

Guideline G1-003A: FIREARMS ON CAMPUS

Utah law grants all authority for the regulation of firearms on a University campus to the Utah State Legislature. Utah Code Ann. § 53B-3-103 It is for this reason that the University's Interim Policy 1-003: Firearms on Campus, is simply an acknowledgement that Utah law governs firearms on campus and the University enforces state law. This guideline summarizes Utah's laws governing firearms at the University of Utah Campus.

Who May Carry a Concealed Firearm On University Property?

- Firearms are prohibited "on or about school premises" which includes higher education campuses, unless a specific exception applies. Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-505.5(2).
 - Exceptions: The following people may carry a concealed firearm on campus.
 - A person 21 years of age or older who holds a concealed weapon permit (CWP) including a temporary permit. Utah Code Ann. §§ 53-5-704; 53-5-705; 53-5-710.
 - Federal marshals, peace officers and judges, commissioners and officials with training. Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-523.
 - Tenants of University Student Apartments while in their residence. Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-505.5.
 - **NOTE:** In most places other than school premises, Utah law allows an individual who is 21 or older to carry a concealed firearm without a CWP. Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-523. However, because of the specific statute relating to school premises, only those holding a CWP and the officials listed above may carry a concealed firearm at the University of Utah.

Who May Openly Carry (Not Concealed) a Firearm on Campus?

- The only individuals who may openly carry a firearm on campus are federal marshals and peace officers (police). Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-523.
- Individuals who are 21 or older and have a CWP are permitted to carry their weapon on campus but the weapon must remain concealed. Utah Code Ann. § 53-5-704.

Are There Locations on Campus Where Concealed Firearms Are Not Permitted?

- Yes, all firearms are prohibited in the following areas:
 - Secure hearing rooms. Utah Code Ann. § 76-8-311.1(1)(e)
 - Mental health facilities. Utah Code Ann. § 76-8-311.1(1)(d)

May a Student Possess a Firearm In Their Dorm?

- Yes, if the student is at least 21 years old, has a CWP, and keeps their firearm concealed. §§ 53-5-704; 53-5-705; 53-5-710.
- **Note:** A student who does not wish to room with another student who possesses a firearm can request a room change. Utah Code Ann. § 53b-3-103.

How are Firearms Laws Enforced on Campus?

Because of the confusion regarding the firearms laws that apply on campus, the University takes an educational approach to enforcement. Anyone violating the laws will be asked by University police to comply. Only those who refuse to comply with the law will be subject to further police action and/or University disciplinary action.