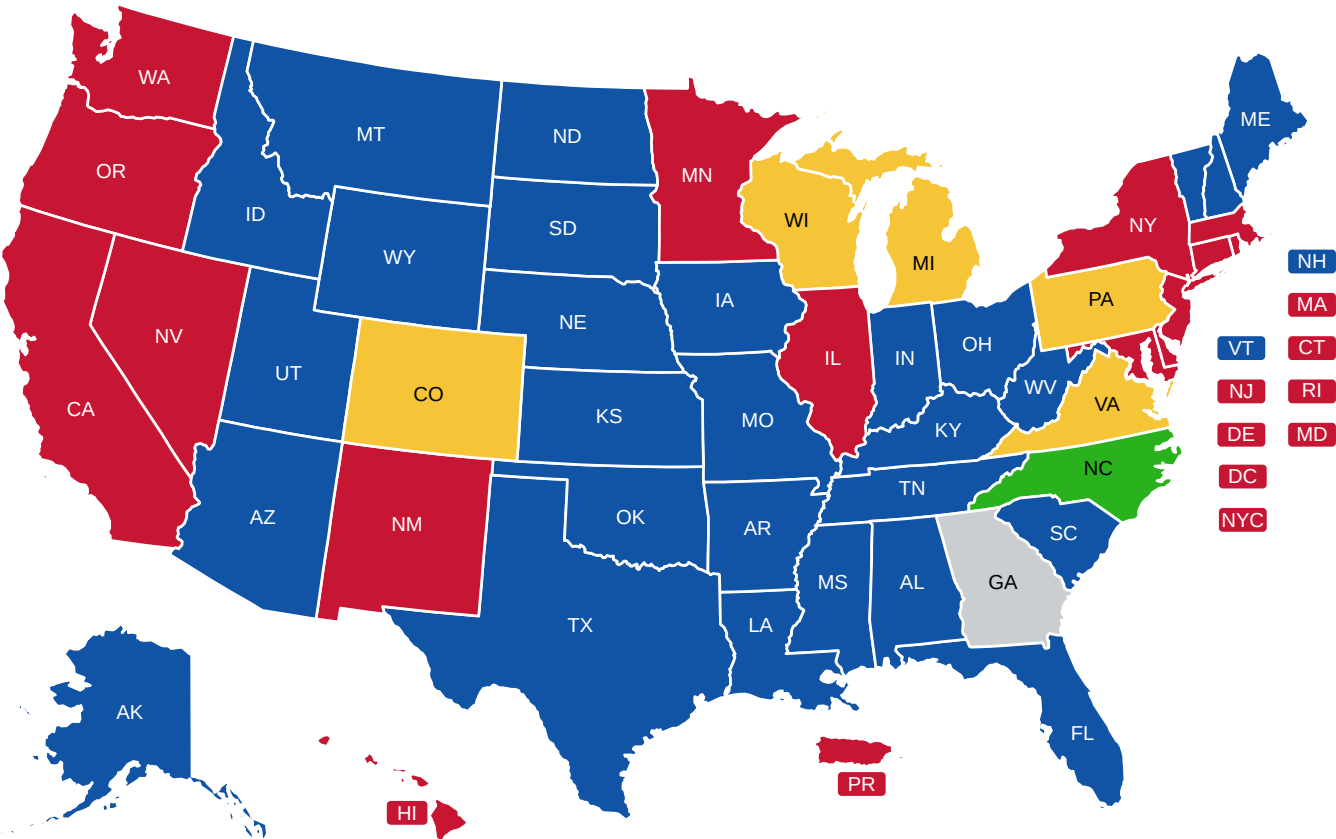


Georgia Self-Defense Workshops: [Lawrenceville 10/03](#), [Lawrenceville 10/03](#) >

Georgia

Concealed Carry Reciprocity Map & Gun Laws



Carry allowed with my Georgia permit?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, Selected State(s)
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Yes, Constitutional Carry ([Check Ages](#))
- ☐ [Yes, Other Restrictions](#)

Have concealed carry permits from more than one state?

