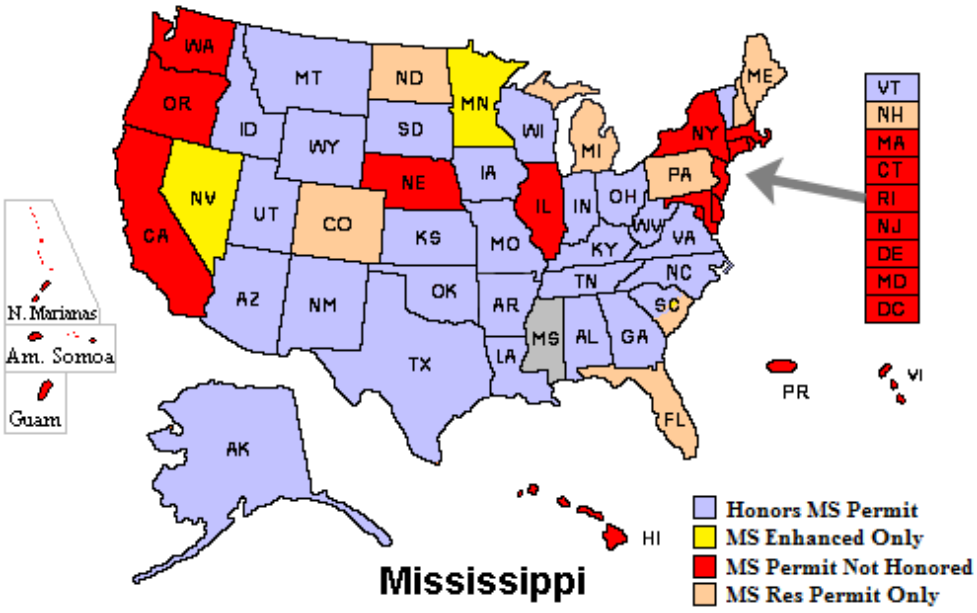
Mississippi

Shall Issue **Must Inform Officer Immediately: NO**

Permitless Carry State

(See Must Inform Section)



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.

Mississippi CCW Links

State CCW Site

Forms for Original, Renewal, Permit Affidavit and How to Apply

Application

Application Instructions

Military/Ret LEO Info

State Firearms FAQs

Permit Laws & Codes

State Statutes

State Admin Rules

Reciprocity Info
Under Firearms Permit Div.

State Attorney General

Permit App Locations

Secretary of State

Age to Carry a Firearm In Other States

Last Updated: 8/3/2026

Permits/Licenses This State Honors Listed Below

Mississippi honors all other states Permit/Licenses.

Mississippi Honors Non-Resident Permits/Licenses From the States They Honor.

Reciprocity/How This State Honors Other States Permit/Licenses

§ 45-9-101. License To Carry Stun Gun, Concealed Pistol Or Revolver

(19) Any person holding a valid unrevoked and unexpired license to carry stun guns, concealed pistols or revolvers issued in another state shall have such license recognized by this state to carry stun guns, concealed pistols or revolvers. The Department of Public Safety is authorized to enter into a reciprocal agreement with another state if that state requires a written agreement in order to recognize licenses to carry stun guns, concealed pistols or revolvers issued by this state. 2023, ch. 517, § 5

Permitless Carry

§ 97-37-1. Deadly weapons; carrying while concealed; use or attempt to use; penalties; "concealed" defined

(2) It shall not be a violation of this section for any person over the age of eighteen (18) years to carry a firearm or deadly weapon concealed within the confines of his own home or his place of business, or any real property associated with his home or business or within any motor vehicle. 2023, ch. 461, HB 912,§ 5

§ 45-9-101

(24) A license under this section is not required for a loaded or unloaded pistol or revolver to be carried upon the person in a sheath, belt holster or shoulder holster or in a purse, handbag, satchel, other similar bag or briefcase or fully enclosed case if the person is not engaged in criminal activity other than a misdemeanor traffic offense, is not otherwise prohibited from possessing a pistol or revolver under state or federal law, and is not in a location prohibited under subsection (13) of this section. However, the medical use of medical cannabis by a cardholder who is a registered qualifying patient which is lawful under the provisions of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act and in compliance with rules and regulations adopted thereunder shall not disqualify a person under this subsection (24) solely because the person is prohibited from possessing a firearm under 18 USCS Section 922(g)(3) due to such medical use of medical cannabis. 2023, ch. 517, § 5

How to Apply for a Permit

Individual Firearm Permit Initial Application Instructions

1. All parts of the application must be filled out. Failure to completely fill out this application may result in the denial of the application.
2. Once the application is completed and notarized, the individual making the application must bring it to the Department of Public Safety Headquarters in Jackson, or a Mississippi Highway Patrol District Substation in Greenwood, Batesville, New Albany, Starkville, Meridian, Hattiesburg, Biloxi, or Brookhaven and be fingerprinted at that time.
3. The applicant must present two other forms of identification when returning the application.

One must be a photo identification, either Mississippi driver's license or Mississippi identification card. The second may be:

(a) Social Security Card **(b)** Birth Certificate **(c)** Marriage License **(d)** Divorce Decree
(e) Military Discharge (DD214) **(f)** Military Identification Card **(g)** Passport
(h) W-2 Form **(i)** Other Official Government Identification **(j)** Current Firearm Permit

4. The applicant must have a photograph attached to the application. The photograph should form a pose straight forward and should not drop below the level of the chest; must fit in the designated box on pg.12. The photograph may be black and white or color, but must be of such quality as to make all facial features readily discernible. The photograph must be no more than (30) days prior to the application. No hats, shades, or earpieces should be worn while taking the photo.

5. The fee for a first time firearm permit is One Hundred Twelve dollars ($112), non-refundable. The fee may be paid in any one of the following methods: (1) Cash; (2.) Cashier's check; (3.) VISA; (5.) Mastercard; (6.) Debit Card. Cashier's Check should be made payable to the Department of Public Safety. **Fee Chart**

6. Retired Law Enforcement must provide a letter on the retiring agency letterhead stating that such

officer has honorably retired and has completed a certified law enforcement training academy. Honorably retired law enforcement officers shall be exempt from payment of the license fee; there will be a $32.00 charge for the processing of fingerprints.

