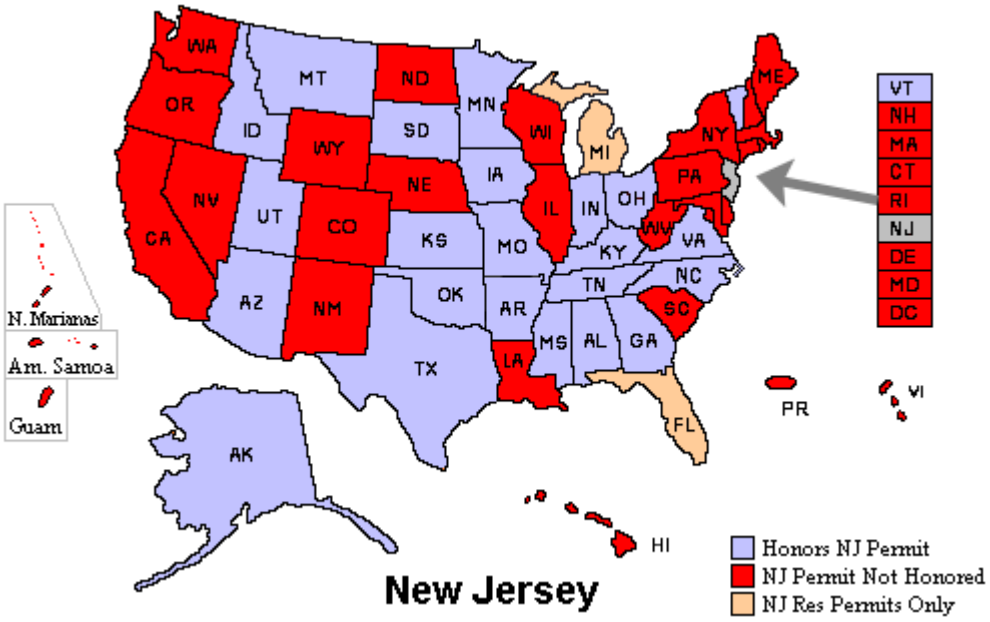
New Jersey

Shall Issue

Must Inform Officer Immediately:

YES (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.

New Jersey CCW Links

- State Firearms Site
- Application Only Through NJSP Portal
- NJ Res/Duel Res Instructions
- Permit Online Appliction
- Clifton NJ App Packet
- Forms
- State FAQ Site
- CCW Facts/FAQs
- Use of Force Training
- State Statutes
- State Admin Rules
- HP's & NJ Law FAQ 20
- Transporting Firearms FAQ 11
- State Attorney General
- Age to Carry a Firearm In Other States

Last Updated: 10/15/2026

Permits/Licenses This State Honors Listed Below

New Jersey does not honor any other states Permit/Licenses.

Easiest Way to View New Jersey Statutes

NJ has made it's Statutes very difficult to access. There are no Direct Links to any one statute or even section. The easiest way to view a statute is to go to their **Statute Listing** and click on Search. Then add the Statute you want to view by adding the Statute you are looking for, like 2C:58-4, in the search box to the right of the Simple Search box and press enter. This will take you to a listing of from one to several links with one being the one you are searching for. Handgunlaw.us believes this is the easiest and fastest way to get to the statute you wish to view.

How to Apply for a Permit

Applying for a Permit to Carry a Handgun (Initial and Renewal Application)

Instructions for NJ Residents and Dual Residency

Note: The new Infromation Page on how to apply is long but does supply all the information a person needs including Price etc at the link above.

See the New **Jersey State Police Page Website** for More Information

New Jersey Administrative Code The Gun laws in the New Jersey code can be found in Chapters 39 and 58.

Note: Handgunlaw recommends you read all of **N.J.S.2C:58-4**

N.J.S.2C:58-4 Permits to Carry handguns.

a. Scope and Duration of Authority. Scope and duration of authority. Any person who holds a valid permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to this section shall be authorized to carry a handgun in a holster concealed on their person in all parts of this State, except as prohibited by subsection e. of N.J.S.2C:39-5 and section 7 of P.L.2022, c.131 (C.2C:58-4.6). One permit shall be sufficient for all handguns owned by the holder thereof, but the permit shall apply only to a handgun carried by the actual and legal holder of the permit and, except as otherwise provided in subsection b. of section 6 of P.L.2022, c.131 (C.2C:58-4.5), shall not be construed to authorize a holder to carry a handgun openly, provided that a brief, incidental exposure of a handgun while transferring it to or from a holster or due to the shifting of the person's body position or clothing shall be deemed a de minimis infraction within the contemplation of N.J.S.2C:2-11.

All permits to carry handguns shall expire two years from the date of issuance or, in the case of an employee of an armored car company, upon termination of the employee's employment by the company occurring prior thereto whichever is earlier in time, and they may thereafter be renewed every two years in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as in the case of original applications.

b. Application forms. All applications for permits to carry handguns, and all applications for renewal of permits, shall be made on the forms and in the manner prescribed by the superintendent. Each application shall set forth the full name, date of birth, sex, residence, occupation, place of business or employment, any aliases or other names previously used by the applicant, and physical description of the applicant, and any other information the superintendent may prescribe for the determination of the applicant's eligibility for a permit and for the proper enforcement of this chapter. The application shall be signed by the applicant under oath, and shall be endorsed by not less than four reputable persons who are not related by blood or by law to the applicant and have known the applicant for at least three years preceding the date of application, and who shall certify thereon that the applicant has not engaged in any acts or made any statements that suggest the applicant is likely to engage in conduct, other than lawful self-defense, that would pose a danger to the applicant or others. The reputable persons also shall provide relevant information supporting the certification, including the nature and extent of their relationship with the applicant and information concerning their knowledge of the applicant's use of drugs or alcohol.

c. Investigation and approval. Each application shall be accompanied by a $200 application fee and shall in the first instance be submitted to the chief police officer of the municipality in which the applicant resides, or to the superintendent, if:

(1) if the applicant is an employee of an armored car company, or;

(2) if there is no chief police officer in the municipality where the applicant resides, or;

(3) if the applicant does not reside in this State; or

(4) the applicant is a mayor or other elected member of the municipal governing body.