Check out our new Multi-State Permit Tool [here!](#)

LICENSES ISSUED 1.27M	STATE POPULATION 10.7M	LICENSE PERCENTAGE 11.9%
STATES HONORED	MINIMUM AGE TO CC	YEARS LICENSE VALID

32**21****5**

RECIPROCATING STATES

33ATTORNEYS IN USCCA
NETWORK**23**USCCA CERTIFIED
INSTRUCTORS**236**

NEED ANSWERS NOW?

There's a lot of information here, so our Customer Engagement Team is always ready to help:
[Click to chat with someone on our team now.](#)

Summary of Georgia Gun Laws

Georgia is a **shall-issue** state with concealed weapons licenses issued at the county level and filed with the probate court in the county of residence.

There is no license, background check or firearms registration required when buying a handgun from a private individual.

Open carry is legal in Georgia only with a Georgia Weapons Carry License (WCL) or a concealed carry permit from a state Georgia honors. Some areas are off-limits, including schools and courthouses. Open carry is not addressed in the constitutional carry bill that was signed into law on April 12, 2022.

Concealed carry is legal for residents of Georgia with a WCL, any lawful weapons carrier, and non-residents with a license/permit issued by any other state. There is no firearms training required to obtain a Georgia WCL. You must be at least 21 years old (18 for members of the military) to get a concealed carry license in Georgia. No license is needed to carry a handgun in a person's home, vehicle, place of business, while fishing or hunting, or unloaded in a case. The city of Kennesaw has a law enacted in 1982 requiring every head of household within city limits to maintain a firearm. In terms of **reciprocity**, Governor Kemp signed HB 218 into law on April 12, 2022, recognizing firearms licenses from all other states. **Holders of licenses that expired during the COVID state of emergency period must apply for a renewal license within 120 days of the expiration date on the face of the license.**

On April 12, 2022, Gov. Brian Kemp signed **SB 319** into law, permitting **constitutional carry** in Georgia. The law will go into effect **immediately**.

Defense of Property Other Than Habitation

A person is justified in threatening or using **force** when and to the extent that he reasonably believes that such threat or force is necessary to prevent or terminate trespass on or other tortious or criminal interference with real property other than a habitation or personal property:

- Lawfully in his possession or in the possession of a member of his immediate family
- Belonging to a person whose property he has a legal duty to protect

The use of **deadly force** which is intended or likely to cause death or great bodily harm to prevent trespass on or other tortious or criminal interference with real property other than a habitation or personal property is only justified if it is necessary to prevent the commission of a forcible felony.

"Habitation" means any dwelling, motor vehicle or place of business.

"Personal property" means personal property other than a motor vehicle.

[Ga. Code Ann. §§ **16-3-21**, **16-3-23**, **16-3-23.1**, **16-3-23**, **16-3-24** & **16-3-24.1**]

Defense of Habitation

A person is justified in threatening or using **force** when and to the extent that he or she reasonably believes that such threat or force is necessary to prevent or terminate such other's unlawful entry into or attack upon a habitation; however, such person is justified in the use of **deadly force** only if:

- The entry is made or attempted in a violent and tumultuous manner for the purpose of assaulting or offering personal violence to any person in the dwelling;
- That force is used against another person who is not a member of the family or household and who unlawfully and forcibly enters or has entered the residence; or
- The person using such force reasonably believes that the entry is made or attempted for the purpose of committing a felony.

Self-Defense

Georgia is a **Castle Doctrine** state and has a “**stand your ground**” statute. There is no **duty to retreat** in defense of a forcible felony, such as rape, armed robbery or kidnapping.

