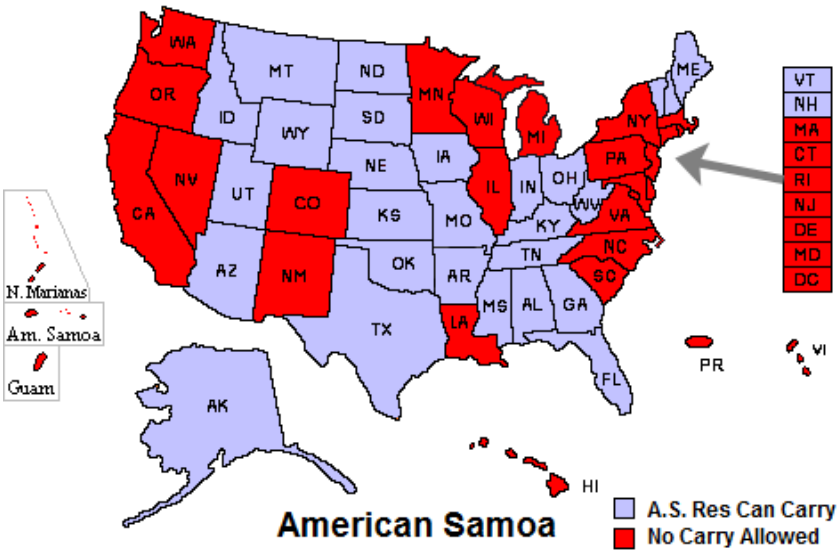
American Samoa

No Issue **Must Inform Officer Immediately: N/A**



Note: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia and Wyoming have "Permitless Carry" Anyone who can legally possess a firearm under state and federal law may carry in these states without a Permit. Check each states page for age or other restrictions that may apply.

American Samoa CCW Links√

State CCW Site

State CCW Pamphlet

CCW Application

State FAQ Site

State Statutes

State Admin Rules

Gun Laws BATF

Amer. Samoa AG

Title 46 Chapter 42 Weapons

Amer. Samoa DPS

Age to Carry a Firearm In Other States

Last Updated: 9/5/2026

Permits/Licenses This State Honors Listed Below

American Samoa does not honor any other states permit/license to Carry. They do not issue a permit/license to carry to their own residents.

American Samoa Residents can carry in **Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Montana, Mississippi. Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont**, **West Virginia and Wyoming.** These states allow anyone who can legally possess a firearm to carry it concealed without any type of permit/license. See state pages for any age or other restrictions.

How to Apply for a Permit

American Samoa does not issue permits to carry firearms

Possession of Firearms:

46.4227 License-Renewal.

(a) Licenses to possess arms shall expire on 10 January of the year following their issue. Each holder of a license to possess arms shall between the 1st and 10th of January of each year, submit his license

to possess arms for the previous year, together with the annual license fee, to the Commissioner of Public Safety.

(b) The Commissioner of Public Safety may renew the license with or without examining the arms for which the license is to be issued; but the holder of the license shall, upon the demand of the Commissioner of Public Safety, submit the arms to him for examination. History: 1962, PL 7-13; amd 1991 PL 22-8.

46.4221 License-Required When.

(a) It is unlawful for any person, whether permanently or temporarily resident within American Samoa or whether on shore or on board any vessel, anchored, moored, or docked in any harbor in American Samoa, to have in his possession any arms without first having obtained a license therefor from the Commissioner of Public Safety.

(b) A license to possess arms shall not be issued by the Commissioner of Public Safety unless the application therefor has been approved by the attorney general, and that such approval shall be given only after a background investigation has been conducted on the applicant; and that the:

(1) applicant is not a convicted felon; and

(2) applicant does not have any mental disorder or any disease which may endanger the public if a license to possess arm(s) is issued to him; and

(3) applicant is not a member of any organization that advocates the overthrowing of the Government of American Samoa or that of the United States.

