

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TITLE 11. LAW
DIVISION 5. FIREARMS REGULATIONS
CHAPTER 14. CARRY CONCEALED WEAPONS LICENSES

TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

Chapter 14. Carry Concealed Weapons Licenses

Article 1. General.

§ 4400. Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply wherever the terms are used throughout this Chapter.

(a) “CCW DOJ Certified Instructor” means an instructor certified by the Department to provide the course of training described in Penal Code section 26165.

(b) “CCW license” means a license issued pursuant to Penal Code sections 26150, 26155, or 26170.

(c) “Department” means the California Department of Justice.

(d) “Licensing authority” means a sheriff of a county, or the chief or other head of a municipal police department of any city or city and county.

(e) “Prohibited Armed Persons File” has the same meaning as that in Penal Code sections 30000 and 30005.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 26150, 26155, 26165 and 26170, Penal Code.

§ 4401. Uniform CCW License Design Standards.

(a) The uniform CCW license mandated by Penal Code section 26175, subdivision (a)(3)(A), shall be 2.125 inches in height and 3.375 inches in width. The uniform CCW license shall be laminated or printed on a hard card using form BOF 4501.

(b) The front of the uniform CCW license shall be in the following format:

**LICENSE TO CARRY CONCEALED PISTOL, REVOLVER,
OR OTHER FIREARM WITHIN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

<AGENCY NAME>

<ORI#>

<HEAD OF AGENCY>

Agcy. Lic. #:

Iss:

Exp:



CII #:

County:

Name:

Address:

DOB:

CA DL/ID:

Occupation:

Bus. Addr:

Hgt:

Wgt:

Eyes:

Hair:

Lic. Issued:

Issued by:

Signature of Licensee

Type:

(c) Licensing authorities may add their seal to the top left corner of the front of the uniform CCW license. No other modifications are allowed. For “CA DL/ID,” indicate the number of the licensee’s California driver’s license or identification card issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. For “Lic. Issued,” indicate “Initial” or “Subsequent.” For “Type,” indicate the type of license issued as it relates to Penal Code section 26220 (i.e., Standard, Employment, Judicial, Custodial, Reserve PO [peace officer]). For “Issued by,” include the signature of the sheriff, chief of police, or other head of agency. The sheriff, chief of police, or other head of agency may authorize an individual employed by the licensing authority to sign in their place.

(d) The back of the uniform CCW license shall be in the following format:

Serial #	Manufacturer	Model	Caliber
Right Thumb Print	Restrictions, Comments, and Additional Firearm information (if any):		
COVER AREA WITH IMAGE			
	Issued under Penal Code § 26150, 26155, or 26170 <small>BOF 4501 (Rev. 01/24)</small>		

(e) If more space is needed to list additional weapons authorized to be carried, they shall be listed under “Restrictions, Comments, and Additional Firearm information (if any).”

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26175 and 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Section 26175, Penal Code.

§ 4402. Capturing Thumbprint for Uniform CCW License.

(a) The licensing authority shall capture an original right thumbprint for every initial or renewal CCW license. If the right thumbprint is unavailable, the acceptable print order is left thumbprint followed by any available digit of the right hand, regardless of whether the digit is scarred or deformed. The licensee’s thumbprint or fingerprint image shall be true to size.

(b) If a Personal Identity Verification single finger capture device is used, the device must be certified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as tested and in compliance with the FBI’s Next Generation Identification (NGI) Image Quality Specifications (IQS).

(c) Form BOF 4501 shall be printed in color at a minimum resolution of 600 dpi (dots per inch) and mailed to the Department in accordance with section 4432, subdivision (d).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26175 and 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Section 26175, Penal Code.

Article 2. CCW DOJ Certified Instructors.

§ 4410. CCW DOJ Certified Instructor Qualifications and Applications.

(a) CCW DOJ Certified Instructor applicants must have a valid Certificate of Eligibility (COE) issued pursuant to Penal Code section 26710 and California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 4030 et seq.

(b) Applicants must be at least 21 years old.

