



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

FIREARMS REGISTRY

Sport/Target Shooting Genuine Reason

P 660

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 an approved shooting club which conducts target shooting competitions and activities.

Once your licence is issued you must meet yearly participation requirements as prescribed by Part 10 of the *Firearms Regulation 2017*. 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.

Note: A category H licence does not authorise the possession or use of a prohibited pistol being a pistol with a calibre of more than 38 inch or a self-loading pistol with a barrel less than 120mm or a revolver with a barrel less than 100mm but does not include any such kind of pistol that is a black powder pistol.

Category A, B and H only

Certification of current membership of an approved shooting club by a club official must be provided. The online firearms licence application has provision for entry of your shooting club membership details and you must attach a copy of your membership card to your online 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 approved body 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 online firearms licence application has provision for entry of your shooting club membership details. You must attach a copy of your membership card AND a certificate from your medical practitioner to your online application.

What else do I need to obtain a firearms licence?

With your online application you must provide on 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.

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.



Sport/Target Shooting Genuine Reason

For the first six (6) months of the Probationary Pistol Licence you may only possess and 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* and clause 156 of the *Firearms Regulation 2017* refers.

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 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 the 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 of 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:

- 'Information on obtaining a Firearms Licence in NSW',
- 'Fee Schedule',
- 'Probationary Pistol Licence',
- 'Safe Storage Level 1 - Category A and B Requirements',
- 'Safe Storage Level 2 - Category C, D and H Requirements',
- 'Participation Requirements for Club Members',
- 'Transportation of Firearms',
- 'Ammunition Safe Storage, Acquisition 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 associated Regulation, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.

Firearms Registry

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