Iowa Department of Public Safety
Permit to Carry Weapons Information

1. Application Process

Any person wanting to apply for an Iowa permit to carry weapons must submit the following at time of application:

☐ **Completed and signed application form.** Application forms are available on the Iowa Department of Public Safety's website. Please be aware some Sheriff's Offices have online applications. Please contact your Sheriff's Office to verify the method by which they accept applications.

The following applications must be submitted to the Sheriff's Office in the applicant's county of residence:

- Resident Nonprofessional Permits
- Resident Professional Permits
- County Attorney Permits
- Attorney General Permits
- Peace Officer Permits (for city and county)
- Reserve Officer Permits (for city and county)

The following applications must be submitted to the Iowa Department of Public Safety:

- Non-resident Professional Permits
- General Assembly Permits
- State of Iowa Correctional Officer Permits
- Judicial Officer Permits
- Professional Permits for state employees (other than Attorney General permits) whose need to go armed is employment based

☐ **Employer Authorization.** All applications for a professional permit to carry must be signed by an appropriate authority confirming the applicant is occupationally eligible. The following permit applications must have the employer authorization section completed:

- Resident Professional Permits
- Non-resident Professional Permits
- County Attorney Permits
- Attorney General Permits
- General Assembly Permits
- Judicial Officer Permits
- Correctional Officer Permits
- Peace Officer Permits
- Reserve Officer Permits

☐ **Proof of training.** Handgun safety training is required for all new Iowa permit applicants that can be satisfied via online or in-person. This is often satisfied by completion of training by the NRA, USCCA, T-M Firearm Training, Concealed Coalition, or by training that is provided by an NRA, USCCA, T-M Firearm Training, or Concealed Coalition certified instructor within 24 months of the application. Other means by which to satisfy the training requirement includes completion of acceptable military training as demonstrated on a DD-214. Iowa's training requirements are listed in Iowa Code chapter 724.9.

☐ **Proof of identification.** Applicants shall provide proof of identification with the permit application. This may include the following:

- A driver's license or nonoperator identification card that contains a photo of the person, issued by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

- A motor vehicle license or nonoperator identification card that contains a photo of the person, issued by a state other than Iowa.

☐ **Proof of residency.** If the permit applicant has not been issued an Iowa driver's license or nonoperator identification card by the Iowa Department of Transportation, proof of residency is required. This may include a residential lease agreement, utility bill, voter registration, tuition receipt for a college or university in Iowa, or other documentation that is acceptable to the officer issuing the permit and that indicates the intent of the person's presence in Iowa is something other than merely transitory in nature.

☐ **Proof of legal/lawful status in the United States.** If applicant is not a United States citizen, proof of legal/lawful status must be submitted with the permit application. Proof of legal/lawful status may be a Permanent Resident Card (i.e. green card), Employment Authorization Card, Visa, and/or I-94 admission number. Alien Registration Number (ARN), U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) number, or I-94 admission number is required for all non-citizens. Non-citizens must provide documentation indicating the person has resided in Iowa for at least 90 consecutive days.

☐ **Fee.** New permit – $50, renewal permit – $25, duplicate permit – $25.

2. Permit Eligibility

An applicant must meet and maintain the following requirements:

- Be at least 18 years old for a permit to carry.
- Not be prohibited from purchasing or possessing a handgun by 18 U.S.C. 922. Verification of this requirement requires clearance from the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).
- Have not been convicted of a felony in any jurisdiction.
- Have had no convictions in any court of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year or any state offense classified by the state as a misdemeanor and is punishable by a term of imprisonment exceeding two years.
- Have never been convicted of an offense involving a firearm or explosive that is classified as a misdemeanor AND is punishable by more than one year of imprisonment (such as an Iowa aggravated misdemeanor).
- Have not been convicted within the previous three years of an aggravated misdemeanor OR serious misdemeanor offense under Iowa Code chapter 708, including but not limited to assault, intimidation, harassment, hazing, or stalking.
- Not an unlawful user of, or addicted to, any controlled substance under 21 U.S.C. 802 section 102.
- Not currently under indictment for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year.
- Have had no convictions in any court of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.
- Not subject to a court order that restrains the person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner or child of an intimate partner.
- Not currently a fugitive from justice.
- Have not been discharged from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions.
- Have not renounced Unites States citizenship.

- Have not been adjudicated mental defective or involuntary committed to a mental institution. This includes being found incompetent to conduct your affairs, findings in a criminal proceeding of "not guilty by reason of insanity" or found "incompetent to stand trial."
- Not currently illegally or unlawfully in the United States.

3. Permit Issuance Process

If the application for a permit to carry is complete and all required documentation is submitted, the permit will be issued by the sheriff's office in the applicant's county of residence, or the Iowa Department of Public Safety within 30 days as long as the criminal history reveals no disqualifying information. Nonprofessional permits to carry are valid for 5 years. Resident and non-resident professional permits are valid for 1 year. All other professional permits are non-expiring and are valid for the duration of employment. Once approved, permits take 4-6 weeks to arrive in the mail.

4. Renewal of Permits

Current permit holders may apply to renew their nonprofessional or professional permit to carry no earlier than 30 days prior to the expiration of the permit, and no later than 30 days after the expiration of the permit. Renewal applications for a nonprofessional and resident professional permit are submitted to the sheriff's office in the applicant's county of residence. Renewal applications for a non-resident professional permit are submitted to the Iowa Department of Public Safety. After 30 days have passed without applying for a renewal, the permit holder will be required to apply for a new initial permit.

5. Change of Name

Permit holders who change their name must apply for a Duplicate permit. Duplicate permit applications are $25 and keep the same expiration date as the current permit. Application materials must be submitted to the sheriff's office in the applicant's county of residence. Applications should be accompanied with a color photocopy of the applicant's driver's license, proof of name change, and $25 fee.

6. Change of Address

Permit holders who change their address are not required to update their permit to carry. If the permit holder is interested in using the permit to purchase a firearm, a Federal Firearms Licensee may require an updated permit that matches their driver's license. If the permit holder wishes to obtain a new permit, a Duplicate permit application must be submitted to the sheriff's office in the applicant's county of residence. If the current permit expires within 30 days, the applicant must submit a renewal application with the sheriff's office in the applicant's county of residence. Duplicate permit applications must be accompanied by a color photocopy of the applicant's driver's license, proof of address change (if different than driver's license), and $25 fee.

7. Lost/Stolen or Damaged Permit Replacements

A permit holder whose permit is lost, stolen, or damaged shall notify the issuing officer as soon as practical. A Duplicate permit application must be submitted for a replacement permit and must be accompanied by a color photocopy of the applicant's driver's license and $25 fee.