



Mendocino County Sheriff's Office – Carry Concealed Weapon License

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will I know if my particular circumstances will allow me to obtain a CCW license?

Each CCW application is unique and is evaluated on its own merits. Individual circumstances play a large role in determining the necessity of issuing a CCW license. This decision is ultimately made by the Sheriff's Office administration.

How long is my CCW license valid?

A license is in effect for a period of two, three or four years before it is either void or renewed. For exceptions, contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office at 707-964-6308.

Is renewing a CCW license automatically done?

No. A person wishing to renew a current CCW license must reapply with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

What documentation do I need to provide with my completed application?

An applicant needs to provide a state driver's license or ID card, or government issued ID card. In addition, applicants will need to provide proof of completion of a departmentally approved Firearms Safety Course (16-hour for initial applicants and 4-hour for renewal) as well as proof of qualification with all firearms that are intended to be added to the CCW. Proof of successful completion of a training course will only be required after a determination of good cause for issuance of the permit has been made.

An individual applicant's particular situation might necessitate additional documentation depending upon his or her circumstances. The Sheriff's Office will inform the applicant which additional documents (if any) will be needed after interviewing the applicant. At a minimum, additional documents may include a birth certificate or other proof of lawful alien residency in the U.S., utility bills, and military discharge form (DD 214) if applicable.

I already have a CCW from another state. Do I need to reapply for another one since moving to Mendocino County?

Yes. Your CCW is not valid in the State of California.

How old do I have to be before I can apply for a CCW license?

An applicant must be at least 21 years old before applying for a CCW license from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

Can I carry a concealed firearm out of state?

No. Normally, a CCW License issued by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office is not valid outside the state of California. However, some states will recognize a California CCW or do not require a CCW. You must check with the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the area(s) you intend to travel to determine if a CCW is necessary.

How soon can I take my Firearms Safety Course?

Applicants are only required to pay for a Firearms Safety Course after a determination of good cause has been made by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office. However, applicants may choose to complete a Firearms Safety Course prior to the application process. The Firearms Safety Course Certificate is good for one year from the date of issuance.