7. Disabled Veterans must have a stamped copy of the Disabled Veteran verification form that is obtained through the Veteran Affairs Regional Office (instructions on pg. (4) and shall be exempt from payment of the license fee; there will be a $32.00 charge for fingerprint processing. You may also use the service-connected disability letter obtained through ebenefits to receive the fee exemption.

8. The total fee for an individual firearm permit renewal is Seventy-Two Dollars ($72.00); for an individual 65 years and older the total fee is fifty-two dollars ($52.00) non-refundable. This fee may be paid in any one of the following methods: **(1.)** Cash; **(2.)** Cashier's Check; **(3.)** VISA; **(4.)** Mastercard; **(5)** Debit Card. There will be an additional $15.00 late fee for all firearm permit renewals submitted after the expiration of the firearm permit. Permits expired longer than 6 months cannot be renewed; the permit will start over as new and all fees associated with a new permit will be assessed.

Enhanced Permit

The Mississippi Attorney General has released an Opinion on where Enhanced Permit holders can carry. You can read the Opinion **Here** or by clicking on the link in the AG Opinions/Court Case Section.

You can apply for a Enhanced Permit or Regular Permit the first time you apply or you can obtain an Enhanced Permit by taking the required extra training and applying to update your regular permit to an Enhanced Permit. You just have to have the Enhanced Training from a state certified instructor who is certified to instruct the required class. They will give you course completion paperwork to attach to your application for an Enhanced Permit Endorsement. When you receive your Enhanced Permit it will have, "Instructor Certified" printed on it. To update a regular permit to an Enhanced Permit you just take the class and take the paperwork to one of the places listed in (2) above and they will put an IC sticker on the reverse of your regular permit making it an Enhanced Permit. The Enhanced Permit Instructors can answer any questions you have when you take the training. You can view the list of Certified Instructors **Here**.

Note: Non-Residents can't obtain an Endorsement and are restricted from carrying in all places listed in Mississippi Law for Mississippi Enhanced Carriers. Non-Residents with a permit must carry under the Law/Regulations for Regular Mississippi Permit Holders.

§ 97-37-7 Deadly Weapons; Persons Permitted To Carry Weapons; Bond; Permit To Carry Weapon; Grounds For Denying Application For Permit; Required Weapons Training Course; Reciprocal Agreements

(2) ……. A person licensed under Section 45-9-101 to carry a concealed pistol, who

(a) has voluntarily completed an instructional course in the safe handling and use of firearms offered by an instructor certified by a nationally recognized organization that customarily offers firearms training, or by any other organization approved by the Department of Public Safety,

(b) is a member or veteran of any active or reserve component branch of the United States of America Armed Forces having completed law enforcement or combat training with pistols or other handguns as recognized by such branch after submitting an affidavit attesting to have read, understand and agree to comply with all provisions of the enhanced carry law, or

(c) is an honorably retired law enforcement officer or honorably retired member or veteran of any active or reserve component branch of the United States of America Armed Forces having completed law enforcement or combat training with pistols or other handguns, after submitting an affidavit attesting to have read, understand and agree to comply with all provisions of Mississippi enhanced carry law shall also be authorized to carry weapons in courthouses except in courtrooms during a judicial proceeding, and any location listed in subsection (13) of Section 45-9-101, except any place of nuisance as defined in Section 95-3-1, any police, sheriff or highway patrol station or any detention facility, prison or jail. For the purposes of this subsection (2), component branch of the United States Armed Forces includes the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard or Marine Corps, or the Army National Guard, the Army National Guard of the United States, the Air National Guard or the Air National Guard of the United States, as those terms are defined in Section 101, Title 10, United States Code, and any other reserve component of the United States Armed Forces enumerated in Section 10101, Title 10, United States Code. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations allowing concealed pistol permit holders to obtain an endorsement on their permit indicating that they have completed the aforementioned course and have the authority to carry in these locations. This section shall in no way interfere with the right of a trial judge to restrict the carrying of firearms in the courtroom.

For purposes of this subsection (2), the following words shall have the meanings described herein, unless the context otherwise requires:

(i) "Courthouse" means any building in which a circuit court, chancery court, youth court, municipal court, justice court or any appellate court is located, or any building in which a court of law is regularly held.

(ii) "Courtroom" means the actual room in which a judicial proceeding occurs, including any jury room, witness room, judge's chamber, office housing the judge's staff, or similar room. "Courtroom" shall not mean hallways, courtroom entrances, courthouse grounds, lobbies, corridors, or other areas within a courthouse which are generally open to the public for the transaction of business outside of an active judicial proceeding, the grassed areas, cultivated flower beds, sidewalks, parking lots, or other areas contained within the boundaries of the public land upon which the courthouse is located.

Laws, 2019, ch. 313, § 1,

Below is 45-9-101 which lists places off limits & 95-3-1 which defines places of nuisance as noted in the new law.

§ 45-9-101. License to Carry Stun Gun, Concealed Pistol or Revolver; License Fees; Exemptions; No License Required to Carry Pistol or Revolver in Purse, Briefcase, Fully Enclosed Case, Etc.

