



# Wyoming

## Summary of State Firearms Law

Last updated April 17, 2012

### Overview

In its publication [Gun Laws Matter: A Comparison of State Firearms Laws and Statistics](#), LCAV ranked each state based on a review of state laws in 25 different firearm-related policy areas. Wyoming ranked 43 out of 50 – having enacted few gun violence prevention laws.

Among other things, Wyoming does **not**:

- Require a background check prior to [the transfer of a firearm between unlicensed individuals](#);
- Require firearms dealers to obtain a [state license](#);
- Regulate the transfer or possession of [assault weapons](#), [50 caliber rifles](#), or [large capacity ammunition magazines](#);
- Require gun owners to [obtain a license](#), [register their firearms](#), or [report lost or stolen firearms](#);
- Require the [reporting of mentally ill individuals](#) to the database used for firearm purchaser background checks;
- Limit the [number of firearms](#) that may be purchased at one time;
- Impose a [waiting period](#) prior to purchase of a firearm;
- Regulate unsafe handguns ("[junk guns](#)" or "[Saturday night specials](#)");
- Significantly [regulate ammunition](#); or
- Allow [local governments to regulate](#) firearms.

In addition, in 2011, Wyoming became the fourth state in the nation to allow private citizens to [carry concealed firearms in public](#) without a license or permit.

## Wyoming Statistics

### Gun Deaths in Wyoming

In 2009, Wyoming had the highest rate of gun deaths per capita among the states. 96 people died from firearm-related injuries in Wyoming in that year.<sup>1</sup>

### Crime Guns in Wyoming

Mayors Against Illegal Guns recently developed web pages detailing [data about each state's crime gun imports and exports](#). Compared with other states, in 2009, [Wyoming](#) supplied the 12<sup>th</sup> highest number of crime guns to other states per capita. Wyoming exports crime guns at more than three times the rate at which it imports them.<sup>2</sup>

### Number of Federally Licensed Firearms Dealers in Wyoming

There are 541 federally licensed firearms dealers and pawnbrokers in Wyoming.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *WISQARS Fatal Injury Reports, 1999-2009, for National, Regional, and States (RESTRICTED)*, at [http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/dataRestriction\\_inj.html](http://webappa.cdc.gov/sasweb/ncipc/dataRestriction_inj.html). (Jan. 2012).

<sup>2</sup> For a more comprehensive discussion regarding the patterns of gun trafficking across the states, see Mayors Against Illegal Guns, *Trace the Guns: The Link Between Gun Laws and Interstate Gun Trafficking* (Sept. 2010), at <http://www.tracetheguns.org/report.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, *List of Federal Firearms Licensees* (Feb. 2012), at <http://www.atf.gov/about/foia/ffl-list.html>.

## Wyoming “Right to Bear Arms”

The Wyoming Constitution provides for the keeping and bearing of arms, but permits firearm-related regulation. See [LCAV’s State Right to Bear Arms Provisions](#) for more-detailed information.

## **Local Authority to Regulate Firearms in Wyoming**

Wyoming has preempted most areas of local firearms regulation. See [State Preemption/Local Authority to Regulate Firearms summary](#) for further information.

## State Firearms Policies

To view the sections of the Wyoming Statutes provided in the summary below, search for the citation using the [Wyoming Code Annotated](#).

Please note that many firearm-related laws have exceptions for military and law enforcement personnel.

## Persons Prohibited from Firearm Possession

### Wyoming Prohibited Purchasers Generally

See [Regulating Guns in America: Prohibited Purchasers](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

[Federal law prohibits certain persons from purchasing or possessing firearms](#), such as felons, certain domestic abusers, and certain people with a history of mental illness.

