

ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY
Weapons on Campus Property Policy

Preamble

Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) is committed to maintaining a safe campus. The possession and use of weapons is prohibited at ECSU, except as allowed by law. This policy governs university-wide possession of weapons on campus property.

1. Definitions

Under this policy, the following definitions apply:

- A. **“Campus property”** means any university building, bus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used or operated by ECSU.
- B. **“Student”** means an individual enrolled at ECSU, whether full-time, part-time, or as an exchange student.
- C. **“Employee”** means an individual employed at ECSU, whether full-time, part-time or on a temporary basis.
- D. **“University Police Officer”** means an individual employed within ECSU’s university police department who is authorized to carry weapons.
- E. **“Visitor”** means an individual who is permitted on campus, other than a student, employee or external emergency responder.
- F. **“External Emergency Responder”** means any local or state law enforcement officer who enters campus property to assist ECSU’s university police department or other local emergency responders including but not limited to firefighters or EMT staff.
- G. **“Weapon”** means a device that is capable of resulting in bodily harm, death or property damage including but not limited to: guns; rifles, pistols or other firearms of any kind; dynamite cartridges; bombs; grenades; mines or powerful explosives; BB guns; paintball guns; stun guns; air rifles; air pistols, bowie knife; dirk; dagger; slungshot; leaded cane; switchblade knife, blackjack; metallic knuckles; razors and razor blades (except solely for personal shaving); fireworks or any sharp-pointed or edged instrument (except instructional supplies; unaltered nail files and clips and tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction and maintenance of campus property); bow and arrows; ammunition; gun powder (except for use in maintenance of campus property) and crossbows.
- H. **“Weapon-like Device”** means a non-functional replica of a weapon that is incapable of resulting in bodily harm, death or property damage.

2. Prohibition as to Students

Students are prohibited from possessing or carrying weapons on campus property, whether open or concealed, except as allowed under SECTION 5 below.

A. Disciplinary Action for Violation of Policy

A student who violates this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action and may be subject to eviction from a residence hall, if the student is a boarding student.

B. Arrest for Violation of State Laws

In addition to disciplinary action, a student who violates state laws pertaining to weapons on campus shall be subject to arrest.

3. Prohibition as to Employees

Employees are prohibited from possessing or carrying weapons on campus, whether open or concealed, except as allowed under SECTION 5 below.

A. Disciplinary Action for Violation of Policy

i. Full-Time Employees

A full-time employee who violates this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the respective procedures for SPA, EPA Faculty and EPA Non-faculty based on the type of employment.

ii. Part-Time and Temporary Employees

A part-time or temporary employee who violates this policy shall be subject to immediate separation.

B. Arrest for Violation of State Laws

In addition to disciplinary action, an employee who violates state laws pertaining to weapons on campus shall be subject to arrest.

4. Prohibition as to Visitors

Visitors are prohibited from possessing or carrying weapons on campus, whether open or concealed, except as allowed under SECTION 5 below. A visitor who violates state laws pertaining to weapons on campus shall be subject to arrest.

5. Allowable Possession of Weapons on Campus

A. University Police Officers and External Emergency Responders

i. University Police Officers

University police officers are allowed to possess and carry weapons on campus property in the discharge of their official duties.

ii. External Emergency Responders

External emergency responders may carry weapons on campus property in the discharge of official duties, if duly authorized.

B. Handguns

i. Employees Who Reside on Campus Property

An employee, who resides in a detached, single-family campus residence either alone or with immediate family members, may possess a handgun on campus only in the following manner:

a. *With a Valid Concealed Handgun Permit*

If the employee has a valid concealed handgun permit or is exempt from obtaining a concealed handgun permit, the employee may have his/her handgun:

1. on the premises of the employee's campus residence; or
2. in a closed compartment or container within the employee's locked vehicle in a campus parking lot;
3. except for direct transfer between the campus residence and the employee's vehicle, the handgun must remain at all times either on the premises of the employee's campus residence or in the closed compartment of the employee's locked vehicle. The employee may unlock the vehicle to enter or exit, but must lock the vehicle immediately following the entrance or exit if his/her handgun is in the vehicle.

b. *Without a Concealed Handgun Permit*

If the employee does not have a valid permit to carry a concealed handgun, the employee may have his/her handgun:

1. on the premises of the employee's campus residence; and
2. in the employee's vehicle only when the vehicle is occupied by the employee and the employee is immediately leaving the campus or is driving directly to their campus residence from off campus; and
3. on the employee's person outside the premises of the employee's campus residence when making a direct transfer of the handgun from the employee's campus residence to the employee's vehicle when the employee is immediately leaving the campus or from the employee's

vehicle to the employee's campus residence when the employee is arriving at the campus residence from off campus.

ii. Individuals With Valid Concealed Handgun Permits

Any person who has a valid concealed handgun permit or who is exempt from obtaining a concealed handgun permit may possess a handgun on campus only in the following manner:

a. *Locked Vehicles or Containers*

The handgun must be in a closed compartment or container within the person's locked vehicle or in a locked container securely affixed to the person's vehicle.

b. *Entry or Exit of Vehicle*

The person may unlock his/her vehicle for entry or exit provided the handgun remains in the closed compartment at all times and the vehicle is locked immediately following the entrance or exit.

C. Weapons and Weapon-Like Devices Utilized Under Supervision for University Sponsored Programs

i. ROTC

The prohibition against carrying and possessing weapons on campus does not apply to ROTC students while participating in military science coursework, military science training or university ceremonies provided all the following criteria are met:

- a. the weapons used are either pocket knives or utility tools; and
- b. the weapon-like devices used are either: ceremonial rifles; rubber duck m-16 training rifles or paintball guns; and
- c. the weapons or weapon-like devices identified in SECTION 5.c.i.a and 5.C.i.b above are used under the direct supervision of the university's military science personnel.

ii. Theatrical Performances

The prohibition against carrying and possessing weapons on campus does not apply to students and employees carrying weapon-like devices while participating in campus theatrical performances or rehearsals provided all the following criteria are met:

- a. The weapon-like devices are stage props that are rubber or mechanically incapable of discharging any type of projectile; and

- b. The weapon-like devices are used only under the direct supervision of employees who are responsible for the performance; and
- c. Prior to use, the supervising employee(s) must inform the university police department that weapon-like devices are planned for use as part of the performances and rehearsals; and
- d. The weapon-like devices undergo examination by university police to confirm the devices are rubber, non-functional replicas or mechanically incapable of discharging projectiles; and
- e. The weapon-like devices must be stored securely by university personnel when not in use during performances or rehearsals; and
- f. The audience must be informed that weapon-like devices will be used during the performances and rehearsals.

6. Relevant Laws

This policy is subject to all applicable laws pertaining to the regulation of weapons on campus property including but not limited to N.C. General Statute §14-269.2, titled *Weapons on campus and other educational property*, as may from time to time be amended, <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/statutes/statutelookup.pl?statute=14-269.2>.