(13) No license issued pursuant to this section shall authorize any person, except a law enforcement officer as defined in Section 45-6-3 with a distinct license authorized by the Department of Public Safety, to carry a stun gun, concealed pistol or revolver into

- any place of nuisance as defined in Section 95-3-1, Mississippi Code of 1972;
- any police, sheriff or highway patrol station; any detention facility, prison or jail;
- any courthouse; any courtroom, except that nothing in this section shall preclude a judge from carrying a concealed weapon or determining who will carry a concealed weapon in his courtroom;
- any polling place; any meeting place of the governing body of any governmental entity;
- any meeting of the Legislature or a committee thereof;
- any school, college or professional athletic event not related to firearms;
- any portion of an establishment, licensed to dispense alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, that is primarily devoted to dispensing alcoholic beverages; any portion of an establishment in which beer or light wine is consumed on the premises, that is primarily devoted to such purpose;

- any elementary or secondary school facility; any junior college, community college, college or university facility unless for the purpose of participating in any authorized firearms-related activity;
- inside the passenger terminal of any airport, except that no person shall be prohibited from carrying any legal firearm into the terminal if the firearm is encased for shipment, for purposes of checking such firearm as baggage to be lawfully transported on any aircraft;
- any church or other place of worship, except as provided in Section 45-9-171; or any place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law..
- In addition to the places enumerated in this subsection, the carrying of a stun gun, concealed pistol or revolver may be disallowed in any place in the discretion of the person or entity exercising control over the physical location of such place by the placing of a written notice clearly readable at a distance of not less than ten (10) feet that the "carrying of a pistol or revolver is prohibited.
- " No license issued pursuant to this section shall authorize the participants in a parade or demonstration for which a permit is required to carry a stun gun, concealed pistol or revolver.

2023, ch. 517, HB 529,§ 5

§ 95-3-1. Definitions of Terms "Person," "Place" and "Nuisance."

For the purpose of this chapter the terms place, person and nuisance are defined as follows:

a. "Place" shall include any building, erection, or structure or any separate part or portion thereof or the ground itself.

b. "Person" shall include any individual, corporation, association, partnership, trustee, lessee, agent or assignee.

c. "Nuisance" shall mean any place as above defined in or upon which lewdness, assignation or prostitution is conducted, permitted, continued or exists or any other place as above defined in or upon which a controlled substance as defined in Section 41-29-105, Mississippi Code of 1972, is unlawfully used, possessed, sold or delivered and the personal property and contents used in conducting or maintaining any such place for any such purpose. One single act of unlawful cohabitation, lewdness or possession, use, sale or delivery of a controlled substance about such property shall not come within the terms hereof. 1973, ch. 317, § 1

Non-Resident Permits

§ 45-9-101. License to Carry Stun Gun, Concealed Pistol or Revolver

(2) The Department of Public Safety shall issue a license if the applicant:

(a) Is a resident of the state. However, this residency requirement may be waived if the applicant possesses a valid permit from another state, is a member of any active or reserve component branch of the United States of America Armed Forces stationed in Mississippi, is the spouse of a member of any active or reserve component branch of the United States of America Armed Forces stationed in Mississippi, or is a retired law enforcement officer establishing residency in the state;

(b) (i) Is twenty-one (21) years of age or older; or

(ii) Is at least eighteen (18) years of age but not yet twenty-one (21) years of age and the applicant:

1. Is a member or veteran of the United States Armed Forces, including National Guard or Reserve; and

2. Holds a valid Mississippi driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Public Safety or a valid and current tribal identification card issued by a federally recognized

Indian tribe containing a photograph of the holder;. 2023, ch. 517, § 5

Places Off-Limits Even With a Permit/License

§ 45-9-101 (13) **Note:** (See List Below for those with an Enhanced Permit as they can legally carry in some places listed here with an Enhanced Permit. Also see AG Opinions.)

- Any police, sheriff or highway patrol station: any detention facility, prison or jail.
- Any courthouse; any courtroom, except that nothing in this section shall preclude a judge from carrying a concealed weapon or determining who will carry a concealed weapon in his courtroom;
- Any polling place; any meeting place of the governing body of any governmental entity; any meeting of the Legislature or a committee thereof.
- Any school, college or professional athletic event not related to firearms;
- Any portion of an establishment, licensed to dispense alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, that is primarily devoted to dispensing alcoholic beverages; any portion of an establishment in which beer or light wine is consumed on the premises, that is primarily devoted to such purpose;
- Any elementary or secondary school facility; any junior college, community college, college or university facility unless for the purpose of participating in any authorized firearms-related activity;
- Inside the passenger terminal of any airport, except that no person shall be prohibited from carrying any legal firearm into the terminal if the firearm is encased for shipment ,for purposes of checking such firearm as baggage to be lawfully transported on any aircraft;
- Any church or other place of worship;
- Or any place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law.
- In addition to the places enumerated in this subsection, the carrying of a concealed pistol or revolver may be disallowed in anyplace in the discretion of the person or entity exercising control over the physical location of such place by the placing of a written notice clearly readable at a distance of not less than ten (10) feet that the "carrying of a pistol or revolver is prohibited."
- No license issued pursuant to this section shall authorize the participants in a parade or demonstration

2023, ch. 517, § 5

Note: **Armed Campus Organization** Has information on all the States Campus Carry Statutes, Regulations and Policies with some covering firearms Policies on each school's campus.

§ 97-37-17 Possession of weapons by students; aiding or encouraging.

(6) It shall not be a violation of this section for any person to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any gun, rifle, pistol or other firearm of any kind on educational property if:

(a) The person is not a student attending school on any educational property;

(b) The firearm is within a motor vehicle; and

(c) The person does not brandish, exhibit or display the firearm in any careless, angry or threatening manner. Laws, 2010, ch. 554, § 12, eff. 7/1/2011.ch. 554, § 12, eff. 7/1/2011

Mississippi Attorney General Jim Hood put out **"An Opinion"** on December 5, 2013, written to the City of Corinth, which outlines the following places where the Mississippi statutes authorize a person with an enhanced permit to carry regardless of signage posted by a state governmental entity:

1. Any polling place. – (Other than the Section 45-9-101(13) prohibiting regular permit holders from carrying in polling places, Mississippi Code Sections 23-15-895 (relating to armed candidates) and 97-13-29 (military officer keeping armed troops within one mile of an election) are the only other state law restrictions regarding firearms in polling places.)

2. Any meeting place of the governing body of any governmental entity. – (It is the opinion of this office that the phrase meeting place means the room in which a meeting transpires as opposed to the entire building. Thus, although an enhanced permit holder would be entitled to carry a concealed pistol or revolver into a meeting place, that individual would not have unfettered gun carrying access to places within the building that are not generally open to the general public. See MS AG Op. Cantrell (Oct. 1, 2013)).

