

FIREARMS REGISTRY

Recreational Hunting/Vermin Control Genuine Reason

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 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 and 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
- * A person who has permission to shoot from a government agency, including National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), Department of Lands, the Forestry Corporation of NSW or the Department of Primary Industries.

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

Category A and B only. Persons wishing to make application for a Category B licence may need to enter a special need for a category B firearm. Special need is established by listing the types of animals/pests to be humanely destroyed or controlled and the reasons why a category B firearm is required.

Where you are required to enter a special need for a category B firearm, the online firearms licence application has provision for completion of special need.

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

The online firearm licence application has provision for entry of details to support this genuine reason and you must also upload a copy of any required documents with your online application. Please refer to the details below:

Hunting club membership - enter your principal hunting club membership details in the fields provided, including the hunting club name, approval number and your club membership number. Upload a copy of your current principal hunting club membership card or a signed letter from your hunting club as an attachment to your online application.

Owner or occupier of rural land - enter details of the land in the fields provided, including the address, description of land use (grazing and/or farming) and land area (hectares). Upload a copy of your certification of ownership or occupancy of rural land as an attachment to your online application.

Permission to shoot from owner/occupier - enter details of the person giving permission in the field provided including name, address, contact number, land area (hectares) and firearms licence number (if applicable). Upload a copy of the certification or permission to shoot from the land owner/occupier as an attachment to your online application.

Permission to shoot from government agency - Upload certification of permission to shoot from the government agency on official letterhead as an attachment to your online application. This letter must include your full name, date of birth, location of the rural land where shooting is permitted, the type of game/vermin to be destroyed, the type of firearm/s to be used and the name and position of the officer granting the permission.

Game Hunting Licence - enter your game hunting licence number and expiry date in the fields provided. Upload a copy of your game hunting licence as an attachment to your online application. For further information about game hunting licences issued by the Department of Primary Industries, contact the Game Licensing Unit on 03 6391.3750.

What else do I need to obtain a firearms licence?

With your online application you must provide one of the following:

- * Details of your previously held NSW firearms licence under the *Firearms Act 1996* for the same category of licence for which you are now applying, or
- * Details of your currently issued interstate firearms licence for the same category of licence for which you are now applying, or
- * Upload a copy of the certificate obtained when you successfully completed the firearms safety training course.

For training providers contact:

- * Firearms Safety Training Council - Phone: 02 9486 3077, or
- * Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (SSAA) - Phone: 1300 746 683, or
- * Department of Primary Industries Game Licensing Unit - Phone: 02 63913750, or
- * Your nearest firearms club.

Recreational Hunting/Vermin Control Genuine Reason

[Are there any requirements once I have obtained my licence?](#)

Club members must comply with the requirements of clause 108 of the *Firearms Regulation 2017* in relation to completing the required number of shoots each compliance period. (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 hunting club events involving hunting, shooting or firearms safety training during each club compliance period.

If you have club membership AND you also have permission to shoot on property for RHVC, clause 108 participation requirements do not apply.

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 which are available on the Firearms Registry Internet site - www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms/licences.

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

You can apply for a firearms licence online at Service NSW (www.service.nsw.gov.au).

To complete your online application you will need:

- * A MyServiceNSW Account linked to NSW Police Force
- * Supporting documents for your Genuine Reason and Special Need
- * Firearms Safety Training Course Certificate (if applicable)
- * Credit card for payment of the licence fee (if applicable)

Further information about each genuine reasons can be found on the relevant FACT Sheets on the Licence and Genuine Reason page on the Firearms Registry website.

[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

Payment is made by credit card at the time of completing the online application.

Holders of a Centrelink pension concession card, disability card or Veteran's Affairs card (including concession and health care cards) can claim a fee exemption as a pensioner.

For a comprehensive list of fees and fee exemptions please refer to the Fee Schedule on the Firearms Registry website.

[Related Information](#)

See FACT Sheets:

'Fee Schedule',

'Information on obtaining a Firearms Licence in NSW',

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

'Participation Requirements for Club Members',

'Transportation of Firearms',

'Ammunition Safe Storage, Acquisition and Possession'.

Firearms Registry

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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 associated Regulation, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.



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