In the case of an application made to the chief police officer of a municipality, $150 of the fee shall be retained by the municipality and the remaining $50 shall be forwarded to the superintendent. The fee amount retained by the municipality shall be used to defray the costs of investigation, administration, and processing of the permit to carry handgun applications. Application fees made to the superintendent shall be deposited into the Victims of Crime Compensation Office account.

g. Training requirement. (1) On or prior to the first day of the seventh month following the enactment of P.L.2022, c.131 (C.2C:58-4.2 et al.), the superintendent shall establish training requirements in the lawful and safe handling and storage of firearms, which shall consist of an online course of instruction, in-person classroom instruction, and target training administered by a certified firearm instructor on a firing range approved by the superintendent and on the list of approved ranges published on the State Police website. The training shall include, but not be limited to, demonstration of a level of proficiency in the use of a handgun in such manner as required by the superintendent and training, developed or approved in conjunction with the Police Training Commission, on justification in the use of deadly force under State law.

h. For purposes of this section, "holster" means a device or sheath that securely retains a handgun which, at a minimum, conceals and protects the main body of the firearm, maintains the firearm in a consistent and accessible position, and renders the trigger covered and inaccessible while the handgun is fully seated in the holster. s.1; 2022, c.131, s.3

You can check the New Jersey Administrative Code as it pertains to firearms. **13-54**

Admin Code § 13:54-2.3 Criteria for The Issuance of a Permit To Carry a Handgun

(a) No application for a permit to carry a handgun shall be approved by a chief police officer of a municipality, the Superintendent or the Superior Court, unless the applicant:

1. Is a person of good character who is not subject to any of the disabilities which would prevent him or her from obtaining a permit to purchase a handgun or a firearms purchaser identification card as provided in this chapter;

2. Has demonstrated that at the time of the application for the permit he or she is thoroughly familiar with the safe handling and use of handguns; and

~~**3. Has demonstrated a justifiable need to carry a handgun**~~. Amended by R.2007 d.378, effective December 17, 2007

Fingerprints are required. See How to Apply Section on how to Obtain.

Non-Resident Permits

Notice: With the **Supreme Court Ruling** saying that requiring a **"Justifiable Need"** for a permit to carry is unconstitutional applying now should be much easier. You still have to meet all the other requirements to obtain a permit but the Just Cause was the reasons most applications were rejected. Handgunlaw.us believes most states will try to add more requirements and add to places carry is allowed with a permit

Non-Resident Application Instructions **Forms**

Note: Out of State Applicants: If you live outside of the State of New Jersey and are not a dual resident The new Infromation Page on how to apply is long but does supply all the information a person needs on how to apply including price, fingerprints etc. at the link above.

See the New **Jersey State Police Page Website** for More Information

New Jersey Administrative Code The Gun laws in the New Jersey code can be found in Chapters 39 and 58. New Jersey laws are very difficult to search though and putting direct links to their laws is not possible.

You can check the New Jersey Administrative Code as it pertains to firearms. **13-54.**

Places Off-Limits Even With a Permit/License

Notice: Local Governments in New Jersey are passing ordinances to prohibit firearms in what they call Sensitive Places in their City/County. NJ Preemption Law allows them to do this. Be aware of signs as Handgunlaw.us believes they would have to post all the areas they are making off limits.

2C:58-4.4: Safety Requirements, Handgun Carry

a. The holder of a permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to N.J.S.2C:58-4 shall not:

(1) use or consume alcohol, a cannabis item, or a controlled substance while carrying a handgun;

(2) be under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, or a controlled substance while carrying a handgun;

(3) carry a handgun in public outside of a holster or carry a handgun in public in a holster that does not meet the requirements of subsection h. of N.J.S.2C:58-4;

(4) carry more than two firearms under the permittee's control at one time; or

(5) engage in an unjustified display of a handgun.

b. The holder of a permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to N.J.S.2C:58-4, if stopped or detained by a law enforcement officer while carrying a handgun in public or traveling with a handgun in a motor vehicle, shall:

(1) immediately disclose to the law enforcement officer that they are carrying a handgun or that a handgun is stored in the vehicle; and

(2) display the permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to N.J.S.2C:58-4. L.2022, c.131, s.5

NOTICE: US Court of Appeals Third District ruled that many of the places off limits from pervious TRO could be enforced. **US CT of Appeals 3rd Circuit Ruling June 20, 2023,**