Georgia Gun Laws at a Glance

Carry Basics	
AMMUNITION RESTRICTIONS? Does Georgia have ammunition restrictions?	 No. Georgia does not have ammunition restrictions.
Open Carry Permitted? Is open carry permitted in Georgia?	 Yes. Open carry is allowed with a Georgia Weapons Carry License or a permit from a state Georgia recognizes. Open carry is not addressed in the constitutional carry bill that was signed into law on April 12, 2022. [Ga. Code Ann. §16-11-126(h)(1)]
Gun Permit Licensure? If Georgia requires a license to carry a concealed firearm, how are those licenses issued?	 Georgia is a shall issue state.
Minimum Age for Concealed Carry? What is the minimum age in Georgia to get a concealed carry license?	 You must be at least 21 years old to get a concealed carry license in Georgia, or 18 for members of the military on active duty (that have completed basic training) or that have been honorably discharged.
MAGAZINE LIMITS FOR HANDGUNS? Does Georgia have magazine capacity restrictions for handguns?	 No. Georgia does not have magazine capacity limits for handguns.
Constitutional Carry? Does Georgia allow constitutional carry?	 Yes. On April 12, 2022, Gov. Brian Kemp signed SB 319 into law, permitting constitutional carry in Georgia. The law will go into effect immediately .
Weapons Other Than Handguns Allowed? Can you concealed carry weapons other than handguns in Georgia with a concealed carry permit (or under permitless carry if applicable)?	 Yes. Knives are allowed with a Georgia Weapons Carry License or a license/permit issued by a state that Georgia honors. [Ga. Code Ann. §16-11-125.1]
Non-Lethal Weapons? Can you own/carry non-lethal weapons in Georgia?	 STUN GUNS and Tasers are legal to purchase and possess without a license. However, it is illegal to carry any stun gun or Taser within 1,000 feet of any real property owned by or leased to any public or private K-12 school. PEPPER SPRAY - Legal for self-defense purposes. Georgia does not impose restrictions on the size or concentration of pepper spray. Misuse may result in criminal charges. BEAR SPRAY - Legal for self-defense against wildlife. There are no state-specific restrictions, but misuse against humans could lead to legal consequences. BLUDGEONS AND BATONS - Expandable batons are legal to own and carry in Georgia. Batons are not classified as "dangerous weapons," so they can be carried openly or concealed without a permit. Items such as billy clubs, slapjacks, and nightsticks are also legal to own and carry without restrictions. BRASS KNUCKLES - Legal to own in Georgia; but, carrying

	brass knuckles concealed without a permit is illegal. Concealed carry requires a valid weapons permit under Georgia law. Misuse can lead to misdemeanor or felony charges. [Ga. Code Ann. § 16-11-127.1(a)(2)]
Byrna's? Is it legal to own/carry Byrana/chemical/kinetic guns in Georgia?	✔ Yes. They are legal for purchase and possession by civilians. Byrna guns are not classified as firearms under Georgia law, meaning they can be carried openly or concealed without a permit. Misuse or use during criminal acts may result in charges.

Carry Locations

CARRY IN STATE/NATIONAL PARKS, STATE/NATIONAL FORESTS AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS (WMAS)?

Can you carry a concealed firearm in state/national parks, state/national forests and Wildlife Management Areas in Georgia?

- ✓ Yes. Concealed firearms are allowed in state/national parks, state/national forests and Wildlife Management Areas in Georgia.
[[Ga. Code Ann. §16-11-126\(g\)](#)]

CARRY IN VEHICLE?

Can you carry a concealed handgun in a vehicle in Georgia?

- ✓ Yes, any person not prohibited by law from possessing a handgun may carry a weapon openly or concealed without a license in his or her own vehicle (owned or rented). In a vehicle you do not own, you must have the permission of the person who has legal control of the vehicle.
[[Ga. Code Ann. §16-11-126](#)]

CARRY/POSSESS AT A HOTEL?

Can you carry or possess a firearm on hotel property in Georgia?

- ❗ Georgia statutes don't specifically address firearms at hotels. Please note that each hotel develops their own policies and the individual hotel should be contacted to inquire about its concealed carry policy. See the [Handguns at Hotels page](#) for additional information.

STORE IN A VEHICLE IN AN EMPLOYEE PARKING LOT?

