

LAPD CCW Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for a Concealed Carry Weapon (CCW) license with the Los Angeles Police Department?

Application instructions are posted on the LAPD homepage at <https://www.lapdonline.org/office-of-the-chief-of-police/office-of-special-operations/detective-bureau/detective-services-group/ccw-carry-concealed-weapon-license>

Can anyone apply for a CCW license with the LAPD?

No, only verified residents of the City of Los Angeles (LAPD jurisdiction) may apply with the LAPD, per 26155(a) PC. See the LAPD homepage for instructions on how to show proof of residency.

Can I use my work/business/PO Box address to qualify as being a City of LA resident?

No, only your actual primary residence address can be used, verified by documents submitted during the application process, and listed currently on your California driver's license or ID.

Can I take my application to a police station or send via email or certified mail?

No, the application will only be accepted online via the "Permitium" program once you are scheduled for an interview. Mailing, emailing or delivering it in person will not be accepted or expedite the wait list.

Why does it take so long after I'm placed on the waiting list before I get an interview?

The time on the waiting list is dictated by the number of residents requesting appointments. We have a limited number of investigators who are working diligently to process all of the requests. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

What is the current wait time to obtain an interview?

Currently the wait time is 16-20 months.

Do you offer expedited processing?

No, our policy is **first come, first served**. Most applicants are concerned about their personal safety over others or request priority for a variety of reasons. Our policy is a basic tenet of fairness, and once put on the list, you will not be replaced or lowered on the list to accommodate another applicant.

Can I complete my CCW training course and get a live scan before my interview?

Generally, we request you wait until you have an appointment scheduled before obtaining your live scan. The CCW unit cannot file a live scan into an applicant's file until after the interview has been completed. To avoid any misplacements of live scans or delays in your process, it is best to wait until 2 weeks prior to your appointment date to complete your live scan.

Please use the live scan form on the LAPD website or the form provided by Permitium otherwise the CCW Unit will not receive the results from the Department of Justice. If you use the incorrect form, you will have to resubmit the correct form and pay a second time for the service.

Training certificates will only be accepted from Training Providers on our approved list and dated no earlier than 6 months before your interview date. You may want to take basic firearms training classes, depending on your skill level, before taking the CCW training course. CCW training is not basic firearms training and you are expected to be safe and proficient with a firearm before attending the CCW training course.

What happens if I miss my interview appointment?

We request that you make every effort to appear at the scheduled date and time for your interview. If you are unable to appear, re-schedule your appointment through the Permitium portal. If you are a “no-show” without prior notification of cancellation, you will be removed from the waiting list and must re-apply.

How long does it take to get my license after the interview?

Once we receive the live scan results, and a background is conducted, you will receive a letter in the mail advising if you have been approved or denied. This will happen within 120 days of the successful submission of your application, or 30 days after the receipt of your live scan results, whichever is later. Once you are approved and your CCW training certificate and shooting proficiency forms are submitted, it takes approximately 8-12 weeks before your license will be ready for issuance.

What firearms can I carry with my license?

A CCW license is for a **concealable handgun** only. The firearm must be lawfully purchased or transferred with an ownership record in the Automated Firearms System in the name of the CCW holder. We allow up to three firearms on a license. You cannot carry any other firearm than the one(s) on your license. Note- some training providers will not allow applicants to qualify with certain concealable firearms. See additional handgun requirements on the LAPD CCW application instructions page.

Can I make modifications to my firearms?

Some sight and light attachments are allowed but no illegal modifications to firearms are permitted. Check with current California Firearm laws to verify the legal status of your firearm.

Do I bring my firearm(s) with me to the interview?

NO, it is a violation of law to bring a firearm to a police facility, per 171(b) PC. You need to verify the make, model, caliber, and serial number of your firearm(s) and accurately record them on your application. If there is a discrepancy with a firearm, photos of the weapon can be used for clarification. You must have a firearm registered to you in the state of California before applying for a CCW.

Can I add, delete, or change firearms on my CCW license?

If you wish to add a firearm to your license after it's been issued, please email CCWProcessing@LAPD.online and advise that you would like to add a firearm to your card and request to be added to the wait list (current wait time is 12 months). A new card must be issued with the added firearm before you are allowed to conceal carry it. Firearms can also be added at the time of renewals.

What if I lose or sell a firearm listed on my CCW permit?

If you sell or lose a firearm, you must notify the CCW Unit, so the firearm can be removed from your license with the California Department of Justice.

What if I move during the process?

Only residents of the City of Los Angeles can be issued LAPD CCW permits. If you move **after your interview**, notify your investigator as soon as possible and send your DMV change of address. If you move **after your permit has been issued**, contact ccwprocessing@lapd.online and submit your DMV change of address. You do not have to notify the CCW Unit before your interview unless you move out of the city and wish to be removed from the wait list.

If a CCW card holder moves out of the city, you must apply with the city of county of residence. Renewals will not be accepted for residents who move outside of Los Angeles City limits.

Is my LAPD issued CCW license recognized outside of the City of Los Angeles?

Yes, a license issued by any licensing authority in the State of California is valid anywhere in the State. California does not recognize CCW licenses from any other state; however, a few states recognize CCW licenses issued by California. Check the internet for an accurate up-to-date list of other states that allow carrying with a CA license.

Additional Considerations

Carefully consider all of the aspects and responsibilities of carrying a firearm before you start the application process.

Read the LAPD CCW Policy on the Department's homepage at LAPDonline.org before you submit your application. Strict adherence to all of the requirements and procedures is required to successfully submit your application. Applicants with incomplete applications before their interview may have to be rescheduled for another appointment.

Missing documents may cause your application to be declined. Pay particular attention to and make a note of what documents are needed on the Permitium website.

Appear early or on time for your interview. Interviews are conducted back-to-back, and late arrivals may have to wait if they missed their appointment time.

Fill out the portions requiring information **truthfully and complete** when instructed to do so.

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) are separate agencies. If you applied to the LASD, we do not have any information of the status of your application.

Additional questions can be addressed by the LAPD CCW Unit by emailing CCWprocessing@lapd.online, or by reviewing the CCW website, [CCW Carry Concealed Weapon License - LAPD Online](http://www.lapdonline.org/office-of-the-chief-of-police/office-of-special-operations/detective-bureau/detective-services-group/ccw-carry-concealed-weapon-license/) or <https://www.lapdonline.org/office-of-the-chief-of-police/office-of-special-operations/detective-bureau/detective-services-group/ccw-carry-concealed-weapon-license/>