3. Any meeting of the Legislature or a committee thereof. – (Notwithstanding this language, it is the understanding of this office that the House and the Senate have each passed rules or regulations restricting the right of individuals to carry weapons at meetings of the Legislature or its committees.)

4. Any school, college or professional athletic event not related to firearms. – (This provision authorizes an enhanced permit holder to carry a stun gun, concealed pistol or revolver into non-firearm related events even if signage is posted pursuant to Section 45-9-101(13). However, if signage were posted relating to a firearm related school, college or professional event, enhanced permit holders would not be authorized to carry their weapons.)

5. Any portion of an establishment, licensed to dispense alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, that is primarily devoted to dispensing alcoholic beverages. -- (This provision would only have applicability to governmental entities to the extent that such entities owned an establishment that was primarily devoted to consuming alcoholic beverages.)

6. Any portion of an establishment in which beer or light wine is consumed on the premises, that is primarily devoted to such purpose. -- (This provision would only have applicability to governmental entities to the extent that such entities owned an establishment that was primarily devoted to consuming beer or light wine.)

7. Any elementary or secondary school facility. – (See MS AG Op. Cantrell (Oct. 1, 2013)).

8. Any junior college, community college, college or university facility.

9. Inside the passenger terminal of any airport. – (Any person may bring a weapon into a passenger terminal if brought in for the purposes of properly lawfully checking or shipping such weapon. An enhanced permit holder could of course still be arrested under federal law for possessing a weapon in areas prohibited by federal law.)

10. Any church or other place of worship. (Practically speaking this provision would not apply to public entities who do not own or control places of worship. This provision has little practical value because private land owners can generally always allow or disallow anyone from carrying a weapon on their private property regardless of whether the state has granted a license. – See MS AG Op. Cantrell (Oct. 1, 2013)).

11. Any place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law. – (This provision can only be read to mean that an enhanced permit holder carrying a weapon on prohibited federal property would not be subject to prosecution for state law violations. The federal government certainly could and probably would prosecute anyone bringing a weapon into an unauthorized area regardless of the person's possession of a state permit.).

12. In a parade or demonstration for which a permit is required.

13. In courthouses except in courtrooms during a judicial proceeding. -- (The right to carry in courthouses except in courtrooms during judicial proceedings is granted to enhanced permit holders expressly by Section 97-37-7 without reference to Section 45-9-101(13). Section 45-9-101(13) states that regular permit holders may not carry in "courthouses" or "courtrooms" with the caveat that nothing contained therein precludes a judge from determining who "will" carry a weapon "in his courtroom." Presumably under this authority, a judge has authority to determine who will, who can and who cannot carry a weapon in his courtroom. However, the governing authority of the jurisdiction, whether municipal or county could restrict a regular permit holder from initial entry into the courthouse, as opposed to the courtroom, by posting a sign.

However, such signage could not prevent an enhanced permit holder from entry into the courthouse. Under no interpretation of the law would either a regular or enhanced permit holder be authorized to carry a firearm into a courtroom during a judicial proceeding unless authorized by the judge. Likewise, as noted above, an individual would not have unfettered gun carrying access to places within the building that are not generally open to the general public. (See Mississippi Supreme Court Ruling on 6/7/18 that allows Enhanced Permits Holders to carry in court houses not in courtrooms.)

This opinion does not affect the rights of property owners or custodians as follows:

1. Private landowners may post signs or otherwise prevent carrying of onto weapons onto their private property

2. State or local governmental entities may prohibit concealed carry by enhanced permit holders into areas posted with no weapons signage if the place is not one of the 13 enumerated places above.

3. Federal installations and buildings can prohibit the carrying of weapons regardless of these state statutes.

The opinion likewise points out that an enhanced permit holder who carries a weapon onto property in a place not listed in the 13 places above in violation of a posted sign could be charged for criminal trespass

The following list identifies places which by statute you cannot carry regardless of the type of permit you have:

1. Any place of nuisance defined in Section 95-3-1 which would include "any place . . . in or upon which lewdness, assignation or prostitution is conducted, permitted, continued or exists or any other place . . . or upon which a controlled substance as defined in section 41-29-105 . . . is unlawfully used, possessed, sold or delivered and the personal property and contents used in conducting or maintaining any such place for any such purpose. See Miss. Code Ann. Section 95-3-1 (as amended).

2. Any police, sheriff or highway patrol station.

3. Any detention facility, prison or jail

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§ 45-9-51. Prohibition Against Adoption of Certain Ordinances.

(2) No public housing authority operating in this state may adopt any rule or regulation restricting a lessee or tenant of a dwelling owned and operated by such public housing authority from lawfully possessing firearms or ammunition or their components within individual dwelling units or the transportation of such firearms or ammunition or their components to and from such dwelling. Laws, 2014, ch. 443, §

§ 45-9-53 Exceptions; Procedure for Challenging Ordinances; County or Municipal Programs to Purchase Weapons From Citizens.

(1) This section and Section 45-9-51 do not affect the authority that a county or municipality may have under another law:

(4) No county or a municipality may use the written notice provisions of Section 45-9-101(13) to prohibit firearms on property under their control except:

(a) At a location listed in Section 45-9-101(13) indicating that a license issued under Section 45-9-101 does not authorize the holder to carry a firearm into that location, as long as the sign also indicates that carrying a firearm is unauthorized only for license holders without a training endorsement or that it is a location included in Section 310 97-37-7(2) where carrying a firearm is unauthorized for all license holders; and

(b) At any location under the control of the county or municipality aside from a location listed in subsection (1)(f) of this section or Section 45-9-101(13) indicating that the possession of a firearm is

prohibited on the premises, as long as the sign also indicates that it does not apply to a person properly licensed under Section 45-9-101 or Section 97-37-7(2) to carry a concealed firearm or to a person lawfully carrying a firearm that is not concealed.

