



NSW Police Force
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FIREARMS REGISTRY

Prohibited Weapons Scientific Purposes Permit

P 638

All persons wishing to possess or use a prohibited weapon must be authorised to do so by a permit. In order to obtain a prohibited weapon permit, the applicant must establish a genuine reason for possessing and using a prohibited weapon.

This FACT Sheet provides information on the requirements for obtaining a Scientific Purposes Permit - clause 26 of the Weapons Prohibition Regulation 2009.

What does the Scientific Purposes Permit authorise?

This permit authorises the permit holder to possess and use a prohibited weapon to which the permit relates for the purposes of conducting scientific research.

This permit also authorises a person employed by the permit holder and listed on the permit to possess and use a weapon to which the permit relates for the purpose of assisting the permit holder in the conduct of the scientific research concerned.

Who can apply for this permit?

A person who is conducting legitimate scientific research.

What is legitimate scientific research?

Legitimate scientific research is research endorsed or conducted by a legitimate research body, organisation, government agency or university.

A letter on letterhead from the research body, organisation, government agency or university must confirm the nature of the research, the duration of the research project, the location/s of the research, the applicant's involvement in the research project and the reasons the weapon sought is necessary in the conduct of the research.

What is the term of the permit?

The permit will be issued for a maximum term of 5 years.

How much will the permit cost?

The prescribed fee for this permit is \$127.

Your payment must accompany the application. You may pay by cheque or money order made payable to the NSW Police Force or by filling out the credit card details on the reverse of the application form.

An additional \$25 is required for each person, other than the permit holder, listed and authorised by the permit.

What kind of prohibited weapons are authorised by this permit?

There are no restrictions on the type of prohibited weapons which may be authorised by this permit. However, the applicant must prove that the prohibited weapon is necessary in the conduct of the scientific research.

You must nominate the type of prohibited weapon on the P638 Prohibited Weapons Schedule.

What safe keeping level applies to this permit?

See the FACT Sheets 'Recommended Safe Storage for Schedule 1 Prohibited Weapons' and 'Safe Storage Prohibited Weapons Level 1, 2 & 3' available on the Firearms Registry Internet site for the storage level that applies to the weapons nominated on your permit.

What about employees?

Employees to be listed and authorised by this permit (in addition to the permit holder) must complete an 'Application for a person to be authorised on a Prohibited Weapon Permit' P639 form.

- * A separate P639 form must be completed by each employee; and
- * Complete Section E of the P639 form to establish proof of employment status; and
- * Proof of identity totalling 100 points must be provided.

What do I need to send with the application?

- * You must provide as part of this application a passport style colour photo of yourself endorsed on the back with 'This is a true photo of (name)' and signed by a JP or police officer.
- * You must provide as part of this application documentation totalling 100 points for proof of identity. (see 100 point identification fact sheet).
- * A letter on letterhead from the research body providing evidence that the research being conducted is legitimate scientific research.
- * Provide information about the research including the purpose, the duration and location of the research project.
- * P638 Prohibited Weapons Schedule nominating the prohibited weapons required for the permit.
- * Provide the reason why the prohibited weapon sought is required in the conduct of the research.

How do I complete the application form?

The P638 'Application for a Prohibited Weapon Permit' form applies to this permit. This form is used for a new application or to re-apply for a Prohibited Weapon Permit.

Do not send a photocopy of the form, print within the boxes, do not mark boxes that do not apply, use CAPITAL LETTERS and BLACK INK; DO NOT USE STAPLES.

Section A - Applicant Details

The 'Last Name' & 'Given names' box should show your full legal name. This should be the name on your birth certificate, marriage certificate, change of name certificate or passport. Complete your DOB, drivers licence, contact details including mobile phone number and email address.

List any other names by which you have been known and supply details.

Section B - Residential Address

Insert your full residential address here.

Section C - Postal Address

If your postal address is the same as your residential address mark the box with an 'X', otherwise, insert your postal address here.

Section D - Business, Club, Government Agency Details

Complete business or organisation name, trading name, business address, phone numbers and postal address.

Section E - Permit Type

Place an 'X' in the box 'Scientific Purposes'.

Section F - Safekeeping Address of Weapons

This section should be completed providing the address at which the prohibited weapons will be stored and details of the arrangements for the safekeeping and storage. Attach a separate sheet if there is insufficient space.

Section G - Personal History

Please answer all questions by marking the appropriate 'Yes' or 'No' box. If you responded 'Yes' to any of the questions, please provide an attachment with details.

Section H - Declaration

The application form must be signed and dated by the applicant in the presence of a witness. The witness must be 18 years of age or over.

By signing the declaration you are confirming that:

All the information provided on the application is true and correct;
You understand it is an offence to supply false or misleading information;
AND

You agree to the NSW Police Force making enquiries to establish that the information you have supplied in relation to the application is true and correct.

Section I - Credit Card Authority

If you wish to pay by credit card, indicate whether Mastercard or Visa, fill out cardholder details in full, sign and date.

[Related Information](#)

See Fact Sheets:

'100 point identification',
'Safe Storage Prohibited Weapons Level 1, 2 & 3',
'Recommended Safe Storage for Schedule 1 Prohibited Weapons'.

[Check List](#)

- Completed P638 form
- P638 Prohibited Weapons Schedule
- Passport sized colour photo
- Proof of ID
- Evidence of involvement in legitimate scientific research
- Need for the prohibited weapon for conduct of research
- Dates, location, purpose of research
- Payment with application = \$127

If applicable:

- P639 form for each employee
- Proof of employment (Section E)
- 100 pt ID for employee
- Payment with application = \$25

Firearms Registry

Address

Locked Bag 1
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Telephone

1300362562

Interstate

02 66708590

Fax

02 66708558

Email

permits@police.nsw.gov.au
OR
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 *Weapons Prohibition Act 1998* and the *Weapons Prohibition Regulation 2009*, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.



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