

34.06.02.W1 Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus

Approved April 27, 2016 (Effective August 1, 2016)

Reviewed November 18, 2021

Next Scheduled Review November 18, 2026

Rule Statement

This rule provides guidelines for the legal carrying of concealed firearms on the campus of West Texas A&M University by those with a license to do so, including prohibitions in certain areas of campus.

Reason for Regulation

This rule was written to comply with Texas Government Code § 411.2031. This statute allows for each university president to consult with students, faculty, and staff to determine any areas that would be prohibited from concealed carry due to specific considerations for the safety of our campus community. This rule establishes those areas.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. The university president established this rule after consulting with West Texas A&M University students, staff and faculty about the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the campus environment. The system board of regents, as required by law, reviewed these rules.
2. A handgun license holder, under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the campus of West Texas A&M University or in a West Texas A&M University vehicle, unless prohibited by state or federal law or this rule. The open carrying of a handgun on campus is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times.
3. West Texas A&M University enforces state law regulating firearms on campus. This enforcement occurs in two ways. First, university police or other applicable law enforcement agencies will investigate and take appropriate action, including referral for criminal prosecution when violations occur. Second, West Texas A&M University will consider any violation of state law regulating firearms to be a violation of West Texas A&M University rules. Accordingly, such a violation is subject to disciplinary action under rules applicable to students, faculty, and staff.

4. STORAGE OF HANDGUNS IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

- 4.1 This section applies to dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are: (1) owned and operated by West Texas A&M University or (2) leased and operated by West Texas A&M University.
- 4.2 Any resident of campus housing who is a handgun license holder and wants to store a handgun in his/her room must store it in a safe that is rented from and installed by the Department of Residential Living or store it in a safe manufactured for the purpose of storing a handgun, and properly installed. Residential Living must approve the selection and installation of the safe.

5. RULES APPLICABLE TO CARRYING A CONCEALED HANDGUN ON CAMPUS

- 5.1 State Law Prohibitions – A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable state law prohibitions. See Appendix.
- 5.2 Federal Law Prohibitions – A license holder is responsible for complying with the applicable federal law prohibitions.
- 5.3 Other Prohibited Campus Premises – A license holder is also prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun on the following campus premises:
 - 5.3.1 Kids Kollege childcare facility, located within the Virgil Henson Activities Center,
 - 5.3.2 the pool in the Virgil Henson Activities Center,
 - 5.3.3 the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum,
 - 5.3.4 facilities used for intercollegiate or interscholastic competitions, one hour prior to and one hour following the competition. Facilities include but may not be limited to the following:
 - 5.3.4.1 First United Bank Center
 - 5.3.4.2 West Texas A&M University Fieldhouse, “The Box”
 - 5.3.4.3 Kimbrough Memorial Stadium
 - 5.3.4.4 West Texas A&M University rodeo arena
 - 5.3.4.5 Wilder Baseball Field
 - 5.3.4.6 Schaeffer Softball Park
 - 5.3.4.7 “The Pitch” West Texas A&M University Track and Field/Soccer Complex.

- 5.3.5 any premises where the university, as determined or approved by the president as necessary for campus safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code. For this rule, the term “owner of the property” in Section 30.06(b), Penal Code, means the president of the university. No university employee is “someone with apparent authority to act for the owner” for purposes of Section 30.06(b), Penal Code. All notices under Section 30.06, Penal Code, will be institutional notice, conform to Section 46.03 of the Penal Code, and apply equally to all handgun license holders; and
- 5.3.6 any premises on campus leased by the university to a third party, if the third party determines to prohibit the concealed carry of handguns on the premises and provides effective notice pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code.
- 5.4 At all premises where concealed carry is prohibited, West Texas A&M University must give effective notice under Section 30.06, Penal Code.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

System Regulation [34.06.02, Weapons](#)

Definitions

Campus – all land and buildings owned or leased by West Texas A&M University.

Campus housing – dormitories or other residential facilities located on campus that are (1) owned and operated by West Texas A&M University; or (2) leased and operated by West Texas A&M University.

Interscholastic event – a function or program existing or done between schools not including a collegiate sporting event.

Premises – a building or portion of a building. The term does not include any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk, or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

Appendix

[Texas Statutory Prohibitions](#)

Contact Office

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