



FIREARMS REGISTRY

Recreational Hunting/Vermin Control

Genuine Reason

P 661

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

This FACT sheet provides information on obtaining a firearms licence for the genuine reason of Recreational Hunting/Vermin Control.

What requirements must be met for this Genuine Reason?

This genuine reason applies to a person who wishes to participate in recreational hunting/vermin control (RHVC) activities as:

- * A member of an approved hunting club, or
- * The owner/occupier of rural land, or
- * A person who has permission to shoot from an owner/occupier of rural land, or
- * Permission to shoot from a prescribed government agency, including the Game Council of NSW - website www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au.

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

Category A, B only.

Any person wishing to make application for a Category B licence must also produce evidence of **special need**. **Special need** is established by demonstrating that the type of game/vermin to be hunted or controlled requires the use of a firearm to which a category B licence applies. A licence issued by the Game Council of NSW satisfies special need for category B.

Each genuine reason form has provision for completion of special need.

What do I need to provide to support this Genuine Reason?

Club member - current membership of a Hunting Club approved by the Commissioner. This will allow you to participate in club organised shooting activities. You may have a Club Official complete the relevant section on the genuine reason form OR you can send a copy of your current membership card with your application.

OR

Owner or Occupier of rural land - proof of ownership or occupancy of rural land, including land size and location.

OR

Permission to shoot from owner/occupier - written permission including name, address and contact number of person giving permission, name and date of birth of person seeking permission, name, location, size of rural land where shooting is permitted, type of game/vermin to be destroyed and type of firearm required.

OR

Permission to shoot from government agency - written permission on letterhead from the government agency including location and size of rural land where shooting is permitted, type of game/vermin to be destroyed and type of firearm required,

OR

You must hold a Game Council of NSW Hunting Licence.

Completing the Genuine Reason Form

The genuine reason form provides a section for club membership certification, a section for ownership or occupancy of rural land and sections for completion by the person/government agency granting the permission to shoot and a section to provide details of the Game Council licence, **OR**

You may provide the information as outlined on the genuine reason form as attachments to your licence application.

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 either long arms 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.

Long Arms: You must complete an approved firearms safety training course. For training providers contact: The Firearms Safety Training Council 02 94863077, Sporting Shooters Association Australia 1300 746 683, Your nearest firearms club, or the NSW Firearms Registry.

A copy of the certificate obtained when you successfully complete the safety training course must accompany your firearms licence application.

Are there any requirements once I have obtained my firearms licence?

Club members must comply with the requirements of Clause 96 of the Firearms Regulation 2006 in relation to completing the required number of shoots each year. (See FACT sheet 'Participation Requirements for Club Members').

If you are a member of an approved Hunting Club you must participate in no less than two events involving hunting, shooting or firearms safety training over any period of 12 months.

If you have club membership AND you also have permission to shoot on property for RHVC, clause 96 participation requirements do not apply.

Yes. Permission to Shoot - you must have prior written permission to shoot on any land and you must be able to produce that written permission on request by a Police Officer.

There are various other legislative requirements to be met by licence and permit holders. You are advised to familiarise yourself with these.

How do I make application for a firearms licence?

Call the Firearms Registry on 1300362562 to make application.

Your name, address, NSW Drivers Licence and date of birth details will be taken over the phone. You will be asked for your genuine reason for obtaining a firearms licence and the categories of licence for which you wish to make application. Our Call Centre operators will answer any questions you may have in relation to your application, genuine reasons or special need.

Please make sure when giving your details that you supply your **full legal name**, not your nick name or preferred name. Also be specific with your name and address details spelling out any words where necessary.

Your application will then be printed and posted to you with other relevant information. You must complete your application and return it with all supporting documentation to the Firearms Registry.

Include a copy of the certificate obtained when you successfully complete your firearms safety training course with your licence application.

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 2 or 5 years.
A 2 year licence = \$100
A 5 year licence = \$200

Fee exemptions apply for a pensioner applying for a category A or B licence only.

For a comprehensive list of fees and fee exemptions, see the Schedule of Fees available on the Firearms Registry Internet site.

Our call centre operators can advise on these fee exemptions when you make application.

Where do I pay?

Fees for licences are paid at the RTA when your photo licence is produced.

[Related Information](#)

See **FACT Sheets**

'Information on obtaining a Firearms Licence in NSW',
'Safe Storage Level 1 - Category A & B Requirements',
'Participation Requirements for Club Members',
'Transportation of Firearms',
'Ammunition Safe Storage, Purchase and Possession'.

Firearms Registry

Address

Locked Bag 1
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Telephone

1300362562

Interstate

0266708590

Fax

02-66708558

Email

firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au

Website

www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms

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.



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

