

Firearms Policy

Hagerstown Community College (HCC) prohibits the possession of weapons at the main campus, off-campus location and other locations owned, leased, occupied or used by and under the control of the College. Weapons include guns, firearms, ammunition, explosives, dangerous chemicals, metal knuckles, knives with blades more than 3 inches long, electronic devices/Taser, other weapons and any object or instrument which has been designed or altered to appear to be a weapon, or which can reasonably be construed or used as a weapon (dependent on the circumstances of its use, possession or display).

This prohibition applies to employees, students, guests, tenants, visitors and other persons on Hagerstown Community College properties.

- A. Employees in violation of this policy are subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment in accordance with the Hagerstown Community College Employee Handbook.
- B. Students in violation of this policy are subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion in accordance with HCC's student Code of Conduct.
- C. Other persons in violation of this policy will be barred from Hagerstown Community College locations.
- D. Where applicable, criminal sanctions for violation of state, federal or local law relating to the illegal or unauthorized possession of weapons will be sought.

This prohibition (of handguns) does **NOT** apply to:

- A. A law enforcement officer in the regular course of the officer's duty;
- B. A law enforcement officer-recruit in the regular course of the recruit's training;
- C. An off-duty law enforcement officer or
- D. A retired or past law enforcement officer in good standing from a law enforcement agency of the United States, the State, or a local unit in the State who has met the standards of LEOSA (the Law Enforcement Officer's Safety Act) provided that:
 - I. The officer or retired officer is in possession of the officer's or retired officer's badge or credential (and a current LEOSA card for retired or past officers);
 - II. The weapon carried or possessed by the officer or retired officer is concealed, or worn openly as part of the officer's uniform or official dress; and

- III. The officer or retired officer is authorized to carry a concealed handgun in Maryland.
- E. A uniformed employee of an armored car company who is authorized to carry a firearm in Maryland in the regular course of employment.
- F. A Maryland Correctional Officer, certified/authorized by the Division of Corrections to carry a firearm, in the regular course of the officer's duty.
- G. Persons who are granted permission to possess a weapon or replica weapon by the Campus Chief of Police for historical or educational purposes, or for other good reasons.