2C:58-4.6: Prohibited Areas, Carrying, Firearms, Destructive Device

a. Except as otherwise provided in this section and in the case of a brief, incidental entry onto property, which shall be deemed a de minimis infraction within the contemplation of N.J.S.2C:2-11, it shall be a crime of the third degree for any person, other than a person lawfully carrying a firearm within the authorized scope of an exemption set forth in N.J.S.2C:39-6, to knowingly carry a firearm as defined in subsection f. of N.J.S.2C:39-1 and a crime of the second degree to knowingly possess a destructive device as defined in subsection c. of N.J.S.2C:39-1 in any of the following places, including in or upon any part of the buildings, grounds, or parking area of:

(1) a place owned, leased, or under the control of State, county or municipal government used for the purpose of government administration, including but not limited to police stations;

(2) a courthouse, courtroom, or any other premises used to conduct judicial or court administrative proceedings or functions;

(3) a State, county, or municipal correctional or juvenile justice facility, jail and any other place maintained by or for a governmental entity for the detention of criminal suspects or offenders;

(4) a State-contracted half-way house;

(5) a location being used as a polling place during the conduct of an election and places used for the storage or tabulation of ballots;

(6) within 100 feet of a place where a public gathering, demonstration or event is held for which a government permit is required, during the conduct of such gathering, demonstration or event;

(7) a school, college, university or other educational institution, and on any school bus;

(8) a child care facility, including a day care center;

(9) a nursery school, pre-school, zoo, or summer camp~~;~~

(10) a park, beach, recreation facility or area or playground owned or controlled by a State, county or local government unit, or any part of such a place, which is designated as a gun free zone by the governing authority based on considerations of public safety;

(11) youth sports events, as defined in N.J.S.5:17-1, during and immediately preceding and following the conduct of the event, except that this provision shall not apply to participants of a youth sports event which is a firearm shooting competition to which paragraph (3) of subsection b. of section 14 of P.L.1979, c.179 (C.2C:58-6.1) applies;

(12) a publicly owned or leased library or museum;

(13) a shelter for the homeless, emergency shelter for the homeless, basic center shelter program, shelter for homeless or runaway youth, children's shelter, child care shelter, shelter for victims of domestic violence, or any shelter licensed by or under the control of the Juvenile Justice Commission or the Department of Children and Families;

(14) a community residence for persons with developmental disabilities, head injuries, or terminal illnesses, or any other residential setting licensed by the Department of Human Services or Department of Health;

(15) a bar or restaurant where alcohol is served, and any other site or facility where alcohol is sold for consumption on the premises;

(16) a Class 5 Cannabis retailer or medical cannabis dispensary, including any consumption areas licensed or permitted by the Cannabis Regulatory Commission established pursuant to section 31 of P.L.2019, c.153 (C.24:6I-24);

(17) a privately or publicly owned and operated entertainment facility within this State, including but not limited to a theater, stadium, museum, arena, racetrack or other place where performances, concerts, exhibits, games or contests are held;

(18) a casino and related facilities, including but not limited to appurtenant hotels, retail premises, restaurant and bar facilities, and entertainment and recreational venues located within the casino property;

(19) a plant or operation that produces, converts, distributes or stores energy or converts one form of energy to another;

(20) an airport or public transportation hub;

(21) a health care facility, including but not limited to a general hospital, special hospital, psychiatric hospital, public health center, diagnostic center, treatment center, rehabilitation center, extended care facility, skilled nursing home, nursing home, intermediate care facility, tuberculosis hospital, chronic disease hospital, maternity hospital, outpatient clinic, dispensary, assisted living center, home health care agency, residential treatment facility, residential health care facility, medical office, or ambulatory care facility;

(22) a facility licensed or regulated by the Department of Human Services, Department of Children and Families, or Department of Health, other than a health care facility, that provides addiction or mental

health treatment or support services;

~~**(23)** a public location being used for making motion picture or television images for theatrical, commercial or educational purposes, during the time such location is being used for that purpose;~~

~~**(24)** private property, including but not limited to residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, institutional or undeveloped property, unless the owner has provided express consent or has posted a sign indicating that it is permissible to carry on the premises a concealed handgun with a valid and lawfully issued permit under N.J.S.2C:58-4, provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect the authority to keep or carry a firearm established under subsection e. of N.J.S.2C:39-6; and~~

(25) any other place in which the carrying of a firearm is prohibited by statute or rule or regulation promulgated by a federal or State agency.

~~**b. (1)** A person, other than a person lawfully carrying a firearm within the authorized scope of an exemption set forth in subsection a., c., or l. of N.J.S.2C:39-6, who is otherwise authorized under the law to carry or transport a firearm shall not do so while in a vehicle in New Jersey, unless the handgun is unloaded and contained in a closed and securely fastened case, gunbox, or locked unloaded in the trunk of the vehicle.~~

(2) A holder of a valid and lawfully issued permit to carry a handgun shall not leave a handgun outside of their immediate possession or control within a parked vehicle, unless the handgun is unloaded and contained in a closed and securely fastened case, or gunbox, and is not visible from outside of the vehicle, or is locked unloaded in the trunk or storage area of the vehicle.

c. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections a. and b. of this section, the holder of a valid and lawfully issued permit to carry under N.J.S.2C:58-4 who is otherwise prohibited under this section from carrying a concealed firearm into the parking area of a prohibited location specified in subsection a. of this section shall be permitted to:

~~**(1)** transport a concealed handgun or ammunition within a vehicle into or out of the parking area, provided that the handgun is unloaded and contained in a closed and securely fastened case, gunbox, or locked unloaded in the trunk or storage area of the vehicle;~~