(f) To regulate the carrying of a firearm at:

(i) a public park or at a public meeting of a county, municipality or other governmental body;

(ii) a political rally, parade or official political meeting; or

(iii) a nonfirearm-related school, college or professional athletic event;

(5) (a) A citizen of this state, or a person licensed to carry a concealed pistol or revolver under Section 45-9-101, or a person licensed to carry a concealed pistol or revolver with the endorsement under Section 97-37-7, who is adversely affected by an ordinance or posted written notice adopted by a county or municipality in violation of this section may file suit for declarative and injunctive relief against a county or municipality in the circuit court which shall have jurisdiction over the county or municipality where the violation of this section occurs. Laws, 2015, ch. 433, § 4

Firearms on Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA Property)

12. Firearms Are Prohibited Except As Specifically Noted. While firearms and weapons are generally prohibited, possession of firearms and other weapons associated with in-season hunting excursions are permissible if they are unloaded and properly cased. **Possession of firearms at TVA public boat ramps (and associated roads and parking areas when used in conjunction with a boat ramp) is allowed if the possession complies with the law of the state where the boat ramp is located and is not otherwise prohibited by law. Otherwise firearms and weapons are prohibited.**

Note: Day Use Areas, Campgrounds, and other developed recreational TVA lands are still off limits. TVA lands where Hunting is presently allowed, Undeveloped Shorelines, Boat Ramps, Boat Ramp Parking Areas and Associated Roads for those areas is where carry will be allowed. Rules for Undeveloped Areas. Camp Ground Rules

For Federal Restrictions on Firearms see the **USA Page**.

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

"YES" (For Non Enhanced Permit Holders)

"YES/NO" ? For Enhanced Permit Holders. See AG Opinion No. 2001-00295

§ 45-9-101. License to Carry Stun Gun, Concealed Pistol or Revolver

(13) … In addition to the places enumerated in this subsection, the carrying of a stun gun, concealed pistol or revolver may be disallowed in any place in the discretion of the person or entity exercising control over the physical location of such place by the placing of a written notice clearly readable at a distance of not less than ten (10) feet that the "carrying of a pistol or revolver is prohibited." No license issued pursuant to this section shall authorize the participants in a parade or demonstration for which a permit is required to carry a stun gun, concealed pistol or revolver. 2023, ch. 517, § 5eff. 7/1/2023

§ 97-37-7(2) … all provisions of Mississippi enhanced carry law shall also be authorized to carry weapons in courthouses except in courtrooms during a judicial proceeding, and any location listed in subsection (13) of Section 45-9-101, except any place of nuisance as defined in Section 95-3-1, any police, sheriff or highway patrol station or any detention facility, prison or jail. 2019, ch. 313, § 1

Parking Lot Storage Law

§ 45-9-55. Employer not Permitted to Prohibit Transportation or Storage of Firearms on Employer Property; Exceptions; Certain Immunity for Employer

(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, a public or private employer may not establish, maintain, or enforce any policy or rule that has the effect of prohibiting a person from transporting or storing a firearm in a locked vehicle in any parking lot, parking garage, or other designated parking area.

(2) A private employer may prohibit an employee from transporting or storing a firearm in a vehicle in a parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area the employer provides for employees **to which access is restricted or limited through the use of a gate, security station or other means of restricting or limiting general public access onto the property.** **Note:** This section was used by the **US 4th Circuit Court Decision** to uphold the firing of a worker storing a legal firearm in his vehicle at work.

(3) This section shall not apply to vehicles owned or leased by an employer and used by the employee in the course of his business.

(4) This section does not authorize a person to transport or store a firearm on any premises where the possession of a firearm is prohibited by state or federal law.

(5) A public or private employer shall not be liable in a civil action for damages resulting from or arising out of an occurrence involving the transportation, storage, possession or use of a firearm covered by this section.

Laws, 2006, ch. 450, § 2,

Must Inform Officer Immediately on Contact By Law?

"NO"

§ 45-9-101 (1) (b) The licensee must carry the license, together with valid identification, at all times in which the licensee is carrying a stun gun, concealed pistol or revolver and must display both the license and proper identification upon demand by a law enforcement officer. A violation of the provisions of this paragraph (b) shall constitute a noncriminal violation with a penalty of Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00) and shall be enforceable by summons. 2023, ch. 517, § 5eff. 7/1/2023

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

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

***State Parks:** **YES** **State Park Administrative Rules**

State/National Forests: **I can find no reference to no firearms allowed.**

State WMA: **YES** **WMA Regulations**

Road Side Rest Areas: **YES** **If Not Posted**

***Notice:** If State Park Carry is Legal in this state and if that state park is located on a lake created by the US Army Corp of Engineers (COE) who owns the land and leases it to the state for that park the park is Off Limits to the legal carrying of firearms per federal law. **36 CFR 327.13** District Commanders received this Memorandum detailing how they could authorize someone to carry on (COE) property. The (COE) has also

put out a Pamphlet on carrying firearms on (COE) Property. They do not post their property you must know the boundaries. Hunting **is usually** allowed during hunting season.

RV/Car Carry Without a Permit/License

§ 97-37-1. Deadly Weapons; Carrying While Concealed; Use or Attempt to Use; Penalties; "Concealed" Defined

(2) It shall not be a violation of this section for any person over the age of eighteen (18) years to carry a firearm or deadly weapon concealed within the confines of his own home or his place of business, or any real property associated with his home or business or within any motor vehicle. Laws, 2023, ch. 461, § 5

§ 45-9-101 (24) A license under this section is not required for a loaded or unloaded pistol or revolver to be carried upon the person in a sheath, belt holster or shoulder holster or in a purse, handbag, satchel, other similar bag or briefcase or fully enclosed case if the person is not engaged in criminal activity other than a misdemeanor traffic offense, is not otherwise prohibited from possessing a pistol or revolver under state or federal law, and is not in a location prohibited under subsection (13) of this section. However, the medical use of medical cannabis by a cardholder who is a registered qualifying patient which is lawful under the provisions of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act and in compliance with rules and regulations adopted thereunder shall not disqualify a person under this subsection (24) solely because the person is prohibited from possessing a firearm under 18 USCS Section 922(g)(3) due to such medical use of medical cannabis.