Wyoming prohibits the use or knowing possession of a firearm by any person who has previously pled guilty to or been convicted of committing or attempting to commit a violent felony or any felony causing bodily injury to a peace officer.<sup>4</sup>

In 2010, Wyoming enacted a Firearms Freedom Act, purporting to exempt from federal regulation any firearm manufactured commercially or privately in Wyoming and that remains exclusively within the borders of Wyoming.<sup>5</sup> That law also prohibits possession of such a firearm by a person who:

- Has been convicted of any felony in any state, territory or other jurisdiction of the United States;
- Is currently adjudicated to be legally incompetent; or
- Has been committed to a mental institution.<sup>6</sup>

The law also states that, to purchase such a firearm, a person must not fall within any of these categories and must comply with certain [age restrictions](#).<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-102.

<sup>5</sup> 2010 Wy. ALS 108. Note that a federal district court has refused to uphold a similar law enacted by the State of Montana. *Mont. Shooting Sports Ass'n v. Holder*, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 104301 (D. Mont. Aug. 31, 2010), *motion granted by* 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 110891 (D. Mont., Oct. 18, 2010). That decision is under appeal. *Mont. Shooting Sports Ass'n v. Holder*, No. 10-36094 (9th Cir. filed Dec. 3, 2010).

<sup>6</sup> Wyo. Stat. § 6-8-404.

<sup>7</sup> Wyo. Stat. § 6-8-404.

## Wyoming Minimum Age to Purchase / Possess

Wyoming's Firearms Freedom Act states that to purchase a firearm covered by the Act a person must be at least 21 years of age if the firearm is a handgun, or 18 years of age if the firearm is a shotgun or rifle.<sup>8</sup> See the section entitled [Wyoming Prohibited Purchasers Generally](#) for more information about this Act.

[Federal age restrictions](#) also apply.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Minimum Age to Purchase / Possess Firearms](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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<sup>8</sup> Wyo. Stat. § 6-8-404(d).

## Domestic Violence and Firearms in Wyoming

*(This section was last updated April 1, 2011.)*

Wyoming law does **not**:

- Prohibit individuals convicted of domestic violence misdemeanors from purchasing or possessing firearms or ammunition (unlike [federal law](#));
- Prohibit individuals subject to domestic violence protective orders from possessing firearms or ammunition (unlike [federal law](#));
- Require courts to notify domestic abusers when they become prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition under [federal law](#);
- Require the surrender of firearms or ammunition by domestic abusers who have become prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition under [federal law](#); or
- Explicitly authorize or require the removal of firearms or ammunition at the scene of a domestic violence incident.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Domestic Violence and Firearms](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Disarming Prohibited Persons in Wyoming**

*(This section was last updated April 1, 2011.)*

There are no laws in Wyoming requiring the surrender or removal of firearms from [persons who have become prohibited from possessing them.](#)

## Sales & Transfers

### Wyoming Background Checks

See [Regulating Guns in America: Background Checks](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

[Federal law requires federally licensed firearms dealers \(but not private sellers\) to initiate a background check on the purchaser prior to sale of a firearm.](#) Federal law provides states with the option of serving as a state “point of contact” and conducting their own background checks using state, as well as federal, records and databases, or having the checks performed by the FBI using only the federal [National Instant Criminal Background Check System \(“NICS”\) database.](#) (Note that state files are not always included in the federal database.)

Wyoming is not a point of contact state for NICS. Wyoming has no law requiring firearms dealers to initiate background checks prior to transferring a firearm. In Wyoming, all firearms transfers by licensed dealers are processed directly through the FBI, which enforces the federal purchaser prohibitions referenced above.<sup>9</sup>

Federal law does not require dealers to conduct a background check if a firearm purchaser presents a state permit to purchase or possess firearms that meets certain conditions. As a result, Wyoming concealed weapons permit holders are exempt from the federal background check requirement when purchasing a firearm.<sup>10</sup> (Note, however, that people who have become prohibited from possessing firearms may continue to hold state firearms licenses if the state fails to remove these licenses in a timely fashion.)

Firearms transfers by private sellers (individuals other than licensed dealers) are not subject to background checks in Wyoming. See [Regulating Guns in America: Private Sales.](#)

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<sup>9</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation, *National Instant Criminal Background Check System Participation Map*, at <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/nics/general-information/participation-map>.