(2) store a handgun or ammunition within a locked lock box and out of plain view within the vehicle in the parking area;

(3) transport a concealed handgun in the immediate area surrounding their vehicle within a prohibited parking lot area only for the limited purpose of storing or retrieving the handgun within a locked lock box in the vehicle's trunk or other place inside the vehicle that is out of plain view; and

(4) transport a concealed handgun between a vehicle parked within a prohibited parking lot area and a place other than a prohibited place enumerated in subsection a. of this section, provided that the person immediately leaves the parking lot area and does not enter into or on the grounds of the prohibited place with the handgun.

i. (1) Nothing in N.J.S.2C:39-5 shall be construed to prevent any person who is 18 years of age or older and who has not been convicted of a crime, from possession for the purpose of personal self-defense of one pocket-sized device which contains and releases not more than three-quarters of an ounce of chemical substance not ordinarily capable of lethal use or of inflicting serious bodily injury, but rather, is intended to produce temporary physical discomfort or disability through being vaporized or otherwise dispensed in the air. Any person in possession of any device in violation of this subsection shall be deemed and adjudged to be a disorderly person, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than $100. L.2022, c.131, s.7

2C:39-5 Firearms or Other Weapons in Educational Institutions.

e.(3) Any person who knowingly has in his possession any imitation firearm in or upon any part of the buildings or grounds of any school, college, university or other educational institution, without the written authorization of the governing officer of the institution, or while on any school bus is a disorderly person, irrespective of whether he possesses a valid permit to carry a firearm or a valid firearms purchaser identification card. 2013, c.113, s.1.

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.

N.J.A.C. 13:69D-1.13 Firearms; Possession Within Casino or Casino Simulcasting Facility

(a) No person, including the security department members, shall possess or be permitted to possess any pistol or firearm within a casino or casino simulcasting facility without the express written approval of the Division provided that employees and agents of the Division may possess such pistols or firearms at the discretion of the director of the Division. At the request of the casino licensee's security department and upon its notification to the State Police, a law enforcement officer may, in an emergency situation, enter a casino or casino simulcasting facility with a firearm.

(b) To obtain approval for the possession of a pistol or firearm within a casino or casino simulcasting facility, a person shall be required to demonstrate that:

1. He or she has received an adequate course of training in the possession and use of such pistol or firearm;
2. He or she is the holder of a valid license for the possession of such pistol or firearm; and
3. There is a compelling need for the possession of such pistol or firearm within the casino or casino simulcasting facility.

(c) Each casino licensee shall cause to be posted in a conspicuous location at each entrance to the casino and casino simulcasting facility a sign that may be easily read stating:

"By law, no person shall possess any pistol or firearm within the casino or casino simulcasting facility without the express written permission of the Division of Gaming Enforcement." R.2015 d.125

Note: See Preemption Section. Cities and Towns can have ordinances concerning firearms. The state gives them this authority.

Note: The United States Court of Appeals For the Third Circuit has ruled that Section 926A of Title 18 of the United States Code only protects those traveling by vehicle and does not cover a person transporting a firearm through an airport terminal to board an aircraft with an unloaded secured firearm in a locked box to be declared and in checked baggage to the airline. See Court ruling **Here**.

Nat. Park Ferry Service to Liberty/Ellis Island & Statute of Liberty Monument

Prohibited Items on the Ferries and Park Property

ALL weapons, including firearms, ammunition, BB guns, compressed air guns, pellet guns, realistic replicas of firearms, starter pistols, flare guns, tasers, stun guns, shocking devices, throwing stars, hand cuffs and hand cuff keys, replica weapons, gun powder, gun and/or firearm parts, swords, sabers, billy clubs, black jacks, brass knuckles, martial arts weapons, night sticks, nunchucks, any dangerous items, any "dual-use" items that could be dangerous. All of these items are strictly prohibited on the ferry and in the park.

Possession and Transportation of Hollow Point Ammo

2C:39-3. Prohibited Weapons and Devices.

f. Dum-Dum or Body Armor Penetrating Ammunition.

(1) Any person, other than a law enforcement officer or persons engaged in activities pursuant to subsection f. of N.J.S.2C:39-6, who knowingly has in his possession any hollow nose or dum-dum bullet, or

(2) any person, other than a collector of firearms or ammunition as curios or relics as defined in Title 18, United States Code, section 921 (a) (13) and has in his possession a valid Collector of Curios and Relics License issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, who knowingly has in his possession any armor piercing ammunition, as defined in subsection gg. of N.J.S.2C:39-1, is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree. For purposes of this section, a collector may possess not more than three examples of each distinctive variation of the ammunition described above. A distinctive variation includes a different head stamp, composition, design, or color. 2025, c.255, s.2.

From the New Jersey State Police FAQs

20. Question: I'm not a police officer, are hollow points legal for me to possess?

Answer: Yes. According to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-3f, 2C:39-3(g)(2) and 2C:39-6f, they are legal for purchase and possession in your home or on land owned by you, at a gun range, or while traveling to and from such places. Hollow point ammunition is NOT legal for concealed carry in New Jersey. Ammunition lacking a hollow cavity at the tip, such as those with a polymer filling, are not considered to be HP ammunition.

2C:58-6.1 Possession of Firearms by Minors; Exceptions.

14. a. No person under the age of 18 years shall purchase, barter or otherwise acquire a firearm and no person under the age of 21 years shall purchase, barter or otherwise acquire a handgun, unless the person is authorized to possess the handgun in connection with the performance of official duties under the provisions of N.J.S.2C:39-6. 2025, c.35, s.24

40:48-1: Ordinances; general purpose.