(25) An applicant for a license under this section shall have the option of, instead of being issued a separate card for the license, having the license appear as a notation on the individual's driver's license or identification card. If the applicant chooses this option, the license issued under this section shall have the same expiration date as the driver's license or identification card, and renewal shall take place at the same time and place as renewal of the driver's license or identification card. The Commissioner of Public Safety shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations which may be necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the concurrent application and renewal processes. 2023, ch. 517, § 5eff. 7/1/2023

Note: Anyone who is 18 years of age and can legally possess a firearm can carry it as described in 45-9-101 (24) above without any type of permit/license.

Open Carry (Without a Valid Permit/License)

Starting July 1, 2013 Mississippi is an Open Carry State without any type of Permit/License needed. Places as listed in the "Places Off Limits" would apply to those who open carry. See the "RV/Car Carry Without a Permit" section for carrying in a vehicle.

§ 97-37-1 Deadly Weapons; Carrying While Concealed; Use or Attempt to Use; Penalties; "Concealed" Defined.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "concealed" means hidden or obscured from common observation and shall not include any weapon listed in subsection (1) of this section, including, but not limited to, a loaded or unloaded pistol carried upon the person in a sheath, belt holster or shoulder holster that is wholly or partially visible, or carried upon the person in a scabbard or case for carrying the weapon that is wholly or partially visible. 2023, ch. 461, § 5

Note: Sec 4 above was added as this change in Mississippi law as a partially concealed firearm was considered concealed under the old law. (Effective Date 7/1/13)

The state preempts all firearm laws in the state and local authorities can't have Laws/Ordinances against open carry. Local Authorities can prohibit carrying firearms in city parks, municipal buildings etc. see State

Preemption Section below. 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.

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. 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.

Note: Also see AG Opinions/Court Case Section below for AG Opinion on Open Carry.

State Preemption

§ 45-9-51. Prohibition Against Adoption of Certain Ordinances.
(1) Subject to the provisions of Section 45-9-53, no county or municipality may adopt any ordinance that restricts the possession, carrying, transportation, sale, transfer or ownership of firearms or ammunition or their components.

(2) No public housing authority operating in this state may adopt any rule or regulation restricting a lessee or tenant of a dwelling owned and operated by such public housing authority from lawfully possessing firearms or ammunition or their components within individual dwelling units or the transportation of such firearms or ammunition or their components to and from such dwelling. Laws, 2014, ch. 443, § 3

§ 45-9-53. Exceptions. (Edited for Space Considerations)

(1) This section and Section 45-9-51 do not affect the authority that a county or municipality may have under another law:

(a) To require citizens or public employees to be armed for personal or national defense, law enforcement, or another lawful purpose;

(b) To regulate the discharge of firearms within the limits of the county or municipality. A county or municipality may not apply a regulation relating to the discharge of firearms or other weapons in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the county or municipality or in an area annexed by the county or municipality after September 1, 1981, if the firearm or other weapon is:

(i) A shotgun, air rifle or air pistol, BB gun or bow and arrow discharged:

1. On a tract of land of ten (10) acres or more and more than one hundred fifty (150) feet from a residence or occupied building located on another property; and

2. In a manner not reasonably expected to cause a projectile to cross the boundary of the tract; or

(ii) A center fire or rim fire rifle or pistol or a muzzle-loading rifle or pistol of any caliber discharged:

1. On a tract of land of fifty (50) acres or more and more than three hundred (300) feet from a residence or occupied building located on another property; and

2. In a manner not reasonably expected to cause a projectile to cross the boundary of the tract;

(c) To regulate the use of property or location of businesses for uses therein pursuant to fire code, zoning ordinances, or land-use regulations, so long as such codes, ordinances and

regulations are not used to circumvent the intent of Section 45-9-51 or paragraph (e) of this subsection;

(d) To regulate the use of firearms in cases of insurrection, riots and natural disasters in which the city finds such regulation necessary to protect the health and safety of the public. However, the provisions of this section shall not apply to the lawful possession of firearms ammunition or components of firearms or ammunition;

(e) To regulate the storage or transportation of explosives in order to protect the health and safety of the public, with the exception of black powder which is exempt up to twenty-five (25) pounds per private residence and fifty (50) pounds per retail dealer;

(f) To regulate the carrying of a firearm at:

(i) a public park or at a public meeting of a county, municipality or other governmental body;

(ii) a political rally, parade or official political meeting; or

(iii) a nonfirearm-related school, college or professional athletic event; or

(g) To regulate the receipt of firearms by pawnshops.

(2) The exception provided by subsection (1)(f) of this section does not apply if the firearm was in or carried to and from an area designated for use in a lawful hunting, fishing or other sporting event and the firearm is of the type commonly used in the activity.

(3) This section and Section 45-9-51 do not authorize a county or municipality or their officers or employees to act in contravention of Section 33-7-303.

(4) No county or a municipality may use the written notice provisions of Section 45-9-101(13) to prohibit firearms on property under their control except in the locations listed in subsection (1)(f) of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the ability of a county or municipality to post signs:

(a) At a location listed in Section 45-9-101(13) indicating that a license issued under Section 45-9-101 does not authorize the holder to carry a firearm into that location, as long as the sign also indicates that carrying a firearm is unauthorized only for license holders without a training endorsement or that it is a location included in Section 310 97-37-7(2) where carrying a firearm is unauthorized for all license holders; and

(b) At any location under the control of the county or municipality aside from a location listed in subsection (1)(f) of this section or Section 45-9-101(13) indicating that the possession of a firearm is prohibited on the premises, as long as the sign also indicates that it does not apply to a person properly licensed under Section 45-9-101 or Section 97-37-7(2) to carry a concealed firearm or to a person lawfully carrying a firearm that is not concealed.

