



Rhode Island Handgun Safety Certification Process

Any citizen of the United States and/or lawful resident of this state who is twenty-one (21) years of age or older, and any nonresident member of the United States armed forces, may apply to purchase a pistol or revolver. At the time of application to purchase a pistol or revolver, among other requirements, the applicant must present to the dealer a Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) Pistol/Revolver Safety Certificate (“blue card”). The blue card is not equivalent to the Concealed Carry Permit. Beginning January 1, 2024 a blue card is also required to purchase ammunition.

The blue card certifies that the applicant has successfully passed the State’s requisite safety exam. Active military personnel are not required to take the safety exam and may acquire a blue card by presenting their active military identification card at either the RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife Great Swamp Field Headquarters at 277 Great Neck Road, West Kingston, R.I. or the RIDEM Headquarters at 235 Promenade Street, Providence, R.I.

The exam does not have a fee and is administered at RIDEM-approved firearms dealers and sporting clubs throughout the state. The exam may also be taken in person at the RIDEM Permit Application Center at the DEM Headquarters in Providence by [appointment only](#).

The 50-question exam is comprised of multiple choice and true-or-false type questions based on information contained in the study booklet entitled “[Today’s Handgun Safety Basics](#)” and [Rhode Island Firearms Laws](#). This booklet is available at participating firearm vendors or by emailing the RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife at DEM.DFW@dem.ri.gov, or by calling 401-789-0281. The examination is available in Spanish.

After completion of the exam, it will be sent by the vendor to the RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife for processing. A score of 80 points or higher is required to pass. More than two (2) cross-off, self-corrections on the test will result in an automatic failure. In the event of a failing score, a notice of failure will be sent instead of a blue card.

The tests are typically processed within one business day after being received from the vendor. It can take a few weeks to travel in the mail. To ensure the quickest possible processing time, please be sure to print your name and mailing address clearly, in block letters on the test answer sheet. Be sure to include an apartment or floor number if applicable. Blue cards may be laminated to prevent damage. To replace a lost or damaged blue card, contact the RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife by emailing DEM.DFW@dem.ri.gov.

A Rhode Island Hunter Education Card (“orange card”) issued by the RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife Hunter Education Program can be used in lieu of a blue card to purchase a handgun (RIGL §11-47-35). The Hunter Education Course Card is proof of successful completion of a R.I. Hunter Safety Course required of hunters. Click on the RI Hunter Education Program for information about the Rhode Island Hunter Education Program.

Testing Location	Address	Town	Phone Number
401 Armory	35 Vivian Ave	Cumberland	401-500-1822
A & M Tactical	10 Coddington Hwy	Middletown	401-619-5620
Addieville East Farm, Inc	200 Pheasant Dr	Mapleville	401-568-3185
Anchor Art & Antiques	316 Warwick Neck Ave	Warwick	401-203-1366
The Armhouse	15 Taylor Drive	North Smithfield	401-424-1802
The Arms Company	56 Whitford Ave	Wakefield	401-255-8440
Big Bear Hunting & Fishing	401 Putnam Pike	Glocester	401-949-0339
Bullseye Shooting Supplies	837 Park Avenue	Woonsocket	401-766-4409
Competition Shooting	435 Benefit Street	Pawtucket	401-727-1716
Continental Arms	1065 Park Avenue	Cranston	401-943-2137
Cranston Fish & Game	19a Tucker Hollow Rd	Foster	401-330-9284
Cranston Gun & Coin	6595 Post Road	North Kingstown	401-885-8474
Cumberland Beagle Club	425 Nate Whipple Hwy	Cumberland	N/A
D&L Shooting	3314 West Shore Road	Warwick	401-738-1889
Diablo Firearms	880 Eddy St.	Providence	401-487-7776
Double Tap Academy	243 North Main St	Providence	401-438-0841
East Warren Rod & Gun	24 Long Lane	Warren	401-245-5763
Fastrack Firearms	159 Stoneham Dr	Woonsocket	401-258-1727
Flint Armament	125 Harrison Avenue	Woonsocket	401-597-0221
Gendron's Pawn & Loan	225 Cowesett Ave	West Warwick	401-821-2001
Herit. G&C(second location)	1287 Post Road	Warwick	N/A
Heritage Gun and Coin	250 Cowesett Ave, #4	West Warwick	401-826-0000
Highland Rod and Gun	66 Plainfield Pike A	Foster	401-935-9601
Hope Valley Bait and Tackle	1150 Main Street	Wyoming	401-539-2757
Kane Corporation	1028 Boston Neck Road	North Kingstown	401-295-0642
Lost Treasures	242 Middle Street	Pawtucket	401-475-5667
Manville Sportsman's Club	250 High Street	Manville	401-946-9509
Massasoit Gun Club	21 Abraham Rd	Riverside	401-580-0770
Mid-State Gun Company	1200 Tiogue Avenue	Coventry	401-615-0669
MTR Machining Inc.	229 Quaker Highway	North Smithfield	401-766-0200
NE Survival & Tactical	326 Branch Ave Fl 2	Providence	401-516-7788
Newport Rifle Club	360 Wyatt Road	Middletown	401-847-5678
On Target Firearms	1 Gray Birch Drive	Cranston	401-474-7720
Patriot Custom Manufacturing	8 Industrial Lane, Suite 6	Johnston	401-487-6451
Peace Dale Shooting Preserve	371 Rose Hill Rd	Wakefield	401-789-3730
Pinnacle Firearms	1243 Mineral Spring Ave Suite 204	North Providence	774-991-4824
Pocasset Arms LLC	161 Chase Rd	Portsmouth	401-683-0032
Practical Defense Tactics		Chepachet	401-868-4703
Proline Firearms	891 Warwick Avenue	Warwick	401-988-2052
Providence Revolver Club	25 Seneca St	Cranston	401-946-6920
The Range	560 South County Trail	Exeter	401-443-9223
Rhody Outdoors	2 Goldmine Rd	Foster	401-413-1807
RI Guns & Ammo	1175 Post Road	Warwick	401-437-6976

