

FIREARMS REGISTRY



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INTERSTATE RESIDENTS MOVING TO NSW

If you hold a firearms licence interstate and you are intending to move to NSW permanently, you must make application for a NSW firearms licence if you wish to continue to possess and use firearms.

This fact sheet provides information on the legislative requirements and process for obtaining a firearms licence in NSW if you are moving from interstate.

What do I need to do if I am moving permanently to NSW and I hold an interstate firearms licence?

To obtain a NSW firearms licence you must be a permanent resident of this state or about to become a permanent resident - Section 11(3)(d) of the *Firearms Act 1996* (the Act).

You must notify the NSW Firearms Registry in writing of your intention to move to NSW if you wish to take advantage of the provisions within section 27 of the Act which recognises your licence for the specified period of time to enable you to obtain a NSW firearms licence. Your written notification can be in the form of an application for a NSW firearms licence. To take advantage of these provisions, your interstate firearms licence must be current.

How do I make application for a firearms licence in NSW?

You can apply for a firearms licence online via the [NSW Police Force Community Portal](#).

To apply online, you will need:

- * A MyServiceNSW Account
- * Proof of identity documents (e.g. Driver licence and Medicare card)
- * Your interstate firearms licence number, expiry date and State/Territory of issue
- * Details of any firearms in your possession
- * Supporting documentation for your genuine reason/s
- * If you are applying for a firearms licence over and above a category A firearms licence, you will need to provide evidence of a 'special need'. Select a reason from the options provided which most closely describes your special need to possess or use the selected firearm category
- * A current credit card (Visa or Mastercard) for payment, if applicable

Note: If you have firearms registered to your interstate licence, you must have a NSW licensed firearms dealer inspect the firearms and complete a [P558 'Register of Firearms in Possession' form](#). The completed P558 form must be attached to your online licence application. Failure to supply the P558 form will delay the issue of your NSW licence and may result in the refusal of your licence application and seizure of your firearms by police.

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.

Locked Bag 5102, Parramatta NSW 2124

Tel: 1300 362 562

Interstate: 02 6670 8590

Email: firearms@police.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms

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Will I be able to continue to possess and use my category A and B firearms when I move to NSW, prior to my NSW licence being issued?

Yes. If you are a resident of another State or Territory and hold a current interstate firearms licence that is the equivalent of a category A or B NSW firearms licence, you will be able to continue to possess and use your category A and B firearms for three months (or until the issue or refusal of your NSW firearms licence).

The three month period commences from the time you notified of your intention to move (by way of application or otherwise).

Will I be able to continue to possess and use my category C, D & H firearms when I move to NSW, prior to my NSW licence being issued?

Yes. If you are a resident of another State or Territory and hold a current interstate firearms licence that is the equivalent of a category C, D or H NSW firearms licence, you will be able to continue to possess and use your category C, D or H firearms for seven days.

The seven day period will commence from the time you notified the NSW Firearms Registry of your intention to move (by way of application or otherwise).

After the expiry of seven days, provided you have lodged your application, you are authorised to possess, but not use your category C, D & H firearms until your NSW licence is issued.

What happens if I have not applied for a NSW firearms licence within the specified time?

If you do not notify of your intention to move, or if you do not apply for a NSW licence within the specified time, you will not be able to possess or use your firearms in NSW until your NSW firearms licence is issued.

In this case, your firearms must be taken to police or a firearms dealer, who will acquire the firearms into their stock until your NSW licence is issued and the NSW registration of the firearms is in your name.

What if my interstate licence has expired?

If your interstate firearms licence is not current, you will need to make application for a NSW firearms licence and take your firearms to police for safekeeping until your licence is issued. You will need to obtain a Permit to Acquire (PTA) for each firearm before the firearms can be registered to you. You can apply for a PTA online via the [NSW Police Force Community Portal](#). The prescribed fee for each PTA is \$30.

Will I have to complete a firearms safety training course in NSW?

If you have provided written notification of your intention to reside in NSW (or made application for a NSW firearms licence), your current interstate licence is recognised in NSW for the specified time and you will not be required to complete a firearms safety training course in NSW.

However, if you have not provided prior written notification or your interstate licence is not current, there is no recognition of your interstate licence in NSW and you will be required to complete a firearms safety training course in NSW.

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What if I am in possession of firearms registered Interstate?

If you have firearms that are registered interstate, you will need to register them in NSW. A NSW licensed Firearms Dealer will complete a P558 'Register of Firearms in Possession' form to confirm the firearm details for registration in NSW.

The prescribed fee for firearm registration in NSW is \$10 per firearm. The \$10 fee is payable to the Firearms Registry by completing the credit card section on the back of the P558 form.

If you are a pensioner or a primary producer, you are exempt from the fee. However, you will need to include a copy of your current pension card or proof of your primary production status (i.e. a primary production declaration) with your online application to claim this exemption.

The firearms dealer may also have fees related to registering the firearms in NSW.

What if I am in possession of unregistered firearms?

If you possess firearms that have not been registered interstate or in NSW, you must immediately surrender the firearms to police. It is an offence to supply, acquire, possess or use an unregistered firearm - section 36(1) of the Act.

However, section 60 of the Act provides for an exemption to prosecution for the offence of unauthorised possession of a firearm, provided the firearm is immediately surrendered to police.

Following surrender of the firearms to police, an application may be made to the court to allow you, as a licensee to register those firearms to your NSW licence. If the court allows registration of the firearms, you will need to make application for a PTA for each firearm.

Upon issue of your PTA you will need to make arrangements for a NSW firearms dealer to take possession of the firearm from police. You then take your issued PTA to the dealer who will process the PTA and send the required information to the Firearms Registry.

Related Information

See fact sheets:

- ['Information on obtaining a firearms licence in NSW'](#)
- ['Permit to Acquire \(PTA\) a Firearm'](#)
- ['Safe Storage Level One - Category A & B Requirements'](#)
- ['Safe Storage Level Two - Category C, D & H' Requirements'](#)