(c) A license shall be issued only for the ownership and possession of 12, 16, 20 and 410 gauge shotguns and shotgun shells and 22 caliber rifles and their ammunitions.

(d) Licenses issued prior to the enactment of subsection (c) remain valid. No additional licenses shall be issued for renewals of existing licenses provided in 46.4227 and transfers of arms validly licensed provided in 46.4229(b). History: 1962, PL 7-13; 1990 PL 21-36; 1991 PL 22-8; amd 1999, PL 26-4.

46.4222 License-Required for Import.

(a) It is unlawful for any person to import arms into American Samoa without having obtained a license therefor from the Commissioner of Public Safety.

(b) A license to import arms shall not be issued by the Commissioner of Public Safety unless the application for the license has been approved by the Attorney General.

(c) Unless otherwise authorized, only those shotguns and rifles referred to in section 46.4221(c) A.S.C.A., may be imported with license.

(d) The customs officers may confiscate any guns that are being imported into the Territory in violation of law. Confiscated guns must be surrendered to the custody of the Commissioner of Public Safety within 5 days of confiscation. History: 1962, PL 7-13; amd 1991, PL 22-8.

46.4225 License-Possession Required When Carrying Arms.

Every person to whom a license to possess arms is issued shall, when carrying such arms or any part thereof, have with him the license to possess such arms, and shall produce the same for inspection upon demand of any officer or official of the government. **History:** 1962, PL 7-13.

Non-Resident Permits

American Samoa does not issue permits to carry firearms

Places Off-Limits Even With a Permit/License

No carry allowed in American Samoa.

46.4203 Unlawful Use of Weapons.

(a) A person commits the crime of unlawful use of weapons if he knowingly:

(1) carries concealed on or about his person a knife, a firearm, a blackjack or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use;

(2) sets a spring gun;

(3) discharges or shoots a firearm into an inhabitable structure, boat, aircraft, vehicle, or any building or structure used for the assembling of people;

(4) aims a firearm or projectile weapon at another person in an angry or threatening manner, or possesses a knife, firearm, blackjack, or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use with purpose to unlawfully use the weapon against another person;

(5) possesses or discharges a firearm or projectile weapon while intoxicated;

(6) discharges a firearm within 100 yards of any occupied school house, courthouse, or church building;

(7) discharges or shoots a firearm at a mark, at any object, or at random, on, along or across a public highway or discharges or shoots a firearm into any out-building; or

(8) carries a knife, firearm, blackjack, or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use into any church or place where people have assembled for worship, or into any school, or into any election district on any election day, or into any building owned or occupied by any agency of the federal government, territorial government, or political subdivision of them, or into any public assemblage of persons met for any lawful purpose.

(b) Exemptions.

(1) Paragraphs (a) (1), (3), (4), (6), (7) and (8) do not apply to or affect any of the following:

(A) peace officers, or any person summoned by these officers to assist in making arrests or preserving the peace while actually engaged in assisting the officer;

(B) wardens, superintendents and keepers of prisons, jails and other institutions for the detention of persons accused or convicted of crime;

(C) members of the armed forces while performing their official duty.

(2) Paragraph (a) (1) does not apply when the actor is transporting the weapons in a nonfunctioning state or when not readily accessible.

(c) The defendant has the burden of injecting the issue of an exemption under subsection (b).

(d) Unlawful use of weapons is a class D felony unless committed under paragraph (a) (5), (6), (7) or (8), then it is a class B misdemeanor. History: 1979, PL 16-43 § 2.

46.4231 Discharge of Arms.

It is unlawful for any person to discharge, explode, or set off any arms within 30 yards of any public road or highway, house, building, or airport in American Samoa except that the Commissioner of Public Safety may authorize the discharge of firearms for the purpose of an Honor Guard or authorized ceremonial occasion.

History: 1962, PL 7-13; amd 1991, PL 22-8.

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

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

State Parks: NO

State/National Forests: **NO**

State WMA: **NO**

Road Side Rest Areas: **NO**

RV/Car Carry Without a Permit/License

Carrying of a loaded firearm of any type in a vehicle is illegal.