(5) (a) A citizen of this state, or a person licensed to carry a concealed pistol or revolver under Section 45-9-101, or a person licensed to carry a concealed pistol or revolver with the endorsement under Section 97-37-7, who is adversely affected by an ordinance or posted written notice adopted by a county or municipality in violation of this section may file suit for declarative and injunctive relief against a county or municipality in the circuit court which shall have jurisdiction over the county or municipality where the violation of this section occurs. Amended by Laws, 2015, ch. 433, SB 2619, 4, eff. 4/9/2015.

Deadly Force Laws

§ 97-3-15 Homicide; Justifiable Homicide; Use of Defensive Force; Duty to Retreat
§ 97-3-17 Homicide; Excusable Homicide.

Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click "Here"

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

YES **§ 45-9-101**

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

~~§ 45-9-101 Must be licensed to carry a stun gun.~~ **This statute repealed when permitless Carry Passed.**

LEOSA State Information

§ 45-1-101. Certain Retired Law Enforcement Officers May Obtain Certification From Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police to Carry Concealed Weapon Without Permit.

(1) This section may be referred to as the "HR218 Qualification Law."

(2) Any retired law enforcement officer who resides in this state and for whom the law enforcement agency from which the officer retired does not participate in the necessary certification for the retired officer to be certified according to the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 or who does not reside in convenient proximity to the law enforcement agency from which the officer retired, may obtain the necessary certification from the Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police. 2024, ch. 477, § 4

Note: Info hard to find in Mississippi.Any Instructor who can qualify Police Officers can qualify a Retired Officer under LEOSA. We recommends you contact the Local Police and see who Qualifies them.

See the LEOSA Section on the **USA Page** at Handgunlaw.us for more LEOSA Information.

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

- **Mississippi AG - Students and Firearm in Car on School Grounds**
- **Mississippi AG - Are Knives Deadly Weapons? Concealed?**
- **Mississippi AG - Carry in Vehicle Without Permit**
- **Mississippi AG - Carry in Vehicle Without Permit**
- **Mississippi AG – Carry Restrictions With Endorsement**
- **Mississippi AG – Enhanced Permit and College/University Campus**
- **Mississippi AG - Open Carry Opinion (New Law 2013)**

- **Mississippi AG – Carry With Enhanced Permit on School Property and Buildings**
- **Mississippi AG – Fees That Can Be Charged an Applicant.**
- **Mississippi AG – Where Enhanced Permit Holders Can Carry.**
- **Mississippi AG – Full Opinion (On Above) Addresses Open and Concealed Carry**
- **Mississippi AG – Cities Can't Ban Open Carry in Their facilities**
- **MS Supreme Ct – Upholds Parking Lot Storage Law**
- **MS Supreme Ct – Enhanced Permit Holders Can Carry In Courthouses.**
- **Mississippi AG – Honors Permits for those 18 and Older From Other States.**
- **US 4th Circuit Ct – Ruling on Parking Lot Law Storage Law and Secured Parking Lots Not Covered by Law.** (6/1/20)
- **US Dist Ct. Southern Dist. Of MS – Jackson MS Mayor and Banning Open Carry** (6/12/20)

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Link to State Statutes

Airport Carry: **NO** **With Regular Permit § 45-9-101.** **YES** **With Enhanced § 97-37-7**

Training Valid for: **No set time period.**

Time Period to Establish Residency: Is a resident of the state and has been a resident for twelve (12) months or longer immediately preceding the filing of the application. However, this residency requirement may be waived, provided the applicant possesses a valid permit from another state, is active military personnel stationed in Mississippi or is a retired law enforcement officer establishing residency in the state.

Minimum Age for Permit/License: **21 (18 if Active Military or Veteran)**

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

State Reciprocity/How They Honor Other States Statute: **§ 45-9-101.**

State Firearm Laws: **§ 45-9-31 thru 45-9-151 & § 97-37-1 thru 97-37-37**

State Deadly Force Laws: **§ 97-3-15**

State Knife Laws: **§ 97-37-1 / 37-5 / 37-7 & § 97-37-17 / 37-19**

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: **Electric Weapons § 45-9-101 (Must have permit to carry)**

Body Armor Laws: **Unknown**

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? **NO** **§ 45-9-101**

State Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s: **MS Statute § 97-37-15**

Is carrying of a Concealed Firearm with Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal? **YES** Except When Hunting with Primitive Weapons & Bows. Not allowed to Shine while in possession of a firearm. AL Outdoor Digest

Notes

What Does MS Consider A Loaded Firearm?

Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks

Hunting From Roads, Vehicles and Boats

"Unloaded" means that a cartridge or shell is not positioned in the barrel or magazine of the firearm or in a clip, magazine, or retainer attached to the firearm. An unloaded muzzle-loading caplock firearm is one with the cap removed. An unloaded muzzleloading flintlock firearm is one with no powder in the flashpan.

State Emergency Powers

§ 33-7-303. Power of Governor to Declare Martial Law.

(1) The Governor, if he deems it necessary to preserve law and order, may by proclamation declare martial law to be in effect in any county or area in the state. Such proclamation shall be in writing, shall define the limits of such martial law, and specify the forces to be used, and the extent and degree to which martial law may be employed.

(2) (a) Nothing in this section or in any other statute shall be construed to confer upon the Governor or any official or employee of any department, agency or political subdivision of the state the power to:

(i) Confiscate or seize a firearm, ammunition, or components of firearms or ammunition from a person who is in lawful possession of such firearm, ammunition, or components of ammunition; or

(ii) Impose additional restrictions as to the lawful possession, transfer, sale, carrying, storage, display or use of firearms, ammunition, or components of firearms or ammunition.

(b) For the purposes of this subsection:

(i) "Ammunition" means a cartridge, shell or other device containing explosive or incendiary material designed and intended for use in a firearm.

(ii) "Firearm" means any weapon which will or is designed to expel any projectile by the action of an explosive. Laws, 2014, ch. 443, § 1,

§ 45-9-53. Exceptions; Procedure for Challenging Ordinances; County or Municipal Programs to Purchase Weapons From Citizens.