Does Georgia have laws relating to storing firearms in private vehicles in an employee parking lot?

- ✓ No private or public employer, including the state and its political subdivisions, can condition employment upon any agreement by a prospective employee on prohibiting firearms or ammunition in the employees privately owned motor vehicle, provided any firearm or ammunition is locked and out of sight and the employee has a Georgia weapons carry license.
- This provision does not apply to an employer providing a secure parking area not accessible to the general public or to an area used for parking on a temporary basis, among other exceptions. In addition, this provision does not restrict the rights of private property owners or persons in legal control of property, and when a private property owner or person in legal control of property is also an employer, his or her rights as a private property owner or person in legal control of property govern.
- State law allows a license holder to possess a firearm in a motor vehicle parked in a parking facility of a government entity, courthouse, jail, prison, place of worship, bar or school safety zone, so long as the firearm is in the locked compartment of the vehicle, or in a locked container in or a locked firearms rack on the vehicle.
[[Ga. Code Ann. §§ 16-11-127\(a\)\(5\)](#)][[Ga. Code Ann. § 16-11-135\(a\)](#)]

CARRY AT ROADSIDE REST AREAS?

Can you carry a concealed firearm at roadside rest areas in Georgia?

- ✓ Yes. Carrying a concealed firearm at rest areas is allowed in Georgia.

CARRY IN BARS/RESTAURANTS THAT SERVE ALCOHOL?

Can you carry a concealed firearm in

- ✓ Yes. There is no statute making it illegal to concealed carry with a Georgia Weapons Carry License or a license/permit issued by a state that Georgia honors, unless posted.

bars and restaurants that serve alcohol in Georgia?

Find CCW Classes in Your State

Key State Laws	
NON-RESIDENT PERMITTING? Does Georgia issue concealed carry licenses to non-residents?	 Yes, but only to members of the military permanently stationed in Georgia.
Red Flag Law? Does Georgia have a red flag law?	 No. Georgia does not have a red flag law .
Preemption? Does Georgia have preemption laws related to concealed carry (i.e. Does state law supersede local laws regarding the possession of handguns)?	 Yes, the state has preemption of firearms laws in Georgia, except local municipalities may regulate: • The discharge of firearms; • The transport, carrying or possession of firearms by county or city employees in the course of their employment; and • Requiring heads of households to own guns. [Ga. Code Ann. §16-11-173]
Carry While Using Alcohol or Drugs? Does Georgia have laws regarding carrying a concealed firearm while using alcohol or drugs?	 Not while under the influence of alcohol (BAC of 0.08 or greater) or any drug or any combination of alcohol and any drug to the extent that it is unsafe for the person to discharge such firearm except in the defense of life, health, and property. In addition, any amount of marijuana or a controlled substance, as defined in GA Code § 16-13-21 , present in the person's blood or urine, or both, including the metabolites and derivatives of each or both without regard to whether or not any alcohol is present in the person's breath or blood, is illegal. [GA Code § 16-11-134] As a responsibly armed American, regardless of the laws in your state, it is unwise to carry while under the influence of any substance that could impair your judgement, slow your reaction times or impact your decision-making abilities. Any decision you make while carrying a firearm could have life-altering consequences.
DRIVER'S LICENSE LINKED TO Carry License? Is my Georgia driver's license linked to my Georgia weapons carry license?	 No. Your Georgia driver's license is not linked to your Georgia weapons carry license. Therefore, a law enforcement officer (LEO) will not be notified that you are a concealed carry license holder immediately when they run your driver's license. However, LEOs may have access to other databases where they can obtain this information.
"No Weapons Allowed" Signs Enforced? Are "No Weapons Allowed" signs enforced in Georgia? If yes, violating the sign would be considered to be a crime. If no, violating the sign would not be considered a criminal offense.	 No. "No Weapons Allowed" signs are not enforced in Georgia.
Duty to Inform Officer You're Carrying? Do you have a duty to notify a	 There is no duty to inform a law enforcement officer that you're carrying a concealed firearm in Georgia. [Ga. Code Ann. §16-11-137]