Firearms and fireworks. 18. Regulate and prohibit the sale and use of guns, pistols, firearms, and fireworks of all descriptions; 2021, c.395, s.2.

Note: County and City governments can regulate firearms.

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

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

"YES"

Note: Handgunlaw.us believes when you come across a business that is posted that you not just walk away. That business needs to know that they lost your business because of their "No Gun" sign. Giving them a "No Firearms = No Money" card would do just that. You can print free "No Firearms = No Money" cards by going **Here**.

Must Inform Officer Immediately on Contact By Law?

"YES"

2C:58-4.4: Safety Requirements, Handgun Carry.

b. The holder of a permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to N.J.S.2C:58-4, if stopped or detained by a law enforcement officer while carrying a handgun in public or traveling with a handgun in a motor vehicle, shall:

(1) immediately disclose to the law enforcement officer that they are carrying a handgun or that a handgun is stored in the vehicle; and

(2) display the permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to N.J.S.2C:58-4. L.2022, c.131, s.5

2C:58-4.5: Restrictions, Public Carrying, Handgun

…….it shall be a crime of the fourth degree for any person in a public place:

a. to carry a handgun concealed on or about their person, except as permitted in accordance with N.J.S.2C:39-6, without possessing on their person a valid and lawfully issued permit to carry under N.J.S.2C:58-4 ~~and proof of the liability insurance~~ L.2022, c.131, s.6

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

Carry Allowed in these Areas:

State Parks: NO **7:2-2.17**

State/National Forests: YES

State WMA: YES

Road Side Rest Areas: ???

RV/Car Carry (Without a Valid Permit/License)

A New Jersey permit to carry is required to have a loaded handgun in a vehicle.

2C:58-4.6: Prohibited Areas, Carrying, Firearms, Destructive Device

b. (1) A person, other than a person lawfully carrying a firearm within the authorized scope of an exemption set forth in subsection a., c., or l. of N.J.S.2C:39-6, who is otherwise authorized under the law to carry or transport a firearm shall not do so while in a vehicle in New Jersey, unless the handgun is unloaded and contained in a closed and securely fastened case, gunbox, or locked unloaded in the trunk of the vehicle.

(2) A holder of a valid and lawfully issued permit to carry a handgun shall not leave a handgun outside of their immediate possession or control within a parked vehicle, unless the handgun is unloaded and contained in a closed and securely fastened case, or gunbox, and is not visible from outside of the vehicle, or is locked unloaded in the trunk or storage area of the vehicle. L.2022, c.131, s.7

New Jersey Law also states that before possessing or transporting any rifle or shotgun without first having obtained a New Jersey firearms purchaser identification card (FPIC), or possessing or transporting any handgun without first having obtained a New Jersey handgun carry permit is a violation of their law.

You can transport it from place of purchase to home. Home to a Certified Shooting Range. Going hunting but must have a valid hunting license. You just can't have it in your vehicle. Again the law says you must have a FPIC or NJ Carry Permit to even transport firearms in NJ. From all I read and have heard someone from outside NJ must have a very good reason to transport a firearm into NJ and better have the proper paperwork.

So Called Assault Weapons in New Jersey

- More than 50 specified firearms or their copies (§ 2C:39-1w(1), (2));
- A semi-automatic shotgun with either a magazine capacity exceeding six rounds, a pistol grip, or a folding stock (§ 2C:39-1w(3));
- A semi-automatic rifle with a fixed magazine capacity exceeding 15 rounds (§ 2C:39-1w(4)); and
- A part or combination of parts designed or intended to convert a firearm into an assault firearm, or any combination of parts from which an assault firearm may be readily assembled if those parts are in the possession or under the control of the same person (§ 2C:39-1w(5)).

From the New Jersey State Police

All firearms transported through the State of New Jersey:
The following guidelines are provided in order to assist law enforcement officers in applying New Jersey's firearms laws to persons who are transporting firearms **through** the State of New Jersey.

I. New Jersey laws governing firearms permits, purchaser identification cards, registration and licenses do not apply to a person who is transporting the firearm through this State if that person is transporting the firearm in a manner permitted by federal law, 18 U.S.C.A. 926A.

II. This federal law permitting interstate transportation of a firearm applies only if all of the following requirements are met:

A. The person's possession of the firearm was lawful in the state in which the journey began;

B. The person's possession of the firearm will be lawful in the state in which the journey will end;

C. The person is transporting the firearm for lawful purpose

D. The firearm is unloaded

E. The firearm is not directly accessible from the passenger compartment of the vehicle

F. The ammunition is not directly accessible from the passenger compartment of the vehicle

G. If the vehicle does not have a compartment separate from the passenger compartment, the firearm and ammunition must be in a locked container other than the vehicle's glove compartment or console;

H. The person is not

1. a convicted felon
2. a fugitive from justice an addict or unlawful user of drugs, or
3. an illegal alien

I The person has not

1. been adjudicated to be a mental defective
2. been committed to a mental institution
3. been dishonorably discharged from the armed forces, or
4. renounced his United States Citizenship

III. A person who is transporting a firearm though the State of New Jersey in the manner permitted by person's possession 18 **U.S.C.A.** 926A, see Section II above, need not give notice.