(1) This section and Section 45-9-51 do not affect the authority that a county or municipality may have under another law:

(d) To regulate the use of firearms in cases of insurrection, riots and natural disasters in which the city finds such regulation necessary to protect the health and safety of the public. However, the provisions of this section shall not apply to the lawful possession of firearms, ammunition or components of firearms or ammunition;

(e) To regulate the storage or transportation of explosives in order to protect the health and safety of the public, with the exception of black powder which is exempt up to twenty-five (25) pounds per private residence and fifty (50) pounds per retail dealer;

(f) To regulate the carrying of a firearm at: (i) a public park or at a public meeting of a county, municipality or other governmental body; (ii) a political rally, parade or official political meeting; or (iii) a nonfirearm-related school, college or professional athletic event; or

(g) To regulate the receipt of firearms by pawnshops 2015, ch. 433, § 4

Note: Local Government authorities in time of emergency have no authority over the lawful possession of firearms, ammunition or components of firearms or ammunition;

§ 33-15-11. Emergency Management Powers of Governor (Edited for Space Considerations)

(a) The Governor shall have general direction and control of the activities of the Emergency Management Agency and Council and shall be responsible for the carrying out of the provisions of this article, and in the event of a man-made, technological or natural disaster or emergency beyond local control, may assume direct operational control over all or any part of the emergency management functions within this state.

(b) In performing his duties under this article, the Governor is further authorized and empowered:

(1) To make, amend and rescind the necessary orders, rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this article with due consideration of the plans of the federal government, and to enter into disaster assistance grants and agreements with the federal government under the terms as may be required by federal law.

(5) To take such action and give such directions to state and local law enforcement officers and agencies as may be reasonable and necessary for the purpose of securing compliance with the provisions of this article and with the orders, rules and regulations made pursuant thereto.

(9) To delegate any authority vested in him under this article, and to provide for the sub delegation of any such authority.

(14) To authorize the Commissioner of Public Safety to select, train, organize and equip a ready reserve of auxiliary highway patrolmen.

(15) To suspend or limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of alcoholic beverages, firearms, explosives and combustibles.

(16) To control, restrict and regulate by rationing, freezing, use of quotas, prohibitions on shipments, price fixing, allocation or other means, the use, sale or distribution of food, feed, fuel, clothing and other commodities, materials, goods or services.

(c) In addition to the powers conferred upon the Governor in this section, the Legislature hereby expressly delegates to the Governor the following powers and duties in the event of an impending enemy attack, an enemy attack, or a man-made, technological or natural disaster where such disaster is beyond local control:

(1) To suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the orders, rules or regulations of any state agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any statute, order, rule or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster or emergency.

(4) To perform and exercise such other functions, powers and duties as may be necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population in coping with a disaster or emergency.

(d) This section does not authorize the Governor or a 224 designee of the Governor to act in contravention of Section 225 33-7-303. Laws, 2014, ch. 443, § 2,

§ 45-9-51. Prohibition Against Adoption of Certain Ordinances

(1) Subject to the provisions of Section 45-9-53, no county or municipality may adopt any ordinance that restricts or requires the possession, transportation, sale, transfer or ownership of firearms or ammunition or their components. Laws, 2014, ch. 443, § 3,

§ 45-9-53. Exceptions

(1) This section and Section 45-9-51 do not affect the authority that a county or municipality may have under another law:

(d) To regulate the use of firearms in cases of insurrection, riots and natural disasters in which the city finds such regulation necessary to protect the health and safety of the public. However, the provisions of this section shall not apply to the lawful possession of firearms, ammunition or components of firearms or ammunition; Amended by Laws, 2015, ch. 433, SB 2619, 4, eff. 4/9/2015

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.

Mississippi 18 Y/O **§ 97-37-14**

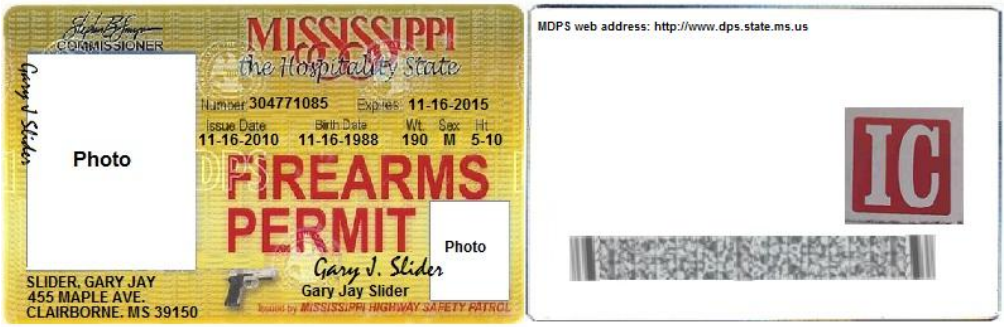
This is the minimum age for possessing and transporting a handgun unloaded and secured in a vehicle without any type of permit/license to carry firearms.

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

Mississippi Permit with Endorsement on back for Advanced Training Allowing Carry In Many Off Limit Places.



New Format Below. If Enhanced it will have "Instructor Certified" in Red like the image below.



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

Updates to this Page

Archive of Previous Updates 2

1/17/2024 – Link to Campground Rules Add for TVA Property Listing in Places Off Limits.
4/10/2024 – South Carolina Now Honors the Mississippi Regular and Enhanced Permits.
7/4/2024 – Louisiana Added as Permitless Carry State in Listing Under Map.
7/30/2024 – Notice on Corp of Engineer Properties on their Lakes Added to State Park Carry.
9/6/2024 – All External Links, Statutes and Admin Rules Quoted Have Been Checked and are up to Date and Point to the Most Up to Date Edition of that Statute/Admin Rule and/or Document.
1/1/2025 - Note on Armed Campus Organization Link Which Has Information on Every States Campus Carry Statute/Regulation/Rules/Policies Added to Places Off Limits Section.
3/26/2025 – All Links Checked.
5/4/2025 – Minnesota Now Honors the Mississippi Enhanced Permit. Map Updated.
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.
3/7/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.
8/3/2026 - All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.