police officer that you're carrying a concealed firearm in Georgia?	
Brandishing? Does Georgia state law define brandishing?	No definition of brandishing was found in Georgia law.However, a person commits the offense of disorderly conduct when such person acts in a violent or tumultuous manner toward another person whereby such person is placed in reasonable fear of the safety of such person's life, limb or health or acts in a violent or tumultuous manner toward another person whereby the property of such person is placed in danger of being damaged or destroyed. [Ga. Code Ann. § 16-11-39] A person is guilty of a crime when he intentionally and without legal justification points or aims a gun or pistol at another, whether the gun or pistol is loaded or unloaded. [Ga. Code Ann. § 16-11-102]
PUBLIC ACCESS TO CONCEALED CARRY REGISTRY? Does Georgia allow the public to access concealed carry registry information through public records law?	No. However, the information is available for law enforcement.

Handgun Purchase & Possession

POSSESS A HANDGUN ON MY PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT A LICENSE? Can I possess/carry a handgun in my home without a license?	 Yes. A license is not needed for anyone legally entitled to carry a firearm to carry a handgun in a person's home, vehicle, or place of business. [Ga. Code Ann. 16-11-126]
PURCHASE PERMITS? Is a license required to purchase a handgun in Georgia?	 No. A license is not required to purchase a handgun in Georgia.
MINIMUM AGE TO POSSESS AND TRANSPORT? What is the minimum age to possess and transport a handgun in Georgia?	 18 years old. A person must be at least 18 years of age to possess and transport a handgun in Georgia. [Ga. Code Ann. § 16-11-132]
WAITING PERIOD? Is there a waiting period after purchasing a handgun in Georgia?	 No. There is no waiting period after purchasing a handgun in Georgia.
GEORGIA LICENSE EXEMPTS FROM BACKGROUND CHECK? Does my current Georgia concealed carry license exempt me from needing a background check when I purchase a firearm?	 Yes.
HANDGUN REGISTRATION? Do handguns need to be registered in Georgia?	 No. Handguns do not need to be registered in Georgia.
BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR PRIVATE GUN SALES? Are background checks required for private gun sales in Georgia?	 No. Private firearms transfers are not subject to a background check requirement, although federal and state purchaser prohibitions, including age restrictions, still apply. It is recommended that you retain any sales receipts to prove ownership of the gun.

Have Questions? Contact Our Award-Winning, Wisconsin-Based Member Services Team 24/7 at 800-674-9779

Georgia Concealed Carry Reciprocity With Other States

Which states' permits does Georgia honor?

Alabama (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Alaska (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Arizona (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Arkansas (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	California (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Colorado (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Connecticut (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Delaware (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	District of Columbia (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Florida (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Hawaii (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Idaho (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Illinois (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Indiana (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Iowa (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Kansas (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Kentucky (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Louisiana (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Maine (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Maryland (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Massachusetts (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Michigan (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Minnesota (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Mississippi (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Missouri (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Montana (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Nebraska (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Nevada (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	New Hampshire (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	New Jersey (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
New Mexico (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	New York (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	New York City (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
North Carolina (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	North Dakota (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Ohio (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Oklahoma (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Oregon (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Pennsylvania (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Puerto Rico (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Rhode Island (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	South Carolina (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
South Dakota (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Tennessee (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Texas (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Utah (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Vermont (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Virginia (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Washington (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	West Virginia (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Wisconsin (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Wyoming (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)		

House Bill 218 grants universal recognition to concealed carry permits held by non-Georgia residents, issued by any other state. Must be at least 21 years old (18 years old for military).

Other States' Reciprocity With Georgia

Which states honor permits from Georgia?

Alabama (permitless carry, at least 19 years old)	Arkansas (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)	Idaho (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)
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- Indiana (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

North Carolina

Vermont (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)
- Montana (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

North Dakota (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)
- New Hampshire (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

South Dakota (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

Note: Firearms must be carried in accordance with the laws of the state you are visiting. Be sure to check the laws of the other state before traveling there with your firearms.

