

TOWN OF WESTON

POLICE DEPARTMENT
180 BOSTON POST ROAD BY-PASS
WESTON, MA 02493-0002
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General Eligibility for a Firearms Permit- License to Carry (LTC) or Firearms Identification Card (FID)

Firearms licensing is governed by Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) chapter 140 section 131.

Residency:

To be eligible for a Weston Police issued Commonwealth of Massachusetts Firearms LTC or FID, you must be a Weston resident. Additionally, you must be a citizen of the United States or a Permanent Resident, and new applicants must submit proof by either an original U.S. birth certificate, Resident Alien Card or U.S. Passport.

You cannot be an alien who does not maintain lawful permanent residency;

Proof of residency is required. For first time applicants, please bring a copy of a utility bill (gas, electric, cable etc.) in your name. Cell phone, water or tax bills will not be accepted. Renewal applicants will have their residency confirmed as part of the background check.

Age:

LTC: 21 years of age

FID: 18 years of age (or 15-17 years of age with parental consent)

Statutory Disqualifications Include:

- (A) Felony conviction;

- (B) Misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for more than 2 years;
- (C) Violent crime conviction as defined in MGL c. 140 s. 121;
- (D) Violation of any law regulating the use, possession, ownership, transfer, purchase, sale, lease, rental, receipt or transportation of weapons or ammunition for which a term of imprisonment may be imposed;
- (E) Violation of any law regulating the use, possession or sale of a controlled substance as defined in section 1 of chapter 94C including, but not limited to, a violation of said chapter 94C; or
- (F) Misdemeanor crime of domestic violence as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921(a) (33);
- (G) Commitment to any hospital or institution for mental illness;
- (H) Currently the subject of a MGL c.209A order;
- (I) Currently the subject of an outstanding arrest warrant;
- (J) Commitment for drug addiction or habitual drunkenness;

Safety Course

New applicants must provide a Firearm Safety or Hunting Safety Course certificate issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A safety certificate is not required for active military personnel; however, the local laws including safe storage requirements should be reviewed.

The Application

A Firearms Licensing Application package may be obtained anytime by stopping into the Weston Police Department. Please fill the application out completely and be sure to be accurate when answering questions.

Please pay close attention to Question #4 (the question most frequently answered incorrectly): **“Have you ever appeared in court as a defendant for any criminal offense (excluding non-criminal traffic offenses)?”**

NOTE: Operating a motor vehicle without a license, operating a motor vehicle after license suspension, and operating an uninsured motor vehicle are all criminal offenses.

Motor vehicle citations for speeding, red light violations, etc. are not criminal offenses.

You must answer if you have ever appeared as a defendant in court for any criminal offense. Any arrest must be specified. The disposition of the case does not matter. Even if the case was dismissed, continued without a finding, not guilty, etc., it still must be documented on your application.

Failure to answer this question truthfully will result in denial of your application, and could lead to criminal prosecution for failing to answer truthfully.

You must document any appearance regardless of what you may have been advised to the contrary.

Sealed cases must also be documented. We will be notified if a case has been sealed. Juvenile appearances as a criminal defendant are required to be documented and are not exempt.

Applications are signed under the penalties of perjury. Failure to answer truthfully is a criminal offense under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 140 Section 129 and 131.

The Process

When the application is completed, please attach all relevant documents, such as a copy of your birth certificate and safety course. The cost is \$100 with a check or money order made out to the Town of Weston. Cash is NOT accepted.

The Licensing Officer, Detective Sgt. Jeff Beohner, schedules all appointments and can be reached at (781) 786-6206. Please call for an appointment- do not leave the paperwork at the Weston Police station.

On the day / time of your appointment, the applicant will be photographed and fingerprinted. Applicants will be issued a dated receipt to confirm the application.

A background investigation and determination of suitability will be conducted on all applicants. This can take up to eight weeks.

Fingerprints will be used to check the databases of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the FBI for criminal records. The accuracy of the information contained in the record may be challenged. The procedure for this is set forth in Title 28, C.F.R., 16.34.

When the actual permit arrives from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Criminal Information Services (DCJIS), you will be contacted.

License Restrictions

Suitable applicants may be issued a License to Carry (LTC), subject to restrictions of the licensing authority. Two common restrictions include:

Condition of Employment: The applicant and the applicant's employer must submit a signed letter stating that the license is required as a condition of employment. This license is valid while traveling to and from work and for work related functions. The license must be surrendered when employment is terminated.

Target & Hunting: This license is restricted to hunting and target shooting and traveling to and from a gun club. No concealed carry is allowed under this restriction.

Any violation of these restrictions may result in suspension or revocation of an LTC.

All first time LTC applicants will be restricted to Target and Hunting. An unrestricted license for first time applicants requires a letter addressed to the Chief of Police outlining the reasons behind the request.

Renewals

An LTC is valid for not more than six years and expires on the licensee's birthday. Please fill out the paper work and submit with the renewal fee of \$100 (no fee for those over 70). Please bring your expired LTC to the appointment.

Change of Address

A license holder shall notify, in writing, the licensing authority that issued such license, the chief of police into whose jurisdiction such license holder moves and the executive director of the criminal history systems board of any change of address. Such notification shall be made by certified mail within 30 days of its occurrence. Failure to so notify shall be cause for revocation or suspension of such card.

Firearms Identification Card (FID)

In order to purchase and or possess a rifle or shotgun, which is non-large capacity; or ammunition, you must have a Firearms Identification card. (A Class A License to Carry will allow the same).

Securing Firearms

Under Massachusetts General Law chapter 140 § 131L, it shall be unlawful to store or keep any firearm, rifle or shotgun including, but not limited to, large capacity weapons, or machine gun in any place unless such weapon is secured in a locked container or equipped with a tamper-resistant mechanical lock or other safety device, properly engaged so as to render such weapon inoperable by any person other than the owner or other lawfully authorized user. For purposes of this section, such weapon shall not be deemed stored or kept if carried by or under the control of the owner or other lawfully authorized user.