<sup>10</sup> Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, U.S. Department of Justice, *Brady Law: Permanent Brady Permit Chart* (Aug. 26, 2011), at: <http://www.atf.gov/firearms/brady-law/permit-chart.html>.

## Wyoming Mental Health Reporting

Federal law prohibits any person from selling or otherwise transferring a firearm or ammunition to any person who has been “adjudicated as a mental defective” or “committed to any mental institution.”<sup>11</sup> No federal law requires states to report the identities of these individuals to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) database, which the FBI uses to perform background checks prior to firearm transfers.

There is no law in Wyoming requiring the reporting of mental health information to NICS.

For general information on the background check process and categories of prohibited purchasers/possessors, see the [Wyoming Background Checks](#) section and the section entitled [Wyoming Prohibited Purchasers Generally](#).

See [Regulating Guns in America: Mental Health Reporting](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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<sup>11</sup> [18 U.S.C. § 922\(d\)\(4\)](#).

## **Multiple Purchases / Sales of Firearms in Wyoming**

Wyoming has no law limiting the number of firearms that may be purchased.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Restrictions on Multiple Purchases or Sales of Firearms](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Retention of Sales / Background Check Records in Wyoming**

Pursuant to Wyoming Law, any information required by federal law to be maintained on firearms must be kept by every federally licensed dealer in his or her place of business and shall be subject to inspection by any peace officer at all reasonable times.<sup>12</sup>

Wyoming has no other laws requiring the retention of sales or background check records, or requiring the reporting of firearm sales.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Retention of Firearm Sales and Background Check Records](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

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<sup>12</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-203.

## Wyoming Waiting Periods

Wyoming has no law imposing a waiting period to purchase a firearm.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Waiting Periods](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Gun Dealers & Other Sellers

### Wyoming Dealer Regulations

[Federal law requires firearms dealers to obtain a license](#) from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF), although resource limitations prevent the ATF from properly overseeing all its licensees.

Wyoming does not require firearms dealers to obtain a state license or otherwise significantly regulate firearms dealers. For laws:

- Applicable to both licensed and unlicensed sellers of firearms, see the [Wyoming Private Sales](#) section;
- Requiring firearms dealers to conduct a background check on the purchaser, see the [Wyoming Background Checks](#) section;
- Requiring dealers to record or report firearm sales to law enforcement, see the [Wyoming Retention of Sales / Background Checks Records](#) section.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Dealer Regulations](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Private Sales in Wyoming**

Private firearms transfers (*i.e.*, transfers by individuals other than licensed dealers) are not subject to a background check requirement in Wyoming.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Private Sales](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Wyoming Gun Shows

Wyoming has no laws regulating gun shows.

See the [Wyoming Private Sales](#) section for state laws that apply at gun shows.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Gun Shows](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Wyoming Immunity Statutes

*(This section was last updated April 1, 2011.)*

Wyoming has provided by statute that, subject to approval by the governor, "[t]he attorney general may seek to intervene or file an amicus curiae brief in any lawsuit filed in any state or federal court in Wyoming, or filed against any Wyoming citizen or firm in any other jurisdiction for damages for injuries as a result of the use of fire arms [sic] that are not defective, if in his judgment, the action endangers the constitutional right of citizens of Wyoming to keep and bear arms."<sup>13</sup>

If a sport shooting range is in compliance with any noise control laws or ordinances that applied to the range and its operation at the time construction or operation of the range was approved by a local government, then any person who operates or uses the range is not subject to civil liability or criminal prosecution in any matter relating to noise or noise pollution resulting from the operation or use of the range, and is not subject to an action for nuisance, and a court cannot enjoin the use or operation of a range on the basis of noise or noise pollution.<sup>14</sup> See the [Wyoming Preemption/Local Authority to Regulate Firearms](#) summary for further information.

