



NSW Police Force
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FIREARMS REGISTRY

Recognition of Interstate Firearms Licences

Interstate residents who are authorised in their State or Territory of residence to possess and use firearms are afforded recognition of that interstate authority in NSW for the possession and use of firearms for limited purposes.

This FACT sheet provides information on the purposes for which an interstate person may lawfully possess and use firearms in NSW.

Why is mutual recognition important?

Sections 7 and 7A of the *Firearms Act 1996* provide that a person must not possess or use a firearm in NSW unless they are authorised to do so by a licence or permit. A licence is defined by section 4 of the *Firearms Act 1996* as 'a licence in force under this Act' - 'this Act' being the NSW Firearms Act.

Therefore, a person who holds a firearms licence or permit issued in another State or Territory is not authorised to possess or use firearms registered to that interstate licence or permit in NSW, except where the NSW legislation provides for recognition of that Interstate licence or permit.

What licences or permits are recognised and for what purposes?

An interstate resident and licence holder may lawfully possess and use firearms in NSW for the following purposes:

Shooting Competitions

An interstate resident who holds the equivalent of a category A, B, or H firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully possess and use a firearm of a kind to which a corresponding category A, B or H licence issued in this State applies, but only for the purpose of competing in an approved shooting competition being held in NSW and for practicing in connection with an approved competition.

Minors Firearms Permit

An interstate resident who is between the ages of 12 and 18 years and holds the equivalent of a minor's firearms permit issued in their State or Territory of residence may, under the direct supervision of an authorised person, lawfully possess and use a firearm of a kind to which a corresponding minors firearms permit issued in NSW applies, for the purpose of competing in an approved event, or receiving safe instruction in the use of the firearm.

Shooting Competitions Category C Clay Target

An interstate resident who holds the equivalent of a category C firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully possess and use a self-loading or pump action shotgun for the purpose of participating in a recognised clay target shooting competition.

NOTE: The shotgun must not be loaded at any one time with more than 2 rounds and may only be used for shooting at clay targets and for associated training programs while on an approved shooting range.

Primary Producer Category C

An interstate resident whose occupation is the business of a primary producer or who is the owner, lessee or manager of land used for primary production and who holds the equivalent of a category C firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully possess and use a firearm of a kind to which a corresponding category C licence issued in NSW applies, but only for the purpose of using the firearm in connection with farming or grazing activities, including the suppression of vertebrate pest animals on the land concerned.

Professional Contract Shooter

An interstate resident who is a professional contract shooter engaged in the control of vertebrate pest animals on rural land and who holds the equivalent of a category A, B or C firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully possess and use a firearm of a kind to which a corresponding category A, B or C licence issued in NSW applies, but only for the purpose of controlling vertebrate pest animals on rural land.

Recreational Hunting/Vermin Control

An interstate resident who holds the equivalent of a category A or B firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully possess and use a firearm of a kind to which a corresponding category A or B licence issued in this State applies, but only for the purpose of recreational hunting/vermin control on land for which prior written permission has been given by the landholder.

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Vertebrate Pest Animal Control

An interstate resident who holds the equivalent of a category **A** or **B** firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully **possess and use** a firearm of a kind to which a corresponding category A or B licence issued in this State applies, but only for the purpose of vertebrate pest animal control on rural land.

Supervising at an approved Shooting Range

An interstate resident who holds the equivalent of a category **A, B, or H** firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully **possess and use** a firearm of a kind to which a corresponding category A, B or H licence issued in this State applies, but only for the purpose of supervising a person at an approved NSW shooting range in accordance with section 6B of the *Firearms Act 1996* and clauses 109A and 25(1) & (2) of the *Firearms Regulation 2006*.

Security Activities

To possess and use the pistol or shotgun in NSW for security activities referred to in section 4(1)(c) of *Security Industry Act*, an interstate security guard must be:

- * Licensed in that State or Territory to carry on security activities referred to in section 4(1)(c) of the *Security Industry Act 1997*, AND
- * Authorised to possess and use a pistol or shotgun under the law of that other State or Territory for the purposes of business or employment.

Interstate security guards must contact the NSW Security Licensing Enforcement Directorate on 1300 362 066 to confirm mutual recognition of their security licence.

Taking Fish for Sale

An interstate resident who holds the equivalent of a category **A** or **B** firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully **possess and use** a firearm of a kind to which a corresponding category A or B licence issued in this State applies, but only for the purpose of taking fish for sale in accordance with the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

Travelling through NSW

An interstate resident who holds the equivalent of a category **A, B, or H** firearms licence issued in their State or Territory of residence, may lawfully **possess a firearm** (possess only, not use) of a kind to which a corresponding category A, B or H licence issued in this State applies, but only for the purposes of:

- * Travelling through NSW, or
- * After buying the firearm from a NSW firearms dealer, or
- * Taking it to a NSW firearms dealer for sale, repair or servicing.

NOTE: Possession only, not use.

Related Information

See Fact Sheets:

- 'Safe Storage Level One - Category A & B Requirements',
- 'Safe Storage Level Two - Category C, D & H Requirements'.

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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Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Telephone

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Interstate

02 66708590

Fax

02 66708558

Email

firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au

Website

www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms



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