RI Gunworks	15 Sandy Bottom Rd Unit 3	Coventry	401-828-1000
River Street Tactical	1174 River Street	Woonsocket	508-951-4867
Rte 6 Outpost	52 Danielson Pike	Foster	401-647-4867
RI Dept. of Environmental Management	235 Promenade Street, Permit Application Center, 2nd Floor	Providence	401-222-4700x7265
Sakonnet River Outfitters	777 Main Road	Tiverton	401-816-0815
Shanbri Farms	332 South County Trail	Exeter	401-265-6846
Smithfield Sportsman's Club	14 Walter Carey Rd	Smithfield	401-231-9883
South County Rod & Gun Club	711 Hazard Rd	West Greenwich	401-533-3898
The Sporting Shoppe	87 Kingstown Road	Wyoming	401-247-4867
Surplus Provisions	1270 Post Rd	Foster	401-600-1838
Tactical Concepts	15 Amanda Dr	Cumberland	401-365-7640
Tiverton Rod & Gun	1529 Fish Road	Tiverton	401-624-3859
Ure Outfitters	1009 Main Street	Hope Valley	401-539-4050
Wallum Lake Rod and Gun Club	200 Brook Road	Harrisville	401-568-7171
Warwick Range Activities	1 Range Road	Warwick	
Woonsocket Sportsman's Club	145 Log Rd	Harrisville	401-374-4639

Rhode Island Firearms Law

The following is a summary of the more important provisions of the Rhode Island law on handguns. If you have any doubt or question about the meaning, read the law and consult with competent legal counsel.

- You cannot purchase a handgun or handgun ammunition unless you are 21 years of age or older.
- There is a seven-day waiting period before purchasing a handgun.
- Committing a crime of violence while armed can lead to a prison sentence of five (5) years in addition to the sentence of the crime.
- Convicted criminals cannot legally own a firearm; nor can mental incompetents, drug addicts or habitual drunkards.
- You do not need a license to transport a handgun to and from your home or place of business to a bonafide target range if it is broken down; unload and carry as open as circumstances will permit. Handguns can also be transported to and from a bonafide target range secured in a separate container suitable for the purpose. You can obtain a license to carry a concealed weapon by applying to the State Attorney General or local police chief by demonstrating you have need. You must be at least 21 years of age and qualify on a target range.

Note: A handgun transported openly is still considered to be concealed if it is not being transported from home or a place of business to and from a bonafide target range.

- You cannot alter the serial number of any firearm.
- All gunshot wounds must be reported to the police immediately.

State laws can be found under Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) TITLE 11, Chapter 11-47. Please visit the following website for further information: <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE11/11-47/INDEX.HTM>