For detailed information about government and private party lawsuits against the gun industry, the status of litigation involving gun industry immunity statutes in various states, or pending gun industry immunity legislation, visit the [Brady Center's Legal Action Project](#) and the [Coalition to Stop Gun Violence's Gun Industry Immunity](#) page.

See [LCAV's policy page on Immunity Statutes / Manufacturer Litigation](#) for further information.

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<sup>13</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 9-14-101.

<sup>14</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 16-11-102.

## **Gun Owner Responsibilities**

### **Licensing of Gun Owners or Purchasers in Wyoming**

Wyoming has no law requiring gun owners or purchasers to obtain a license.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Licensing of Gun Owners or Purchasers](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Wyoming Registration of Firearms

Wyoming does not require the registration of firearms.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Registration of Firearms](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Reporting Lost or Stolen Firearms in Wyoming**

Wyoming does not require firearms owners to report the loss or theft of a firearm.

See [\*Regulating Guns in America: Reporting Lost or Stolen Firearms\*](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Firearms in Public Places

### Wyoming Concealed Weapons Permitting

See [Regulating Guns in America: Carrying Concealed Weapons](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

On March 2, 2011, [Wyoming's governor signed into law a bill](#) that allows any individual who would qualify for a concealed weapons permit under the state's existing permitting scheme to carry a concealed weapon without obtaining a permit. As described below, Wyoming's permitting system remains in place, and there are reasons why one might choose to obtain a concealed weapons permit. For example, holders of Wyoming concealed weapons permits are also allowed to carry concealed weapons in some other states, and a Wyoming concealed weapons permit exempts the holder from the federal requirement of a background check prior to purchase of a firearm.<sup>15</sup>

For persons seeking permits to carry a concealed weapon, Wyoming operates as a “may issue” state, meaning that local law enforcement has some discretion in determining whether or not to issue a concealed weapons permit to an applicant. In [Mecikalski v. Office of Att'y Gen.](#), the Supreme Court of Wyoming held that a local sheriff and chief of police correctly denied plaintiff's application for a permit when those officials deemed plaintiff a danger to the community at large, as authorized by statute.<sup>16</sup> While the plaintiff had met all qualifying criteria for a concealed firearm permit,<sup>17</sup> the court found that the legislative intent behind Wyoming's concealed carry permitting scheme clearly allows local law enforcement to use their discretion when issuing firearms permits.<sup>18</sup>

The Wyoming Attorney General is authorized to issue a permit to carry a concealed firearm if the applicant:

- Is a resident of the United States;
- Has been a resident of Wyoming for at least six months (this requirement does not apply to any person holding a valid concealed firearm permit issued in another state that recognizes Wyoming permits and that is a valid statewide permit);
- Is at least 21 years of age (or at least 18 years of age if the local sheriff makes a personal recommendation on the applicant's behalf);<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> See, e.g., Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, U.S. Department of Justice, *Brady Law: Permanent Brady Permit Chart* (Aug. 26, 2011), at: <http://www.atf.gov/firearms/brady-law/permit-chart.html>.

<sup>16</sup> 2 P.3d 1039, 1046-47 (Wyo. 2000); see also Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(g), which authorizes a sheriff to deny a permit for a concealed weapon to anyone who has been or is reasonably likely to be a danger to himself or others, or to the community at large.

<sup>17</sup> *Mecikalski*, 2 P.3d at 1046-47. The qualifying criteria for a concealed weapon are detailed under Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104.

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*

<sup>19</sup> See Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(j).