States That Have Restricted Reciprocity with Georgia

Georgia offers resident and non-resident (members of the military permanently stationed in Georgia) licenses. If indicated with "Resident only" below, that state only honors Georgia resident licenses (and not those issued to non-residents).

- Alaska (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Florida (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Kentucky (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Michigan (at least 21 years old and resident permits only)

Nebraska (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Pennsylvania (at least 21 years old, resident permits only)

Texas (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

West Virginia (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
- Arizona (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Iowa (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Louisiana (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Mississippi (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Ohio (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

South Carolina (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

Utah (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Wisconsin (at least 21 years old)
- Colorado (at least 21 years old and resident permits only)

Kansas (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Maine (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Missouri (permitless carry, at least 19 years old, 18 for military)

Oklahoma (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Tennessee (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

Virginia (at least 21 years old)

Wyoming (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Permitless Carry States

- Alabama (permitless carry, at least 19 years old)

Arkansas (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

Indiana (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

Kentucky (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Mississippi (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
- Alaska (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Florida (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Iowa (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Louisiana (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Missouri (permitless carry, at least 19 years old, 18 for military)
- Arizona (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Idaho (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

Kansas (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Maine (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)

Montana (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)

Nebraska (Permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	New Hampshire (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)	North Dakota (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)
Ohio (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Oklahoma (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	South Carolina (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)
South Dakota (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)	Tennessee (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)	Texas (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Utah (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)	Vermont (permitless carry, at least 18 years old)	West Virginia (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)
Wyoming (permitless carry, at least 21 years old)		

*PC-18 = permitless carry if at least 18 years old
*PC-21 = permitless carry if at least 21 years old
Permitless carry includes constitutional carry states as well as states where an individual must meet certain qualifications, e.g., no DUIs in the last 10 years, in order to legally carry (Tennessee). Each state determines the requirements and any limitations on the carry of firearms. Check each state’s page for more information and any restrictions that may apply.

Georgia Concealed Carry License Information

Valid For:	5 years
Fees:	Initial License ~\$75, varies by county Renewal (within renewal period) ~\$35
Lost/Stolen Licenses:	Report it to the judge of the probate court of the county in which it was issued within 48 hours of the time the loss or damage becomes known. The judge of the probate court will issue a cancellation order and provide a replacement license. A replacement fee will be charged.
Non-Resident Concealed Carry licenses:	Yes, but only to members of the military permanently stationed in Georgia. The process is the same as for residents.
Name/Address Changes:	The process for obtaining a replacement license varies by county and can be verified through your county probate court. You may need to provide: • An affidavit for name change or address change • A Copy of your Georgia driver's license listing new county of residence; or • Documents linking your name to the new physical address (i.e., a copy of lease, utility bill, etc.). For a name change • A copy of your Georgia driver's license noting new name; or • A court order or marriage license showing your new name. Fees - Vary by county.
Requirements:	An applicant must: • Be at least 21 years of age or 18 if in the military, have completed basic training, and can provide proof that you are either on active duty or have been honorably discharged; • Be a Georgia resident; • Be a U.S. citizen or legal resident; • Have no felony convictions or pending criminal proceedings; • Have no drug convictions (Examples: using or possessing drugs, making drugs, distributing a controlled substance)*; • Have no other disqualifying convictions (Examples: carrying a concealed weapon without a license, domestic violence)*; • Have not been in a mental hospital or drug or alcohol treatment center within the last 5 years*; • Have not been committed to a mental hospital against your will; and • Meet federal law requirements. *In some situations, you can ask for approval from the county probate judge. Consult with an attorney if you have any questions about your eligibility. If you don't have an attorney, you can find one by contacting the State Bar of Georgia.
Processing Time:	60 days
Application:	Link to online application . Note-Some counties may not be listed as they require an in-person appointment.