IV. Procedures for Investigation of Conduct Involving the Possession or Transportation of Firearms

A. An officer who reasonably suspects that a person is transporting a firearm in violation of New Jersey law should make reasonable inquiries in order to confirm or dispel that suspicion.

B. In a case where circumstances reasonably indicate that the person's possession and transportation of the firearms my be permitted by 18 **U.S.C.A.** 926A, the officer should make reasonable inquiries in order to determine whether the person's possession is permitted by that federal law.

C. If reasonable inquiries lead an officer to conclude that the person's possession is lawful under either New Jersey law or 18 **U.S.C.A.** 926A, as described above in Section II, the officer should promptly allow the person to proceed.

D. Whenever an officer has probable cause to believe that a person's possession of a firearm is in violation of New Jersey law and not permitted by 18 **U.S.C.A.** 926A, as described above in Section II, then the officer should make an arrest.

Open Carry (Without a Valid Permit/License)

"NO"

2C:58-4.5: Restrictions, Public Carrying, Handgun

b. to carry a handgun openly, whether or not in possession of a valid and lawfully issued permit to carry under N.J.S.2C:58-4 ~~and proof of the liability insurance.~~ L.2022, c.131, s.6.

State Preemption

Article 4, § VII, par. 11 Of The New Jersey State Constitution Confers Broad Powers On Municipalities And Counties:

The provisions of this Constitution and of any law concerning municipal corporations formed for local government, or concerning counties, shall be liberally construed in their favor. The powers of counties and such municipal corporations shall include not only those granted in express terms but also those of necessary or fair implication, or incident to the powers expressly conferred, or essential thereto, and not inconsistent with or prohibited by this Constitution or by law.

40:48-1. Ordinances; general purpose. The governing body of every municipality may make, amend, repeal and enforce ordinances to:

Explosives. 17. Regulate, in conformity with the statutes of this State, the manufacture, storage, sale, keeping or conveying of gunpowder, nitroglycerine, dynamite and other explosives;

18. Firearms and fireworks.. Regulate and prohibit the sale and use of guns, pistols, firearms, and fireworks of all descriptions; 2021, c.395, s.2.

40:48-2. Other necessary and proper ordinances

Any municipality may make, amend, repeal and enforce such other ordinances, regulations, rules and by-laws not contrary to the laws of this state or of the United States, as it may deem necessary and proper for the good government, order and protection of persons and property, and for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants, and as may be necessary to carry into effect the powers and duties conferred and imposed by this subtitle, or by any law. 2012-09-26 13:37:52.

40:41A-28. Municipal powers

Nothing in this act shall be construed to impair or diminish or infringe on the powers and duties of municipalities under the general law of this State. It is the intent of this act only to permit municipalities to employ services and facilities of the county for more effective, efficient, and adequate provision of services if and when municipalities may deem it desirable to do so. Municipalities are and shall remain the broad repository of local police power in terms of the right and power to legislate for the general health, safety and welfare of their residents. L.1981, c. 48, s. 1, eff. Feb. 25, 1981.

Note: State statutes treat municipalities and counties differently in terms of their local regulatory authority, however.

Municipal Regulatory Authority New Jersey explicitly authorizes municipalities (defined to include cities, towns, townships, villages and boroughs, but not counties) to "regulate and prohibit the sale and use of guns, pistols, firearms, and fireworks of all descriptions." N.J. Rev. Stat. § 40:48-1, subdivision 18 ("section 40:48-1(18)"). Municipalities may also enact ordinances, regulations, rules and by-laws that are consistent with state and federal law for, *inter alia*, the "preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants." Section 40:48-2. Municipalities are described under state law as broad repositories "of local police power in terms of the right and power to legislate for the general health, safety and welfare of their residents." Section 40:41A-28.

Deadly Force Laws

Title 2C Chpt. 3 The New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice

2C:3-1. Justification an Affirmative Defense; Civil Remedies Unaffected
2C:3-2. Necessity and other justifications in general
2C:3-3. Execution of public duty
2C:3-4 Use of force in self-protection.
2C:3-5. Use of force for the protection of other persons
2C:3-6. Use of force in defense of premises or personal property
2C:3-7. Use of force in law enforcement
2C:3-8. Use of force by persons with special responsibility for care, discipline or safety of others
2C:3-9. Mistake of law as to unlawfulness of force or legality of arrest; reckless or negligent use of excessive but otherwise justifiable force; reckless or negligent injury or risk of injury to innocent persons
2C:3-10. Justification in property crimes
2C:3-11. Definitions.

Knife Laws State/Cities

To access State/Local Knife Laws Click "Here"

Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

"NO"

2C:58-4.6: Prohibited Areas, Carrying, Firearms, Destructive Device

No Carry ….. in any of the following places, including in or upon any part of the buildings, grounds, or parking area of:

(15) a bar or restaurant where alcohol is served, and any other site or facility where alcohol is sold for consumption on the premises; L.2022, c.131, s.7

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

Large Capacity Feeding Devices:

Notice: Magazine and Assault Weapons bans are still in effect. The 3rd Circuit Court put a stay on it as the State is Appealing to the US Supreme Court. Again a STAY was issued and the ban is still in effect in New Jersey.

