

WEAPONS ON CAMPUS

POLICY STATEMENT

Northern Arizona University prohibits the use, possession, display, or storage of any Weapon on all property and facilities owned, leased, or otherwise under the University's control, and at all University activities or events. Students and employees must report the presence or suspected presence of a prohibited Weapon. Requests, which must be approved in advance, to temporarily use, possess, display, or store a Weapon or a simulated Weapon on University property or at University activities or events in furtherance of legitimate University business may be submitted to, and are considered on a case-by-case basis by the NAU Chief of Police.

REASON FOR THIS POLICY

Regulating Weapons helps maintain the secure learning, living, and working environments that promote and advance the University's educational mission.

ENTITIES AFFECTED BY THIS POLICY

- Housing and Residence Life
- Human Resources
- NAU Police Department
- Student Rights and Responsibilities

WHO SHOULD KNOW THIS POLICY

- All members of the University community including students, employees, agents, and affiliates
- All visitors or guests

DEFINITIONS

Weapon: any object or substance designed to (or which could be reasonably expected to) inflict a wound, cause injury, incapacitate, or cause death, including, without limitation, all firearms (loaded and unloaded, simulated and real), devices designed to expel a projectile (such as BB guns, air guns, pellet guns, and potato guns), swords, knives with blades of 5 inches or longer, martial arts weapons, bows and arrows, and chemicals such as tear gas, but excluding permitted Personal Safety Devices.

Personal Safety Device: commercially available personal alarms, chemical repellents, or other devices designed to protect personal safety from physical attacks by other people that are approved and publicly listed by the University as permissible on property or facilities under the University's control.

POLICY

A. Prohibition

The use, possession, display, or storage of any Weapon is prohibited on all property and facilities owned, leased, or otherwise under the University's control, and at all University activities or events wherever located. Prohibited items include firearms carried with a permit and live ammunition.

B. Permanent Exceptions

The prohibition outlined in Paragraph A does not apply to the following:

1. Personal Safety Devices that are designed to protect personal safety from physical attacks by other people that have been specifically identified, approved, and publicly listed by the University;
2. A firearm that is lawfully stored and locked in a privately-owned motor vehicle or compartment of a motorcycle and is not visible from the outside of the vehicle or motorcycle, pursuant to [A.R.S. §12-781](#);
3. Peace officers certified by the State of Arizona and currently employed by an Arizona law enforcement agency who are performing official duties or who are off-duty, other sworn law enforcement officers working under legitimate color of authority, and retired peace officers as defined under [A.R.S. §38-1113\(G\)\(4\)](#); and
4. Weapons for which advance approval has been granted in writing in accordance with Paragraph G.

C. Personal Safety Devices

Northern Arizona University will publish a list of [Permitted Personal Safety Devices](#) to identify personal alarms, chemical repellents, and any other allowed devices designed to protect personal safety from physical attacks by other people that shall not be included in the definition of prohibited Weapons. Employees and currently enrolled students may once per academic year utilize the [Permitted Personal Safety Device Petition Procedure](#) to submit a request to have a device added to the University's published list of permitted Personal Safety Devices.

D. Conducted Electrical Devices

Except those possessed by sworn law enforcement officers in the course of performing official duties, conducted electrical or electroshock devices such as stun guns are prohibited on all property controlled by the University.

E. Personal Safety Device Review Board

A review board consisting of officials appointed by the President (or their designees) will consider written petitions to add items to the list of permitted Personal Safety Devices once each spring and fall semester. The implementation date for newly approved items will be the first day of the following semester. The petitioner is responsible for demonstrating that a device is eligible for consideration and why it should be approved.

F. Duty to Report

All University students and employees are required to immediately report violations or suspected violations of this policy to a University official or the NAU Police Department by calling 928-523-3611. If an incident involves an immediate threat to life or property, dial 911. Deliberately refusing to report the presence or suspected presence of a prohibited Weapon on University property or at University activities or events may constitute misconduct subject to disciplinary sanction.

G. Weapon Prohibition Temporary Exception Requests

Requests, which must be approved in advance, to temporarily use, possess, display, or store a Weapon or a simulated Weapon on University property or at University activities or events may be submitted to, and are considered on a case-by-case basis by the NAU Chief of Police or authorized designee. Use the [Weapon Prohibition Temporary Exception Request Form](#) to submit a temporary exception request at least fifteen (15) business days prior to the intended start of the exception. The Chief or designee will review the request and consult with other University officials as may be advisable or appropriate. The Chief or designee may require that the requester submit additional information or clarification and will render a written decision within fifteen (15) business days after a complete request (including any requested additional information or clarification) is received. If the Chief or designee approves the request, the approval may include conditions or restrictions deemed necessary to protect public safety or to ensure compliance with applicable University policy.

H. Enforcement

In addition to sanctions that may be imposed under applicable law, violations of this policy by students are subject to disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct up to and including suspension and expulsion. Violations by employees are subject to disciplinary action under applicable Arizona Board of Regents and NAU employee conduct policies up to and including termination of employment. Violations of this policy by visitors, guests, or members of the general public may result in ejection from University property, arrest, and/or confiscation of a prohibited Weapon or other dangerous item.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Chief of Police (or authorized designee): responds to Weapon prohibition temporary exception requests in accordance with this policy.

Housing and Residence Life: works to educate residents as to the content and meaning of this policy and, through established University housing conduct procedures, enforces this policy and related provisions of the Standards of Residence.

Human Resources: works to educate employees regarding the content and meaning of this policy and enforces this policy through established employee conduct procedures.

NAU Police Department: works to educate the University community regarding the content and meaning of this policy and enforces this policy on University property and at University events.

Student Rights and Responsibilities: works to educate students as to the content and meaning of this policy and enforces this policy and related provisions of the Student Code of Conduct.

PROCEDURES

[Permitted Personal Safety Device Petition Procedure](#)

RELATED INFORMATION

Forms or Tools

[Permitted Personal Safety Device Petition](#)

[Weapons Prohibition Temporary Exception Request Form](#)

Cross-References

[Human Resources Policy 5.07](#)

[Standards of Residence](#)

[Student Code of Conduct](#)

Sources

[Arizona Board of Regents Policy 5-302](#)

[Arizona Board of Regents Policy 5-303](#)

[Arizona Board of Regents Policy 5-308](#)

[Arizona Revised Statutes §12-781](#)

[Arizona Revised Statutes §13-2911](#)

[Arizona Revised Statutes §13-3102](#)

[Arizona Revised Statutes §38-1113\(G\)\(4\)](#)

APPENDIX

[Permitted Personal Safety Devices List](#)