Residency Changes:	Moving to Georgia and interested in applying for a resident license? How soon can you apply? Georgia issues licenses to residents and members of the military only. You can apply for your license to the sheriff of your county once you have established your residence in that county. If you have a valid concealed carry license in any other state that recognizes a Georgia weapons carry license, you may carry a weapon in Georgia for 90 days after you become a Georgia state resident provided, however, you carry the weapon in compliance with Georgia laws and you submit a weapons carry license application as soon as practicable, and that you remain licensed in the other state until you obtain your Georgia weapons carry license. Moving from Georgia and have a Georgia resident license? Does that license transfer to your new state? Is there a grace period during which your Georgia license remains valid?If a person with a Georgia weapons carry license establishes residency in another state, the license expires upon the establishment of residence in the other state.
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Find CCW Classes in Your State

Georgia Concealed Carry License Application Process

How to Apply for a Georgia Concealed Carry License

Step 1:	Complete the application online or, if your county isn't listed online, make an appointment with the probate court in your county .
Step 2:	You will need the following documents in order to submit your application; • Drivers license or state ID card: • Completed application form • Proof of Georgia residency for residents • Proof of U.S. citizenship or your INS number Provide your fingerprints. (Depending on the probate court's process, it will either take your fingerprints there or give you a law enforcement affidavit to have your fingerprints taken at a police department. You will need to do this within five days of submitting your application.) Pay the fee.
Step 3:	You will be notified if your application has been approved.

Firearms Training Requirements in Georgia

No firearms training is required in Georgia. However, the USCCA recommends that anyone who makes the choice to carry a concealed firearm obtain as much training as possible in order to be a responsibly armed American.

[Find a USCCA Certified Instructor or Firearms Training Class Near You](#)

Georgia Concealed Carry License Renewal Process

How to Renew a Georgia Concealed Carry License

Step 1:	Renewals are the responsibility of the licensee. You can apply to have a license renewed 90 days prior to the expiration date or within 30 days after the license has expired. It is recommended that you go to court to apply for renewal at least 2 months before your license expires. A new application will need to be made if the license is more than 30 days past the expiration date. Any service member whose weapons carry license or renewal license expired while serving on active duty outside of Georgia shall be authorized to carry any weapon in accordance with such expired license for a period of 6 months from the date of his or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location within Georgia.
Step 2:	Complete the application online or pick one up from the probate court in your county.
Step 3:	You will need the following documents in order to submit your application; • Completed application form; • Copy of birth certificate or U.S. passport; and • Drivers license or state ID card. Pay the fee.
Step 4:	You will be notified if your application has been approved.

Law Enforcement Officers (LEO)/Retired LEOs

Law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Retired LEOs (RLEOs) may choose to carry under the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA), often referred to as HR 218. Under **18 U.S. Code §§ 926B & 926C**, qualified LEOs and qualified retired LEOs, or those separated from service in good standing, can carry a concealed firearm in any jurisdiction in the United States, regardless of state or local laws, with some exceptions. For details check out our [Federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act \(LEOSA\)](#) page.

[Ga. Code Ann. § 16-11-130](#)

[Ch. 464-4-.03.](#)

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Georgia Location Restrictions

