

# FIREARMS REGISTRY



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## ANIMAL WELFARE 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 Animal Welfare.

### What requirements must be met for this Genuine Reason?

This genuine reason is for people who work with or handle animals and need a firearm for the humane destruction of animals or stock. There are four different types of animal welfare genuine reasons:

1. An employee of the RSPCA or Animal Welfare League (who is a special constable), OR
2. A veterinary practitioner, OR
3. An employee of the Department of Primary Industries or Local Land Services, OR
4. The owner, transporter, drover or other handler of animals

### What categories of licence are available for this Genuine Reason?

Category A and/or B. Any person wishing to make application for a licence over and above a Category A licence must also produce evidence of a special need. Options are available in the online form to select the special need. Select the reason that most closely describes your special need to possess or use the selected firearm category.

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

Documents can be submitted as part of the online licence application. Please refer to the details below:

**Employee of RSPCA or Animal Welfare League (AWL)** - A letter from your employer (on official employer letterhead) which contains: your details (including: your full name, date of birth, residential address and job title), your employer's details (full name, position and contact details), your job duties that require the possession and use of firearms, the types of animal/pest to be humanely destroyed, the types of firearms required (category A and/or B) and the location where they will be used.

#### Veterinary Practitioner

##### Owner of a veterinary practice:

- \* A copy of your qualifications as a veterinary practitioner, and
- \* Proof of ownership of a veterinary practice (e.g. Business registration document)

##### Employee of a veterinary practice:

- \* A copy of your qualifications as a veterinary practitioner, and
- \* A letter from your employer (on official employer letterhead) which includes: employer's details, your details, your job duties that require the use of firearms and the types of firearms required (category A and/or B)

#### 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](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).

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Interstate: 02 6670 8590

Email: [firearms@police.nsw.gov.au](mailto:firearms@police.nsw.gov.au)

Website: [www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms)

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## Department of Primary Industries or Local Land Services

A letter from your employer (on official employer letterhead) with the Department of Primary Industries or Local Land Services which contains: your details (including: your full name, date of birth, residential address and job title), your employer's details (full name, position and contact details), your job duties that require the possession and use of firearms, the types of animal/pest to be humanely destroyed and the types of firearms required (category A and/or B).

## Owner, Transporter, Drover or Other Handler of Animals

Owner - Details and evidence of ownership or occupancy of rural land (e.g. Rates notice or lease agreement)

Transporter, drover or other handler of animals - A letter from your employer (on official employer letterhead) which includes: your details (including: your full name, date of birth, residential address and job title), your employer's details (full name, position and contact details), your job duties that require the possession and use of firearms, the types of animal/pest to be humanely destroyed and the types of firearms required (category A and/or B).

## Can I register firearms on this firearms licence?

**Employees of the Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services** may use their employer's firearms equivalent to the authority of their licence OR may acquire firearms if they have written approval from their employer to use their own firearms for work related activities.

**All other applicants** - once your licence is issued, you may make application to acquire a Category A and/or B firearm/s.

## Further information / related information

**Firearms Registry website:** [www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms)

**NSW Police Force Community Portal:** [portal.police.nsw.gov.au/s/online-firearm-applications](http://portal.police.nsw.gov.au/s/online-firearm-applications)

See fact sheets:

- ['Fee Schedule'](#)
- ['Information on obtaining a Firearms Licence in NSW'](#)
- ['Safe Storage Level 1 - Category A and B Requirements'](#)
- ['Transportation of Firearms'](#)
- ['Ammunition Safe Storage, Acquisition and Possession'](#)