- Is not prohibited by federal or state law from possessing a firearm;<sup>20</sup>
- Does not suffer from a physical infirmity that would prevent the safe handling of a firearm;
- Has not been committed to a state or federal facility for the abuse of a controlled substance within the previous year ([in 2010, Wyoming loosened this requirement so that a commitment only disqualifies a person if it occurred within the last year](#));
- Has not ever been convicted of certain state or federal felony crimes relating to controlled substances, and has not been convicted of certain state or federal misdemeanor crimes relating to controlled substances within the previous year ([in 2010, Wyoming loosened this requirement so that misdemeanor drug convictions only disqualify a person if they occurred within the last year](#));
- Does not chronically or habitually use alcoholic liquor or malt beverages to the extent that his or her normal faculties are impaired, and has not been involuntarily committed within the past one year period to any residential facility as a result of the use of alcohol ([in 2010, Wyoming loosened this requirement so that a commitment only disqualifies a person if it occurred within the last year](#));
- Demonstrates familiarity with a firearm by past experience or through the completion of certain safety or training courses;
- Is not currently adjudicated to be legally incompetent; and
- Has not been committed to a mental institution.<sup>21</sup>

A permit may also be denied or revoked if the applicant has been found guilty of, or has pled no contest to, one or more misdemeanor crimes of violence within the last three years.<sup>22</sup>

The sheriff of the applicant's county of residence is required to submit a written report to the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation (Division) containing any information pertinent to the issuance of the permit.<sup>23</sup> The report shall state any facts "which establish reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant has been or is reasonably likely to be a danger to himself or others, or to the community at large as a result of the applicant's mental or psychological state, as demonstrated by a past pattern or practice of behavior, or participation in incidents involving a controlled substance, alcohol abuse, violence or threats of violence as these incidents relate to criteria" listed above.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>20</sup> See 18 U.S.C. § 922(g) and Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-102; also see the [Wyoming Prohibited Purchasers Generally](#) section)

<sup>21</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(b).

<sup>22</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(c).

<sup>23</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(g).

<sup>24</sup> *Id.*

## Firearm Safety Training

An applicant for a concealed weapons permit in Wyoming is required to demonstrate familiarity with a firearm.<sup>25</sup> Any of the following activities constitutes sufficient familiarity under Wyoming law:

- Completion of any certified firearm safety or training course utilizing instructors certified by the National Rifle Association or the Wyoming law enforcement academy;
- Completion of any law enforcement firearms safety or training course or class offered for security guards, investigators, special deputies, or any division of law enforcement or security enforcement;
- Experience with a firearm through participation in an organized shooting competition or military service;
- Completion of any firearms training or safety course or class conducted by a state certified or National Rifle Association certified firearms instructor;
- Certified as proficient in firearms safety by any Wyoming law enforcement agency under procedures established by that agency; or
- Honorable retirement as a federal or state peace officer who has a minimum of ten (10) years of service.<sup>26</sup>

Proof of the above qualifying activity must be provided by submission of one of the following documents:

- A legible photocopy of a certificate of completion of any of the courses or classes;
- A notarized affidavit from the instructor, school, club, organization or group that conducted or taught the course or class attesting to the completion of the course or class by the applicant; or
- A copy of any document which shows completion of the course or class or evidences participation of firearms competition.<sup>27</sup>

An interesting distinction created by the March 2, 2011 bill regarding concealed weapons, referenced above, is that it exempts those individuals who choose to carry a concealed weapon without obtaining a permit from the requirement of demonstrating familiarity with a firearm. Thus, under Wyoming's new concealed carry law, individuals who carry a concealed weapon without a permit are subject to all of the same requirements as concealed weapons permittees, except this one.

## Duration & Renewal

A Wyoming concealed firearm permit is valid for five years.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(b)(vii).

<sup>26</sup> *Id.*

<sup>27</sup> *Id.*

<sup>28</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(b).

## Disclosure or Use of Information

Any list or other record maintained by the Division or other law enforcement agency under Wyoming Statutes Annotated § 6-8-104 that identifies an individual applicant or permittee is not considered a public record.<sup>29</sup> Applications, listings and other records that identify an individual shall be made available to other law enforcement agencies for purposes of conducting official business.<sup>30</sup>

The Division of Criminal Investigation within the Office of the Attorney General is required to maintain an automated listing of concealed permit holders and pertinent information, which it must make available on-line, at all times, to all Wyoming law enforcement agencies.<sup>31</sup>