New Jersey prohibits the manufacture, transport, shipment, sale or disposal of large capacity ammunition magazines, unless the magazine is intended to be used for authorized military or law enforcement purposes. N.J. Rev. Stat § 2C:39-9h. New Jersey law defines "large capacity ammunition magazine" as a box, drum, tube or other container which is capable of holding more than 15 rounds of ammunition to be fed continuously and directly into a semi-automatic firearm. Section 2C:39-1y

2C:39-1. Definitions. The following definitions apply to this chapter and to chapter 58:

y. "Large capacity ammunition magazine" means a box, drum, tube or other container which is capable of holding more than **10 rounds** of ammunition to be fed continuously and directly there from into a semi-automatic firearm. The term shall not include an attached tubular device which is capable of holding only .22 caliber rimfire ammunition. 2025, c.255, s.1.

2C:39-9 Manufacture, Transport, Disposition and Defacement of Weapons and Dangerous Instruments and Appliances.

h. Large capacity ammunition magazines. Any person who manufactures, causes to be manufactured, transports, ships, sells or disposes of a large capacity ammunition magazine which is intended to be used for any purpose other than for authorized military or law enforcement purposes by duly authorized military or law enforcement personnel is guilty of a crime of the fourth degree. S,3; 2022, c.53

From the New Jersey State Police FAQs

20. I'm not a police officer, are hollow points legal for me to possess?

Yes. Yes. According to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-3f, 2C:39-3(g)(2) and 2C:39-6f, they are legal for purchase and possession in your home or on land owned by you, at a gun range, or while traveling to and from such

places. Hollow point ammunition is NOT legal for concealed carry in New Jersey. Ammunition lacking a hollow cavity at the tip, such as those with a polymer filling, are not considered to be HP ammunition.

Note: Mag Ban Upheld in US 3rd Circuit 12/2018. See AG Opinions/Ct Case Section Below.

Chemical Sprays:

2C:39-6 (i) (1) Nothing in N.J.S.2C:39-5 shall be construed to prevent any person who is 18 years of age or older and who has not been convicted of a crime, from possession for the purpose of personal self-defense of one pocket-sized device which contains and releases not more than three-quarters of an ounce of chemical substance not ordinarily capable of lethal use or of inflicting serious bodily injury, but rather, is intended to produce temporary physical discomfort or disability through being vaporized or otherwise dispensed in the air. Any person in possession of any device in violation of this subsection shall be deemed and adjudged to be a disorderly person, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than $100.
2025, c.35, s.21

Stun Devices/Electric Weapons:

N.J.A.C. 13:54-5.8 - No person under 18 years of age shall possess a stun gun. Any stun gun possessed by a person under the age of 18 shall be subject to confiscation by law enforcement. 214(b), effective 1/2/2018

2C:39-5(e)(2) —possession of a stun gun while in or upon any part of the buildings or grounds of any school, college, university or other educational institution without the written authorization of the governing officer of the institution. 2013, c.113, s.1

Note: The **NJ 2nd Amendment Society** filed a lawsuit and the US District **Court Ruling** on 4/25/17 stated Stun Devices were legal to possess in New Jersey**.** SCOTUS had ruled earlier that they could not be banned **Memorandum** from the New Jersey Attorney General on the legal carry of stun guns.

LEOSA State Information

US Ct Rules NJ Can't Require a Permit or Ban HP by Officers Under LEOSA (June 2022)

US 3rd Dist Ct of Appeals NJ Must Only Follow Federal Law on LEOSA (Feb. 2024)

Retired Police Officer FAQ's **NJSP Retired Law Enforcement Officer Program (RPO)**

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

Attorney General Opinions/Court Cases

Attorney General Guidelines (4/16) **Guidelines Regarding Reasonably Necessary Deviations in the Course of Travel Exception for Transporting Firearms Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6g**

U.S. Court of Appeals 3rd Circuit - NJ Magazine Ban Upheld (12/2018)

NJ Supreme Ct – If Application Approved by Police/Superintendent & Denied by Law Division Applicant Entitled to a Judicial Hearing. (1/28/20)

US Dist Ct - NJ Can't Require Permit to Carry or Ban HPs by LEOSA Carry (June 2022)

Airport Carry/Misc. Information

Link to State Statutes

Airport Carry: NO **New Law 12/22/2022 N.J.S.2C:58-4 by A 4769**

Training Valid for: **Time Period Spelled Out in How to Apply Form**

Time Period to Establish Residency: **No Time Period Specified.**

Minimum Age for Permit/License: **21**

Permit/License Info Public Information: NO

State Firearm Laws: **2C-58-1 thru 58-32 & 2C:39-1 thru 39-9 Administrative Code Title 13 Chpt. 54**

State Deadly Force Laws: **2C-3-1 thru 2C-3-10**

State Knife Laws: **2C-39-1 & 2C-39-3 & 2C-39-6 & 2C-39-9.1**

Chemical/Electric Weapons Laws: **2C-39-3 (Elec) & 2C-39-6 & 2C-39-9**

Body Armor Laws: **2C-39-13**

Does Your Permit Cover Other Weapons Besides Firearms? NO **2C:58-4.**

State Safe Storage/Access by Minors Statute/s: **NJ Statute § 2C:58-15**

Is carrying of a Concealed Firearm with Permit/License for Defensive Purposes Only While Hunting Legal NO **NJ Gen Hunting Regs. It is Unlawful to: have both a firearm and bow in possession or under control while hunting.**

Red Flag Statute: 2c:58-20 through 2c:58-32

Notes

What Does NJ Consider A Loaded Firearm?

