

FIREARMS REGISTRY

Animal Welfare Genuine Reason

All persons wishing to obtain a firearms licence in NSW must have a genuine reason for obtaining the licence.

This FACT sheet provides information on obtaining a firearms licence for the genuine reason of Animal Welfare.

Who can apply 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 requirements must be met for 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. Please refer to the details below:

Employee of RSPCA or Animal Welfare League (AWL)

A letter from your employer (on official employer letterhead) which includes: your full name, date of birth, residential address, your job title, job duties that require the possession and use of firearms, the types of animal/pest to be humanely destroyed, the category of firearms and the location where they will be used.

Veterinary Practitioner

Certified copy of qualifications as a veterinary practitioner and a business registration document or letter issued by an accountant, solicitor or tax agent confirming your ownership of a veterinary practice OR a letter from your employer (on official employer letterhead) which includes: your full name, date of birth, residential address and your job duties that require the use of firearms.

Department of Primary Industries or Local Land Services

A letter from your employer (on official employer letterhead) or tax agent confirming your employment with the Department of Primary Industries or Local Land Services which includes: your full name, date of birth, residential address, job title, job duties that require the possession and use of firearms, the category of firearms and the location where they will be used.

Owner, Transporter, Drover or Other Handler of Animals

Owner - Details of the land and certification that you are the owner of animals and intend to use the firearms authorised by this licence solely in connection with your animal welfare responsibilities.

Transporter, drover or other handler of animals - a letter from your employer (on official employer letterhead) which includes: your full name, date of birth, residential address, job title, job duties that require the possession and use of firearms, the category of firearms and the location where they will be used.

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

Category A and B only.

Any person wishing to make application for a licence over and above a Category A licence must also produce evidence of special need.

Special need for a Category B firearm is established by listing the types of animals/pests to be humanely destroyed or controlled, the reasons why a category B firearm is required and why firearms covered by a category A licence is not sufficient.

The online firearms licence application has provision for completion of special need.

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 or B firearm - initial applications are subject to a 28 day waiting period.

Animal Welfare Genuine Reason

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.

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 licence application you will need:

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

How much will my firearms licence cost?

A personal firearms licence is issued for 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',
- 'Safe Storage Level 1 - Category A and B Requirements',
- 'Permit to Acquire a Firearm (PTA)',
- '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

Address

Locked Bag 1
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Telephone

1300362562

Interstate

02 66708590

Fax

02 66708558

Email

firearmsenq@police.nsw.gov.au

Website

www.police.nsw.gov.au/firearms



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