

All persons wishing to obtain a firearms licence in NSW must have a genuine reason to obtain the licence.

This FACT sheet provides information on the requirements for obtaining a firearms licence for the genuine reason of Sport/Target Shooting.

What requirements must be met for this Genuine Reason?

To satisfy the genuine reason of Sport/Target Shooting you must be a member of a shooting club approved by the Commissioner of Police which conducts target shooting competitions and activities.

Once your licence is issued you must meet yearly participation requirements as prescribed by clauses 33 & 96 of the *Firearms Regulation 2006*. See FACT Sheet '*Participation Requirements for Club Members*'.

What categories of licence can I have for this Genuine Reason?

Categories available for this genuine reason are:

Category A, B & H - Sport/Target Shooting,
Special Category C Licence - Clay Target Shooting only.

Special Pistol Licence - this licence is obtained under a Category H Target Shooting licence and authorises a person to possess and use a specialised target pistol, of a distinctive size or shape, in International Shooting Sport Federation competition events. Specialised target pistols are a self-loading pistol with a barrel length of less than 120mm or a revolver with a barrel length of less than 100mm.

Category A, B & H only

Certification of current membership of an approved shooting club by a club official must be provided. The genuine reason form has provision for certification by a club official or you may send a copy of your current club membership card with your application.

Special Category C licence 'Clay Target'

If applying for a Category C (Special) Clay Target Sport/Target Shooting firearms licence you must supply certification by a club official of current membership of a Clay Target shooting club affiliated with the Australian Clay Target Association or such other body as approved by the Commissioner of Police AND a certificate from a medical practitioner advising of the physical reasons that necessitate the use of a Category C firearm in Clay Target shooting competitions.

The genuine reason form has provision for certification by a club official or you may send a copy of your club membership card.

What else do I need to obtain a firearms licence?

Persons who have never held a licence in NSW before are required to complete a firearms safety training course for longarms and/or pistols.

If you have previously held a firearms licence, either in NSW or interstate for the same category of licence for which you are now applying, you may not need to complete the course again.

For training providers contact:

The Firearms Safety Training Council - Phone 02 9486 3077, or
The Sporting Shooters Association of Australia - Phone 1300 746 683, or
The Department of Primary Industries Game Licensing Unit - Phone 02 6391 3750, or
Your nearest firearms club.

Pistols: An applicant for a Probationary Pistol Licence must complete an initial 'Pistol Safe Handling Course' run by the pistol club prior to making application for a Probationary Pistol Licence.

What if I have never held a Category H Sport/Target Shooting firearms licence before?

If you have never held a Category H Sport/Target Shooting firearms licence, you will be issued a Probationary Pistol Licence for one year prior to being issued with your category H licence.

There are restrictions on the acquisition of handguns for Probationary Pistol Licence holders.

For the first six months of the Probationary Pistol Licence you may only possess & use a pistol under the supervision of the holder of a Category H Sport/Target Shooting Licence and only on the premises of an approved pistol shooting club - section 16A(2)(a)(i) of the *Firearms Act 1996*.

For the second six months of the Probationary Pistol Licence, you can only be issued with two Permits to Acquire. You may acquire no more than two pistols, any one of which is: a centrefire pistol; a rimfire pistol with a calibre of no more than .22 inch; an air pistol with a calibre of no more than .177 inch; a black powder pistol. However, you may not possess a centrefire and rimfire pistol at the same time - section 31(3C) of the *Firearms Act 1996*.

These permits will only be issued if you have successfully completed the 'Pistol Safety Training Course', conducted by the pistol club for which you are a member, during the initial six months of the Probationary Pistol Licence.

This course is in addition to the initial 'Safe Handling Course' completed as part of the application process.

[How do I make application for a firearms licence?](#)

You may request licence application and genuine reason forms online from the Home Page of the Firearms Registry Internet site, or you may call the Firearms Registry on 1300 362 562 to make application.

You must provide your name, address, NSW drivers licence and date of birth details and you will need to select your genuine reason for obtaining a firearms licence and the categories of licence for which you wish to make application.

Further information on genuine reasons and the requirements to meet can be found on the relevant FACT Sheets on the Licence and Genuine Reason page on the Firearms Registry Internet site.

Please make sure that you supply your full legal name, not your nick name or preferred name and correctly enter your name and address details or your application will be delayed.

Your application will be printed and posted to you with other relevant information. You must complete your application, sign it and return it with all supporting documentation to the Firearms Registry, Locked Bag 1, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

Your application, when received, will be reviewed and you will be informed of the outcome, usually within 6 - 8 weeks.

[How much will my firearms licence cost?](#)

A personal firearms licence is issued for a period of 2 or 5 years.

2 year licence = \$100

5 year licence = \$200

Fee exemptions apply for pensioners. See the 'Schedule of Fees' available on the Firearms Registry website for a comprehensive list of fees & exemptions.

[Where do I pay for my firearms licence?](#)

Fees for licences are paid at the Roads and Maritime Authority when your photo licence is produced.

[Related Information](#)

See FACT Sheets:

'Information on obtaining a Firearms Licence in NSW',

'Schedule of Fees',

'Probationary Pistol Licence',

'Safe Storage Level 1 - Category A & B Requirements',

'Safe Storage Level 2 - Category C, D & H Requirements',

'Participation Requirements for Club Members',

'Transportation of Firearms',

'Ammunition Safe Storage, Purchase and Possession'.

Where can I find more information?

The information provided in the FACT Sheet is for general guidance only. Applicants and licensees should familiarise themselves with the *Firearms Act 1996* and the *Firearms Regulation 2006*, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.

Firearms Registry

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Locked Bag 1
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

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NSW Police Force
www.police.nsw.gov.au