46.4203 Unlawful Use of Weapons.

(a) A person commits the crime of unlawful use of weapons if he knowingly:

(1) carries concealed on or about his person a knife, a firearm, a blackjack or any other weapon readily capable of lethal use;

(2) Paragraph (a) (1) does not apply when the actor is transporting the weapons in a nonfunctioning state or when not readily accessible.

History**:** 1979, PL 16-43 § 2.

State Preemption

No preemption Laws.

Deadly Force Laws

Title 46 Chapter 33

46.3301 Definitions.
46.3302 Civil remedies unaffected.
46.3303 Execution of public duty.
46.3304 Justification-Avoidance of harm or evil.
46.3305 Use of force in defense of persons.
46.3306 Use of physical force in defense of premises.
46.3307 Use of physical force in defense of property.
46.3308 Law enforcement officer's use of force in making an arrest.
46.3309 Private person's use of force in making an arrest.
46.3310 Use of force to prevent escape from confinement.
46.3311 Use of force by persons with responsibility for care, discipline, or safety of others.

Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click "Here"

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

NO Carry anywhere in Samoa is illegal. (LEO's falling under the LEOSA most likely could carry)

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

American Samoa Law does not have listed any restrictions on Defensive Sprays. The only mention in their statutes that I can find is below.

46.4201 **(f)** "Gas gun" means any gas ejective device, weapon, cartridge, container or contrivance other than a gas bomb, that is designed or adapted for the purpose of ejecting any poison gas that will cause death or serious physical injury but not any device that ejects mace or other repellant or temporary incapacitating substance. History: 1979, PL 16-43 § 2

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

Handgunlaw.us can find no AG Opinions or Court Cases concerning the carrying of firearms.
This does not mean there are no AG Opinions or Court Cases. We could just not find any.

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Link to Statutes

Airport Carry: **NO**

Training Valid for: **N/A**

Time Period to Establish Residency: **N/A**

Minimum Age for Permit/License: **N/A**

Permit/License Info Public Information: **N/A**

State Firearm Laws: **46-4201 thru 46-4234**

State Deadly Force Laws: **46.3301 thru 46.3311**

State Knife Laws: **46.4201 thru 46.4203**

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: **46.4201**

Body Armor Laws: **No Laws Found**

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? **N/A**

State Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s: **No Statute Found**

Is carrying of a Concealed Firearm with Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal? **N/A**

Permit/License Image

America Samoa does not issue permit/licenses to carry. They do have registration. Handgunlaw.us would like to have an image of their registration card.

Notes

What Does Amer. Samoa Consider A Loaded Firearm?

Amer. Samoa law does not define Loaded. Their firearm laws us the word Loaded or Unloaded but doesn't give a definition.

Note: With no definition on what the state considers a loaded firearm at the minimum I would have no cartridge in the firing chamber, cylinder, internal or attached magazine or attached to the firearm in any way.

State Emergency Powers

Handgunlaw.us can find no specific laws on the "Emergency Powers" of the Governor or other state officials. That does not mean there are no laws covering this topic but that they just couldn't be found. During a state of emergency a Governor has very broad powers that are mainly restrained by law. If there are no laws limiting a Governor in what they can or cannot do they can do just about anything they deem appropriate in an Emergency and let things get sorted out after the emergency is past. Looking at New Orleans after Katrina shows you what they can or will do if there are no laws restraining State/Local Government(s).

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.

Updates to this Page

Archive of Previous Updates 2

2/1/2025 – All Links Checked.
7/1/2025 – All Links Checked.
10/15/2025 – All External Links, Statutes and Admin Rules Quoted Have Been Checked and are up to Date and Point to the Most Up to Date Published Edition of that Statute/Admin Rule and/or Document.
1/20/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.
3/10/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.
6/7/2026 – All Links Checked.
9/5/2026 – All Links Checked.