The sheriff of the applicant's county of residence must notify the chief of police, if any, of the applicant's place of residence about any application for a concealed firearm permit, and the chief of police must submit written comments to the Division under the guidelines prescribed in Wyoming Statutes Annotated § 6-8-104(g).<sup>32</sup> Any submitted comments shall not be considered a public record.<sup>33</sup>

The Division is required, by March 1 of each year, to submit a statistical report to the Governor and to the "joint judiciary interim committee" indicating the number of permits issued, revoked, suspended and denied in the past year.<sup>34</sup> This report is considered a public record.<sup>35</sup>

## Reciprocity

Wyoming law allows any non-resident to carry a concealed firearm in Wyoming, provided that person holds a concealed firearm permit issued by a governmental agency or entity in his or her home state that is valid throughout that state, and the home state must recognize Wyoming concealed firearms permits.<sup>36</sup> [In 2010, Wyoming removed the requirement](#) that the home state have laws similar to Wyoming's concealed carry statute as determined by the Wyoming Attorney General, including a requirement for a proper background check of the permit holder.

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<sup>29</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(bb).

<sup>30</sup> *Id.*

<sup>31</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. §6-8-104(n) and (y)(i).

<sup>32</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(g).

<sup>33</sup> *Id.*

<sup>34</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(z).

<sup>35</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(bb).

<sup>36</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(a)(iii).

## **Open Carrying in Wyoming**

Wyoming allows the [open carrying](#) of firearms on the person without a permit or license.

## **Location Restrictions**

### **Guns in Vehicles in Wyoming**

*(This section was last updated April 1, 2011.)*

Wyoming allows the carrying of firearms in a vehicle without a permit or license.

## Guns in Schools in Wyoming

While Wyoming prohibits students from possessing a firearm on public school grounds, and also bars individuals who are otherwise authorized to carry concealed weapons from carrying them into elementary or secondary school facilities, the state does not have a general prohibition on the possession of firearms on school property.<sup>37</sup>

Wyoming prohibits anyone who is authorized to carry a concealed firearm, with or without a permit, from carrying a concealed firearm into:

- Any elementary or secondary school facility;
- Any school athletic event not related to firearms.<sup>38</sup>

Likewise, Wyoming prohibits anyone who is authorized to carry a concealed firearm, with or without a permit, from carrying a concealed firearm into:

- Any college or university facility without the written consent of the security service of the college or university; or
- Any college athletic event not related to firearms.<sup>39</sup>

The board of trustees of any school district shall, subject to the case-by-case modification permitted by this subsection, require the district superintendent to expel from school for a period of one year any student determined to possess or carry a firearm within any school bus or within the boundaries of real property used by the district primarily for the education of students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.<sup>40</sup>

The superintendent with the approval of the board of trustees may modify the period of expulsion on a case-by-case basis based upon the circumstances of the violation.<sup>41</sup> Nothing in this subsection prohibits a district from providing educational services to the expelled student in an alternative setting.<sup>42</sup>

See [LCAV's policy page on Guns in Schools](#) for further information.

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<sup>37</sup> See Wyo. Stat. Ann. §§ 21-4-306(a)(v) and 6-8-104(t)(ix).

<sup>38</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(t).

<sup>39</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(t).

<sup>40</sup> Wyo. Stat. § 21-4-305(a). See also Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 21-4-306(a)(v).

<sup>41</sup> Wyo. Stat. § 21-4-305(a).

<sup>42</sup> *Id.*

## Other Location Restrictions in Wyoming

Except as authorized by a person in charge, a person commits a felony if that person takes or passes a deadly weapon into:

- A jail;
- A state penal institution;
- The Wyoming boys' school;
- The Wyoming girls' school;
- A correctional facility operated by a private entity; or
- The state hospital.<sup>43</sup>

Wyoming law prohibits an individual who is authorized to carry a concealed firearm from carrying a concealed firearm into any:

- Facility used primarily for law enforcement operations or administration without the written consent of the chief administrator;
- Detention facility, prison or jail;
- Courtroom, except that nothing shall preclude a judge from carrying a concealed weapon or determining who will carry a concealed weapon in the courtroom;
- Meeting of a governmental entity;
- Meeting of the legislature or a legislative committee;
- School, college or professional athletic event not related to firearms;
- Portion of an establishment licensed to dispense alcoholic liquor and malt beverages for consumption on the premises, which portion of the establishment is primarily devoted to that purpose;
- Place where persons are assembled for public worship, without the written consent of the chief administrator of that place;
- Elementary or secondary school facility;
- College or university facility without the written consent of the security service of the college or university; or
- Location where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal or state law.<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>43</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-5-209.

Wyoming has no statutes prohibiting firearms in the following places, although administrative regulations may apply:

- Parks;
- Hospitals;
- Gambling facilities; or
- Polling places.

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<sup>44</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-8-104(t).

## Consumer & Child Safety

### Wyoming Design Safety Standards for Handguns

Wyoming does not specifically regulate junk guns or unsafe firearms.

See [\*Regulating Guns in America: Design Safety Standards for Handguns\*](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Locking Devices in Wyoming

Wyoming does not require a locking device to accompany the sale of a firearm (although [federal law](#) applies), and no state statutes require firearm owners to lock their weapons.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Locking Devices](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Personalized / Owner-Authorized Firearms in Wyoming**

Wyoming does not require firearms to be personalized.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Personalized Firearms](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Wyoming Child Access Prevention

Wyoming has no child access prevention laws.

See [\*Regulating Guns in America: Child Access Prevention\*](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Classes of Weapons / Ammunition**

### **Assault Weapons in Wyoming**

Wyoming has no law regulating assault weapons.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Assault Weapons](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Large Capacity Ammunition Magazines in Wyoming**

Wyoming has not law regulating large capacity ammunition magazines.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Large Capacity Ammunition Magazines](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Fifty Caliber Rifles in Wyoming**

Wyoming has no law regulating fifty caliber firearms.

See [\*Regulating Guns in America: Fifty Caliber Rifles\*](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Machine Guns/Automatic Firearms in Wyoming**

*(This section was last updated April 1, 2011.)*

Wyoming only prohibits possession of any fully automatic weapon in state game fields or forests.<sup>45</sup>

Federal law generally allows the possession of machine guns manufactured prior to May 19, 1986 so long as they are registered, and the requirements of state and local law are met.

See [LCAV's policy page on Machine Guns](#) for further information.

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<sup>45</sup> Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 23-3-112 (a).

## **Non-Powder Guns in Wyoming**

*(This section was last updated April 1, 2011.)*

Wyoming has no laws regulating non-powder guns

See [Regulating Guns in America: Non-Powder Guns](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## Wyoming Ammunition Regulation

Wyoming does **not**:

- Require a license for the sale of ammunition;
- Require sellers of ammunition to maintain a record of the purchasers;
- License persons who purchase or possess ammunition;
- Regulate or prohibit unreasonably dangerous ammunition; or
- Prohibit [persons who are ineligible to purchase or possess firearms under state law](#) from purchasing or possessing ammunition, although the [federal ammunition purchaser prohibitions](#) apply.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Ammunition Regulation](#) for a comprehensive discussion of this issue.

## **Crime Gun Investigation**

### **Microstamping/Ballistic Identification in Wyoming**

Wyoming has no laws regarding firearm microstamping or ballistic identification.

See [Regulating Guns in America: Ballistic Identification](#) and LCAV's policy page on [Firearm Microstamping](#) for comprehensive discussions of these issues.

## **Firearms Trafficking in Wyoming**

*(This section was last updated April 1, 2011.)*

Wyoming has no laws regulating gun trafficking.

See [LCAV's policy page on Firearms Trafficking](#) for further information.

## Wyoming State Links

[Attorney General, State of Wyoming](#)

[Attorney General, Concealed Firearms Permits FAQ](#)

[Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Denver Field Division \(CO, MT, UT, WY\)](#)

[Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault](#)