(c) Initial and renewal applications must be completed and submitted on the Concealed Carry Weapon Program DOJ Certified Instructor Application, Form BOF 1034 (Rev. 12/2024), hereby incorporated by reference. Applicants must submit a copy of their active or unexpired training certification from one of the following entities:

(1) Bureau of Security and Investigative Services, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California-Firearm Training Instructor;

(2) Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), State of California-Firearms Instructor, Rangemaster, or Concealed Carry Tactics Instructor;

(3) Authorization from a State of California accredited school to teach a firearm training course;

(4) California Highway Patrol or California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation-Firearms Instructor, Weapons Instructor, or Rangemaster;

(5) National Rifle Association (NRA)-Law Enforcement Instructor, Basics of Personal Protection Outside the Home Instructor, or CCW Instructor. Basics of Personal Protection Outside the Home Instructors and CCW Instructors must additionally be both an NRA Certified Pistol Instructor and Personal Protection in the Home Instructor; or

(6) California Rifle & Pistol Association (CRPA)-Personal Protection Outside the Home Instructor. Personal Protection Outside the Home Instructors must additionally be both a CRPA Pistol Instructor and Personal Protection in the Home Instructor.

(d) Within six months before submitting their application, initial and renewal applicants must pass a live-fire shooting qualification course on a firing range. During the qualification course:

(1) The applicant must display safe weapon practices at all times.

(2) The applicant must use a serviceable holster and magazine pouch with at least one reload.

(3) The following shooting exercises shall be performed using a standard B-27 target:

Distance	Weapon Location	Rounds	Special Instructions	Time Limit	Number of Times
3 yards	combat ready	2	none	3.0 seconds	2 times
3 yards	holstered	2	hands up	5.0 seconds	2 times
5 yards	combat ready	3	failure drill	4.5 seconds	2 times
5 yards	holstered	2	object in hands	5.0 seconds	2 times
7 yards	holstered	6	none	10 seconds	1 time

“Hands up:” This sequence of fire will be performed with the applicant’s hands elevated around chest level.

“Failure drill:” Two shots to the body, and one to the head.

“Object in hands:” The applicant simulates holding an object, drops the object, and performs the sequence of fire.

(4) The total rounds fired during the qualification is 24. One point is awarded each time a round hits the intended target. The minimum passing score is 19 points.

(e) A CCW DOJ Certified Instructor’s certification is valid for four years provided that the CCW DOJ Certified Instructor maintains a valid COE. To remain valid, a COE must be renewed annually.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26165 and 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Section 26165, Penal Code.

§ 4411. Revoking CCW DOJ Certified Instructor’s Certification.

(a) A CCW DOJ Certified Instructor’s certification shall be revoked for the following reasons:

(1) instructor made false statements on the application;

(2) instructor’s training course fails to meet the minimum hourly length prescribed by

Penal Code section 26165, subdivisions (a)(1) or (d);

(3) instructor's training course fails to include instruction on the topics listed in Penal Code section 26165, subdivision (a)(2);

(4) instructor fails to require students to pass a written examination to demonstrate their understanding of the topics listed in Penal Code section 26165, subdivision (a)(2) and (3);

(5) instructor's training course fails to include the live-fire shooting exercises, safe handling demonstration, or demonstration of shooting proficiency prescribed by Penal Code section 26165, subdivision (a)(6); or

(6) public safety may be endangered if the instructor were to retain the certification.

(b) Any person may notify the Department if they believe a CCW DOJ Certified Instructor's certification should be revoked. Such notifications should state the facts that support this claim, include any documents or other evidence supporting this conclusion, and be emailed to DOJCertifiedInstructor@doj.ca.gov. Alternatively, the materials may be mailed to: California Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms, Customer Support Center - CCW DOJ Certified Instructor, P.O. Box 160367 Sacramento, CA 95816-0367.

(c) Any revocation action will be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, Government Code section 11500 et seq.

(d) A CCW DOJ Certified Instructor who has had their certification revoked may not reapply for certification earlier than one year from the effective date of the revocation.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26165 and 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Section 26165, Penal Code.

§ 4412. Shooting Qualification for POST-Certified Firearms Instructors.

(a) Any active peace officer, as defined in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal Code, who is certified as a Firearm Instructor, Rangemaster, or Concealed Carry Tactics Instructor by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) is exempt from the live-fire shooting qualification described in section 4410, subdivision

(d). In lieu of this requirement, these peace officers may provide a POST printout showing their active or unexpired firearms live-fire qualification.

(b) Reserve peace officers appointed pursuant to Penal Code section 830.6 do not qualify for this exemption.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26165 and 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Section 26165, Penal Code.

Article 3. Background Checks

§ 4420. Submission of Fingerprints

(a) When fingerprints are required, fingerprints shall be captured and transmitted electronically by an authorized Live Scan operator.

