

FAQ's – MN Permit To Carry

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Do I need to have my permit with me when carrying my pistol?

Yes, you must have your permit in your possession any time other than those exceptions listed above. You must also have a valid driver's license, state identification card, or other government-issued photo identification in your possession at all times when carrying a pistol and you must display the permit card and identification document when requested by a law enforcement officer.

If my carry permit is lost or destroyed can I still carry a handgun while my application for a replacement is being processed?

No, carrying a handgun as a permit holder requires that you have a valid permit in your possession while carrying, along with a valid driver's license, state identification card, or other government-issued photo identification in your possession. You must also be able to display the permit and your identification if requested to do so by a peace officer.

What do I do if my permit card is lost or destroyed?

You must notify the issuing sheriff's office within 30 days of having lost or destroyed the permit card. Failure to do so is a petty misdemeanor. You can obtain a replacement permit card by paying \$10.00 processing fee to the sheriff.

Can I still carry while my replacement permit is being processed?

No, you must have the permit in your possession in order to legally carry. Once you pay the \$10 fee for a replacement card, your request will have to be processed and the card will be sent to you by mail. Only when you receive that permit card are you legal to carry again.

I didn't realize my permit has expired and now I need to take a qualified training class before I re-apply. Can I still carry?

No, you no longer have a valid permit once your card expires. Your permit is expired as of the date printed on the card. You cannot legally carry again until your application has been processed, approved and you receive your new permit card in the mail.

It is your responsibility to keep track of when your permit expires (every five years). We encourage our students to schedule an annual reminder for themselves on their personal calendar that their "MN Permit Expires on (date/year)". Example: year #1 you calendar a reminder for the next year on the same date; year #2 same thing, etc. This will assist you in at least providing yourself with a reminder of the expiration date and year at least 4x before it actually expires.

You can apply for your permit up to 90 days in advance of the expiration date. So ideally, make your calendar reminder date/year for the 90-days out and then sign-up for the next available class as soon as you can take it. Remember the sheriff's department has up to 30 days to respond to your application. This means that in order to allow yourself ample time you need to have the training class completed and your application submitted more than 30 days in advance of your expiration date.

Is there a refresher course I can take that is different from the regular MN Permit To Carry class if I need to renew my permit after five years?

There is no such thing as a “refresher” course. All training classes that qualify for application of a MN Permit To Carry are the same. However, as trainers, we appreciate knowing that this is a refresher course for you when you sign-up with us. We offer you a discount on the class fee upon request when you are a former student of Mid-Minnesota Self-Defense. We appreciate your business!

Do I need to notify the sheriff’s office when I move?

Yes, you are required to notify the issuing sheriff’s office within 30 days of a permanent address change. Failure to do so is a petty misdemeanor.

Do the address and/or my new driver’s license number on my permit to carry need to match the address and/or drivers license number on my driver’s license?

No. Although you must notify the issuing sheriff’s office within 30 days of a permanent address change, you are not required to apply for a new permit if you move.

If I am a non-resident, must I take an approved firearms training class in Minnesota in order to get a Minnesota permit to carry?

No. You are only required to present evidence that you have received training in the safe use of a pistol from an organization or government entity that has been approved by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. A non-resident may apply for a Minnesota Carry Permit at the offices of any County Sheriff in the state.

If I have a Minnesota permit to carry can I apply for a Florida permit?

Yes. If you take your permit class at Mid-Minnesota Self-Defense, our trainers are also NRA Certified Instructors. Florida accepts applications from those who have taken courses as a non-residents from an NRA instructor. This means you are not required to take an additional class in order to apply for your Florida permit. You will need to make note of the NRA instructor’s number on your Florida application.

Applying for your non-resident Florida permit will provide additional states that have reciprocity with your MN Permit. It allows you to carry in more states across the nation than you could if you only had your MN Permit. Some people also elect to obtain the Utah Permit but that requires paying for and taking an additional class specific to Utah law for carrying a firearm.

The most common permits MN residents get are the Florida and Utah permits.

In combination with a MN Permit, each add different states with reciprocity. These state lists and the laws that govern them are constantly changing. You’ll need to stay current by checking on a regular basis to understand which states currently provide reciprocity based on the permits you have as a resident or non-resident. For more information on reciprocity states, visit the website: http://www.usacarry.com/concealed_carry_permit_reciprocity_maps.html

Remember: If you do not have a permit that allows for reciprocity to legally carry in another state you must not cross the state border while carrying. If traveling in a vehicle you must stop and disarm yourself before crossing that state’s border.

Also – you are responsible for knowing and understanding that state’s gun laws if you legally carry within their boundaries.

