

North Dakota Concealed Weapon License (NDCWL)

If applying for the class 2 license, an applicant must successfully pass an open-book, written test through a certified test administrator within the state of North Dakota.

If applying for the class 1 license, the applicant is required to sit through a classroom portion (PowerPoint), successfully pass an open-book, written test and the proficiency/shooting test.

The completed application packet is then sent to the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation (NDBCI) for processing. Included in this packet is a \$60 money order or cashier's check (currently have online payment option for class 2 renewals only), two passport quality photos, copy of driver's license, two fingerprint cards and a completed application with testing. If an out-of-state applicant is applying and we have reciprocity, they will need to provide a copy of their state of residence driver's license and a valid concealed carry license from that state as well.

If renewing a license, a class 2 license does not need to complete testing again, but a class 1 license will need to complete the required testing each renewal cycle. New fingerprints would not be needed if the applicant is renewing and the license did not expire.

The application will be processed and background conducted, including the submission of fingerprints to the FBI. Once the state and federal criminal history record is obtained, we will review and ensure they are not prohibited from own/possessing firearms based on state and federal law.

If they're eligible for the license, it will be issued for 5 years (unless out of state license expires prior, or alien registration card has an earlier expiration) and printed/mailed from our office. If not, they will receive a denial with the reason stated. They also have an opportunity to request a formal hearing via phone or in-person with the BCI if they don't agree with our denial or if they believe the denial was made in error.

Reciprocity

North Dakota will honor a valid concealed carry license/permit (resident and non-resident) issued by a state that has agreed to recognize a North Dakota license but must follow North Dakota law while carrying here. If traveling to a reciprocal state, below is the breakdown on which states recognize the class 1 or class 2 license. We always recommend contacting the state you plan on carrying in to clarify any questions.

Class 1- 39 states

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

Class 2 – 26 states

Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming

Armed First Responder (Sentinel Program) – NDCC 62.1-02-14

This is a voluntary program, and the schools must voluntarily select to participate in this program. If the school chooses to participate, the school will have to receive approval from the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Within 90 days of information the superintendent of public instruction, the school is to identify the individual, submit a plan for implementation and participate in an assessment for the purpose of identifying school crisis and emergency threats and risks. This program will allow the school to have an individual, that is trained annually and has met all the guidelines and requirements, to be allowed to carry a concealed weapon on the school property and become the school's armed first responder.

Requirements:

1. Must be a retired law enforcement officer or meet the requirements of subsection 7*;
2. Must be a citizen of the United States;
3. Must be at least twenty-one years old;
4. Shall complete a criminal background check successfully and be approved by the local law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the school premises where the individual will be an armed first responder;
5. Must be a high school graduate or meet equivalency standards;
6. Shall complete successfully a physical performed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse and a mental evaluation by a qualified mental health provider who certifies the individual is capable of performing the duties of an armed first responder;
7. Shall complete successfully a faculty and administrator safety training and emergency response program in addition to the requirements under subsection 7*;
8. Must be approved by the school board or governing board to carry a firearm concealed on school property;
9. Shall possess a valid class 1 firearm license from this state; AND
10. May not be directly responsible for the supervision of children while serving as an armed first responder.

*Subsection 7: The plan submitted by the school to the superintendent of public instruction must require the selected individual to complete the course established by the private investigative and security board. The private investigative and security board shall establish standards equivalent to the South Dakota school sentinel program and may license and certify course instructors, audit the course, and set administrative fees for licensure and certification.

Constitutional Carry

Constitutional Carry only allows concealed carry of a firearm by an eligible individual within the boundaries of North Dakota. You will need a concealed weapon license to carry concealed outside North Dakota.

Reciprocity with other states applies only if you possess a valid concealed weapon license.

Eligibility requirements for an individual to carry concealed in the state of North Dakota without a North Dakota Concealed Weapon License (NDCWL).

1. Must be at least 18 years of age.
2. Must be 21 to purchase a handgun but may possess at 18 in North Dakota provided individual is legally able to possess a firearm under state and federal law.
3. Must possess a valid driver's license or nondriver identification card from the state or territory in which the individual resides and not otherwise prohibited from possessing the weapon.
4. Not prohibited by state or federal law from possessing a firearm.
5. Driver's license or nondriver identification card must be carried (or the individual must have a digital image of the license).

Open Carry

Per NDCC 62.1-03-01(1): Unless otherwise prohibited by law, an individual may carry a handgun if the handgun is unloaded and in plain view or secured.