(b) The CCW license applicant shall complete a Request For Live Scan Service form which will require the following applicant information: full name, any alias name, date of birth, sex, driver's license number, height, weight, eye color, hair color, place of birth, and home address. The applicant shall take the completed form to a Live Scan operator who shall confirm the applicant's identification, input the applicant's personal descriptor information, capture the applicant's fingerprints electronically, and transmit the data to the Department.

(1) In lieu of a home address, an applicant who participates in the program described in Chapter 3.1 (commencing with Section 6205) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code may provide the address designated to the applicant by the Secretary of State.

(2) In lieu of a home address, an applicant who falls within the categories described in Penal Code section 26220, subdivision (c), may provide a business address or an alternative mailing address, such as a post office box.

(3) In lieu of a home address, an applicant for a license issued pursuant to Penal Code section 26170 may provide their post office box or the address of the issuing license authority.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 26175, 26185 and 26206, Penal Code.

§ 4421. Initial and Renewal Applicant Background Checks to Determine if Applicant Is Prohibited.

(a) For initial applicants, the Department shall examine its records and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) to determine the CCW license applicant's eligibility under state and federal law to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm.

(b) For renewal applications submitted to the Department prior to September 1, 2026, the Department shall review the Prohibited Armed Persons File and the NICS to determine the CCW license applicant's eligibility under state and federal law to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm. If the applicant does not match an entry in the Prohibited Armed Persons File, the Department shall examine its records to determine the CCW license applicant's eligibility under state and federal law to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm.

(c) For renewal applications submitted to the Department on or after September 1, 2026, the Department shall examine its records and the NICS to determine the CCW license applicant's eligibility under state and federal law to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26185 and 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 26165 and 26185, Penal Code.

§ 4422. Background Checks Following Denials or Revocations Reversed by Court Order.

(a) Section 4421, subdivision (a), applies to background checks for initial applicants whose CCW license denials are reversed by court order pursuant to Penal Code section 26206, subdivision (f)(1). Section 4421, subdivision (b), applies to background checks for renewal applicants whose CCW license denials are reversed by court order pursuant to Penal Code section 26206, subdivision (f)(1). The Department shall notify the licensing authority of the results of the background check no later than 60 days from receipt of the applicant's fingerprints or the renewal notification described in Penal Code section 26185, subdivision (b)(1).

(b) When fingerprints are submitted to the Department following CCW license denials reversed by court order pursuant to Penal Code section 26206, subdivision (f)(1):

(1) The Department shall provide a state or federal response to the licensing authority, pursuant to Penal Code section 11105, subdivision (l).

(2) If the Department is unable to ascertain the final disposition of an arrest or criminal charge, the outcome of the mental health treatment or evaluation, or the applicant's eligibility to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm, the Department shall notify the licensing authority.

(3) The Department shall furnish the licensing authority a criminal history report pertaining to the applicant. No new or renewal license shall be issued by any licensing

authority unless the report confirms the applicant's eligibility to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm.

(c) For CCW license revocations reversed by court order pursuant to Penal Code section 26206, subdivision (f)(2), the Department shall review the Prohibited Armed Persons File and the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) to determine the CCW license holder's eligibility under state and federal law to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm. If the person does not match an entry in the Prohibited Armed Persons File, the Department shall examine its records to determine the CCW license applicant's eligibility under state and federal law to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm. The Department shall notify the licensing authority of the results of the background check no later than 30 days from receipt of the court's order. No license shall be reinstated unless the Department confirms the applicant's eligibility to possess, receive, own or purchase a firearm.

(d) Court orders issued pursuant to Penal Code section 26206, subdivision (f), shall be mailed to the Department: Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms – CCW Program, P.O. Box 160367, Sacramento, CA 95816-0367.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26206 and 26225, Penal Code. Reference: 26165, 26185 and 26206, Penal Code.

Article 4. Licensing Authority Duties.

§ 4430. Delay Submitting No Longer Interested Notifications When Applicant Is Disqualified Person.

(a) When a CCW license is denied or revoked based on a determination that the applicant is a disqualified person, as set forth in Penal Code section 26202, the licensing authority shall not request that the Department terminate state or federal subsequent notification, as set forth in Penal Code section 11105.2, subdivisions (d) and (f), prior to the deadline for the applicant to request a hearing pursuant to Penal Code section 26206, subdivision (c).

(b) If a hearing is requested timely, the licensing authority shall not request that the Department terminate state or federal subsequent notification prior to the court's decision in the case.