WHERE CAN'T I CARRY A CONCEALED FIREARM IN GEORGIA? Places off-limits even with a permit/license	• School buses; • School functions; • School safety zones – building or property leased or owned by any public or private elementary, secondary, technical or vocational school, college, university or other institute of post-secondary education (except firearms under the control of a weapons carry license holder in a locked compartment, container or firearms rack in or on a motor vehicle being used by a non-student adult over 21, are allowed); • Specific areas of campuses of higher education, including: • Buildings or property used for athletic sporting events or student housing, including but not limited to, fraternity and sorority houses; • Preschools or child care spaces located on campus; • Rooms or spaces being used for classes related to a college and career academy or other specialized schools, • Rooms or spaces being used for classes in which high school students are enrolled through a dual enrollment program, and • Faculty, staff or administrative offices or rooms where disciplinary proceedings are conducted; [Ga. Code Ann. §16-11-127.1] • Secured area of an airport; • In a courthouse; • In government buildings that are not restricted or screened by security personnel; • In a church or place of worship, unless allowed by the governing body or authority of the place of worship; • In a jail or prison; • In a state mental health facility; • On the premises of a nuclear power facility; • Within 150 feet of any polling place when elections are being conducted; and • Any place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law or state law or regulation. [Ga. Code Ann. §16-11-127(b)]
WHERE CAN I CARRY A CONCEALED FIREARM IN GEORGIA?	• Carry in bars/restaurants that serve alcohol? Yes. • Carry in my vehicle without a permit/license? Yes, in your own vehicle only. • Carry in roadside rest areas? Yes. • Carry on public transportation? Yes. • Carry on a college campus? Yes, inside any building or on real property, owned by or leased to, any public technical school, vocational school, college, university or other public institution of post-secondary education. Guns are still prohibited in the areas of campuses noted below. • Carry in state/national parks, state/national forests and WMAs? Yes.

FAQ: Georgia Concealed Carry Questions

WHAT ARE THE KNIFE LAWS IN GEORGIA?	i It is legal to carry, open or concealed, a knife with a blade 12 inches or less in length without a license. A knife with a blade longer than 12 inches in length can be carried with a concealed carry license. [Ga. Code Ann. §§ 16-11-126(h)(1) & 16-11-125.1(2)]
WEAR A COVID MASK & CARRY? I can legally carry a concealed firearm in Georgia, but can I wear a COVID 19 protective mask while carrying concealed?	✓ Although GCA § 16-11-38 makes it illegal to wear a mask, to conceal the identity of the wearer, on April 13, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 04.13.20.02 related to the COVID-19 emergency, ordering that the law shall not apply to any person wearing “a mask for the purpose of complying with the guidance of any healthcare agency or to prevent the spread of COVID-19.”
CARRY WHILE BOW HUNTING? Can you concealed carry while bow hunting in Georgia?	✓ Yes, if such person is a lawful weapons carrier. [GA Code § 27-3-6]
HUNTER HARASSMENT LAW? Is there a Hunter Harassment Law in Georgia?	✓ Yes. It is unlawful for any person to interfere with the lawful taking of wildlife by another person by intentionally preventing or attempting to prevent such person from such lawful taking of wildlife. [GA Code § 27-3-151]
CARRY WHILE GUN HUNTING? Can you concealed carry while shotgun/rifle hunting in Georgia?	✓ Yes, if such person is a lawful weapons carrier. [O.C.G.A. 27-3-1.1]

Georgia Gun Laws Updates

Date	Details
2025-04-03	Added non-lethal weapons to Carry Basics section.
2022-04-12	Added SB 319
2021-05-17	Added info on driver's license link to permit in At A Glance table

Did We Miss Something?

Here at the USCCA, it is our mission to provide responsible gun owners with the tools they need to be educated and trained. Our team is constantly working to provide you with the most up-to-date and comprehensive list of self-defense laws available for every state.

If you have any questions that you don't see answered here — let us know! Just email support@uscca.com and we will be sure to get your question resolved. Your feedback matters to us, and we appreciate you helping to make this page the best possible resource for responsible gun owners!

Permit numbers were obtained from the Crime Prevention Resource Center's publication entitled, "Concealed Carry Permit Holders Across the United States." Numbers include resident and non-resident permits for those states that issue both.

The information contained on this website is provided as a service to USCCA, Inc. members and the concealed carry community, and does not constitute legal advice. Although we attempt to address all areas of concealed carry laws in all states, we make no claims, representations, warranties, promises or guarantees as to the accuracy, completeness or adequacy of the information disclosed. Legal advice must always be tailored to the individual facts and circumstances of each individual case. Laws are constantly changing, and as such, nothing contained on this website should be used as a substitute for the advice of a lawyer.

If you have any questions regarding USCCA Membership, Delta Defense, handguns laws or the lawful process of carrying concealed, please contact the award-winning Delta Defense [Customer Engagement Team](#).