New Jersey does not define Loaded. Their firearm laws us the word Loaded or Unloaded but doesn't give a definition. When a state does not define Loaded or Unloaded Handgunlaw.us recommends that all firearms do not contain any ammo either in a fixed cylinder, fixed magazine or Tube. That all detachable magazines do not contain any ammunition.

NJ Fish & Wildlife A person may not transport or possess a shotgun, rifle or crossbow in or on a motor vehicle unless the firearm is unloaded in both chamber and magazine or the crossbow is unloaded or taken down. A loaded firearm may be carried or possessed in a motorboat while legally hunting migratory game birds. A person may not transport or possess a shotgun, rifle or crossbow in or on a motor vehicle unless the firearm is unloaded in both chamber and magazine or the crossbow is unloaded or taken down. A loaded firearm may be carried or possessed in a motorboat while legally hunting migratory game birds.

Note: New Jersey Office of Emergency Management as far as I can ascertain has control when a State of Emergency is declared by the Governor. They have so many directives and Executive Orders in place it is very difficult to follow them. The NJ Office of Emergency Management website can be viewed **Here**.

N.J.A.C. 13:54-6.7 Regulations During a Civil Disturbance or Declared Emergency Period

(a) In the interest of the public health, safety and welfare, firearms dealers shall discontinue the sale of firearms and ammunition upon notification by the Superintendent or the chief of police of the municipality

where the firearms dealers' business is located, that a civil disturbance or other emergency exists.

(b) Those businesses affected shall not resume the sale of firearms or ammunition until such time as the Superintendent or the chief of police of the municipality determines that the civil disturbance or other emergency no longer exists.

(c) All dealers located in the area affected by such disturbance or emergency shall be required to comply with one of the following:

1. Arrange with the chief police officer of the municipality for appropriate security of firearms and ammunition; or
2. Remove all firearms and ammunition from the business premises to a secure location.

(d) Failure of the dealer to comply with any of the above requirements may result in the revocation of the license of such dealer. History: Amended by R.2015 d.094, effective June 15, 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.

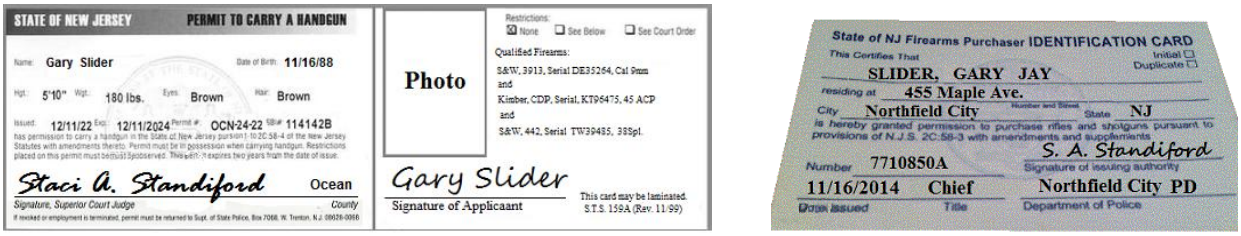
New Jersey 21 Y/O **2C:58-6.1**

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. Some states (and counties) require Firearms Identification Cards, and/or registration.

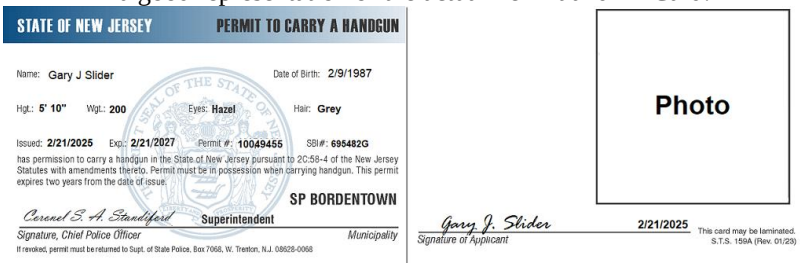
Note: In some states Possession and Transportation CAN be very restrictive in that you can ONLY possess and transport a handgun to and from a Shooting Range, Gun Shop, property you own or other places you can legally possess a handgun. Some states do not have this restriction.

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



These images has been digitally assembled from 2 or more images. It may not be 100% accurate but gives a good representation of the actual Permit and ID Card.



Updates to this Page

Archive of Previous Updates 2

7/1/2025 – All Links Checked.
8/1/2025 - CCW Facts/FAQs Link Added to Links Section. Retired Police Officer FAQ's NJSP FIU Added to LEOSA Section.
9/9/2025 – All NJSP Links Updated. How to Apply, Non Resident Permit and Chem Sprays/Elec. Weapons/Higher Cap Mag and LEOSA Sections Updated.
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.
2/15/2026 – All Statute Links Updated. Rutgers no Longer Host Statutes. No Longer Direct Links to a statute Sections.
3/7/2026 - 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.
~~**8/1/2026** – Chem Sprays/Stun Guns/Higher Cap Mags Section Updated with 3rd Circuit Court Ruling. Mag/Assault Weapon Bans Are Unconstitutional and when the Ruling Becomes Official.~~
8/5/2026 – The Court Put a Stay, and **the Ban is Still in Effect**, on the Previous Court Order That Ruled on the MAG/Assault Weapons Ban. Chem Sprays/Stun Guns/Higher Cap Mags Section Updated. . . All Links Checked and Repaired if Needed. On This Date All Statutes Quoted Checked and are Latest Version of That Statute.
10/15/2026 – Easiest Way to View a New Jersey Statute Header with Link and Directions Added to 1st Page.