(c) The licensing authority shall not request that the Department terminate state or federal subsequent notification if:

- (1) the court orders that the person shall not be deemed a disqualified person pursuant to Penal Code section 26206, subdivision (f)(1); or
- (2) the court orders reinstatement of the person's license pursuant to Penal Code section 26206, subdivision (f)(2).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26206 and 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Section 26206, Penal Code.

§ 4431. Reviewing the Automated Firearms System.

(a) For purposes of Penal Code section 26162, the licensing authority shall review the Automated Firearms System (AFS) to determine if the CCW license applicant is the recorded owner of the particular pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person reported in the application for a CCW license or the application for the amendment to a CCW license.

(b) The serial number of the firearm and the CCW license applicant's name, date of birth, and identification number (from California driver's license, California identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles, social security card, or military identification) must match an entry in one of the following AFS records:

- (1) Assault Weapon Registration;
- (2) C&R Collector's Report;
- (3) C&R Collector In State Long Gun;
- (4) Dealer's Record of Sale;
- (5) Firearm Ownership;
- (6) Intra-Familial Firearms Transaction;
- (7) New Resident Report;
- (8) Operation of Law;
- (9) Pawn Redemption;
- (10) Temporary Storage Return;
- (11) Serial Number Assigned;
- (12) Serial Number Restored;
- (13) Unique Serial Number Ownership; or

(14) Voluntary Registration.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Section 26162, Penal Code.

§ 4432. Notifications, Records, and Annual Survey.

(a) For purposes of Penal Code section 26225, subdivision (b), “immediately” means no later than 15 days after the denial, denial of an amendment, issuance, amendment, or revocation of a CCW license.

(b) The licensing authority shall report the denial or revocation of a CCW license on the License to Carry Concealed Pistol, Revolver, or Other Firearm Notification of Denial or Revocation, Form BOF 1032 (Rev. 12/2024), hereby incorporated by reference.

(c) The licensing authority shall report the denial of an amendment to a CCW license on the License to Carry Concealed Pistol, Revolver, or Other Firearm Amendment, Form BOF 4502. Form BOF 4502 shall be mailed to: Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms – CCW Program, P.O. Box 160367, Sacramento, CA 95816-0367.

(d)(1) The licensing authority shall mail copies of all initial and amended CCW licenses to: Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms – CCW Program, P.O. Box 160367, Sacramento, CA 95816-0367;

(2) The licensing authority shall mail copies of all renewal CCW licenses to: Department of Justice, Prescan Unit, K-111, P.O. Box 903417, Sacramento, CA 94203-4170.

(e) The licensing authority shall report the amendment of a CCW license on the License to Carry Concealed Pistol, Revolver, or Other Firearm Amendment, Form BOF 4502, and provide a copy of the amended license. Form BOF 4502 shall be mailed to: Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms – CCW Program, P.O. Box 160367, Sacramento, CA 95816-0367.

(f) The licensing authority shall submit the annual report described in Penal Code section 26225, subdivision (c), on the Reserve/Auxiliary Peace Officer and Judicial Carry Concealed Weapon (CCW) License Annual Survey, Form BOF 1027 (Rev. 12/2024), hereby incorporated by reference.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 26225, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 11106 and 26225, Penal Code.

Article 5. Signs Allowing Firearms on the Property.

§ 4440. Signs Allowing Firearms on Private Property.

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the signs required by Penal Code section 26230, subdivision (a)(22) and (26), shall contain the following language:

(1) NOTICE Lawful Concealed Carry Allowed on Property. (Pen. Code § 26230.); or

(2) NOTICE No Lawful Concealed Carry Allowed on Property without Written Permission of Owner. (Pen. Code § 26230.)

(b) When a licensing authority issues a license to carry loaded and exposed pursuant to Penal Code section 26150, subdivision (b)(2), or 26155, subdivision (b)(2), the signs required by Penal Code section 26230, subdivision (a)(22) and (26), shall contain the following language:

(1) NOTICE Lawful Open Carry Allowed on Property. (Pen. Code § 26230.); or

(2) NOTICE No Lawful Open Carry Allowed on Property without Written Permission of Owner. (Pen. Code § 26230.)

(c)(1) The word “notice” shall be centered at the top of the sign in capital letters. All text shall be in block letters not less than one inch in height.

(2) The word “notice” shall be set in white on a contrasting red background. The remaining text shall be set in black on a white background.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 26225 and 26230, Penal Code. Reference: Section 26230, Penal Code.