New Hampshire

<https://www.nhsp.dos.nh.gov/our-services/justice-information-bureau/permits-and-licensing/pistol-and-revolver-licensing>

New Hampshire Permit Application Form

<https://www.nhsp.dos.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt461/files/inline-documents/sonh/dssp260.pdf>

Effective June 1, 2017, applications for voluntary Non-Resident Concealed Permits will only be accepted on the following form; DSSP 260 with a revision date of 03/17. All previous versions of the form will be REJECTED.

<https://www.nhsp.dos.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt461/files/inline-documents/sonh/dssp260.pdf>

U.S. LEGAL RESOURCES

Handgun Law Dot U.S.

<https://www.handgunlaw.us>

GUNLAWS.COM — National Directory

<http://www.gunlaws.com/links/>

RECOMMENDED READING

Handgun Law Dot U.S.

<https://handgunlaw.us/>

Nonimmigrant Aliens

<https://www.atf.gov/qa-category/nonimmigrant-aliens>

GUN LAWS OF AMERICA

by Alan Korwin with Attorney Michael P. Anthony

<https://www.gunlaws.com/gloa.htm>

THE LAW OF SELF DEFENSE

By Attorney Andrew F. Branca

<https://lawofselfdefense.com/>

CANADIAN RESOURCES

Compared to the American process, the Canadian requirements are more complicated, but nothing too daunting or unfamiliar to a person who is already accustomed to dealing with our governmental firearms-restriction-bureaucracy.

N.B.: If the firearms that you would take are either restricted or prohibited you will also need permission from the Government of Canada, including an [Authorization To Transport \(ATT\)](#) from your [Chief Firearms Officer \(CFO\)](#), and, in the case of **prohibited** firearms, both export and import permits from the [Trade Controls & Technical Barriers Bureau \(TCTBB\)](#) of [\(DFAIT, now known as\) 'Global Affairs'](#).

Apply for a Passport - Forms

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/canadian-passports/new-adult-passport.html>

(DFAIT, now known as) 'Global Affairs' Applying for an Export Permit for Firearms, Related Goods and Ammunition

http://www.international.gc.ca/controls-controles/firearms_arnes_a_feu/other-autres/license-demande.aspx

RCMP Canada's Firearm Program - Importing and Exporting Firearms

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/importing-and-exporting>

(DFAIT, now known as) 'Global Affairs'

<https://www.international.gc.ca/global-affairs-affaires-mondiales/home-accueil.aspx?lang=eng>

Export Controls>Controlled Products Firearms, Related Goods and Ammunition

http://www.international.gc.ca/controls-controles/firearms_arnes_a_feu/index.aspx?menu_id=16&menu=R

Export Controls - Firearms

Frequently Asked Questions

http://www.international.gc.ca/controls-controles/firearms_arnes_a_feu/other-autres/faq.aspx?lang=eng

Export Controls – Firearms Applying for an Export Permit for Firearms, Firearms Related Goods and Ammunition Common Scenarios

http://www.international.gc.ca/controls-controles/firearms_arnes_a_feu/permit-licence.aspx#a

Export Controls Handbook

<http://www.international.gc.ca/controls-controles/military-militaires/handbook-manuel.aspx>

Export Controls Handbook (PDF)

<http://www.international.gc.ca/controls-controles/assets/pdfs/documents/export-controls-handbook-2015-EN.pdf>

Printable Forms

http://www.international.gc.ca/controls-controles/report-rapports/list_liste/forms-formulaires.aspx?menu_id=61&menu=R

CBSA Importing a Firearm or Weapon Into Canada

<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/import/iefw-iefw-eng.html>

CBSA Memorandum D19-13-2 - Importing and Exporting Firearms, Weapons and Devices

<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/dm-md/d19/d19-13-2-eng.html>

Full Document: PDF (436 Kb)

Updates to this page:

44

12/3/2019 at 10:22 PM - His pinned post was last edited. Reason: New links.

10/7/2020 – Document Created and Posted With Permission.

12/4/2020 – Wendell Updated Wording in #4 when you purchase a NH Permit.

1/3/2021 – Wendell Updated his post.

4/16/2021 – Handgunlaw.us Note Updated listing Idaho, West Virginia and Wyoming Information.

1/4/2022 – Links Checked.

3/10/2022 – All Links Checked.

8/4/2022 – All Links Checked.

1/29/2023 – All Links Checked.

7/1/2023 - All Links Checked.