



*Continuing the heritage of hunting worldwide  
by developing safe, responsible, and knowledgeable hunters*

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## Hunter Education Requirements

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### United States

#### Alabama

Anyone born on or after August 1, 1977 must show proof of completing a Hunter Education course prior to purchasing a hunting license except active duty U.S. military personnel, Alabama residents who are active members of the National Guard of the United States, and persons certified by the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission as law enforcement officers who are employed by a law enforcement agency.

#### Alaska

Hunter Education Certification is required for young hunters in Units 7, 13, 14, 15, and 20. If you are under 16 years of age, you must have either successfully completed a Basic Hunter Education course or be under the direct immediate supervision of a licensed hunter who is (a) 16 years of age or older and has successfully completed a certified hunter education course, OR (b) born on or before January 1, 1986. If you are 16 years of age or older AND were born after January 1, 1986 you must have successfully completed a Certified Hunter Education Course before you can hunt. In addition, hunters must complete a Hunter Education Certification class before hunting in these areas: Eagle River Management Area for black bear & small game, Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge, Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge if under age 15 or be accompanied by an adult, Palmer/Wasilla Management area (shotgun for big game), and all army military lands. Hunters in weapons restricted areas (archery, muzzleloading, or shotgun) must complete a state-approved certification course for that weapon. Weapons certification does not satisfy general Hunter Education Certification requirements and visa versa.

#### Arizona

Hunter Education graduation is required for 10 to 14 year-olds who wish to hunt big game.

#### Arkansas

To hunt, you must have successfully completed an approved Hunter Education course if you were born after December 31, 1968.

#### California

All hunting license buyers must have either a CA license, a hunting license from another state that is not more than 2 hunting years old, or H/E certification from CA or another state or province.

#### Colorado

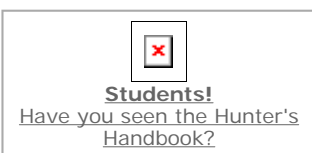
Required of anyone born on or after January 1, 1949 to purchase any hunting or trapping license.

#### Connecticut

Required of all persons regardless of age who have not held a resident firearms license in the past five years or a first time licensee

#### Delaware

All persons born after Jan. 1, 1967, must satisfactorily complete a Hunter Education course before



obtaining a Delaware Hunting License.

### **Florida**

Hunter Education is required of all persons born on or after June 1, 1975.

### **Hawaii**

To purchase a Hunting License you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course. A "Letter of Exemption" can be issued if you were born "before" January 1, 1972, and can provide proof of a "Hawaii" hunting license purchased before July 1, 1990.

### **Georgia**

Residents and non-residents born on or after Jan. 1, 1961, must successfully complete a hunter education course before purchasing a season hunting license. However, a hunter education course not required to purchase a one (1) day or seven (7) day hunting license. Hunters age 12-15 must complete a hunter education course before hunting unless under supervision of a licensed adult hunter. Hunters age 12-15 must be under adult supervision while hunting on a WMA. Hunters under age 12 are not required to complete a hunter education course, unless hunting on National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs), or Park Services lands, children 10-16 must carry a valid hunter safety certificate. Hunter education is not required to hunt on one's own land or land of a parent or guardian.

### **Idaho**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course if you were born after January 1, 1975.

### **Illinois**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course if you were born on or after January 1, 1980.

### **Indiana**

Born after December 31, 1986

### **Iowa**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course if you were born after January 1, 1967

### **Kansas**

Anyone born on or after July 1, 1957 must successfully complete a certified hunter education course in order to hunt in Kansas

### **Kentucky**

All hunters born after Jan. 1, 1975, shall have a valid hunter education card IN POSSESSION WHILE HUNTING. A card is not needed for purchase. Exceptions: 1) Children under 10 may hunt without a card if accompanied by an adult. 2) Persons exempt from a hunting license are also exempt from hunter education card requirements (i.e., landowners; military on furlough).

### **Louisiana**

Any person born on or after Sept. 01, 1969 must have proof of completion of a hunter education course to purchase a hunting license.

### **Maine**

Applicant for an adult hunting license must show proof of having previously held an adult license to hunt with firearms in any year beginning with 1976 or successful completion of an approved hunter safety course from this or any other state. To obtain an adult archery hunting license, you must show proof of having held an adult license to hunt with bow and arrow in any year after 1979 or

successful completion of an archery education course.

### **Maryland**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course unless you hunted prior to July 1, 1977, three day non-resident waterfowl hunters are exempted.

### **Massachusetts**

It shall be unlawful for any resident or non-resident to hunt for any bird or mammal in the commonwealth unless such person has successfully completed a hunter education course as prescribed by this section, or unless such person held a license to hunt before January 1, 2007.

### **Michigan**

You must take hunter safety if you were born after January 1, 1960. A hunter safety certificate or previous hunting license is required to purchase any Michigan Hunting License. Hunters anticipating an out-of-state hunting trip need to obtain a certificate prior to their trip, most states require hunters to carry their certificate when hunting and need it to purchase a license.

### **Minnesota**

Hunter Education is required of all persons born after December 31, 1979 in order to purchase a big or small game hunting license.

### **Mississippi**

Hunter Education is mandatory for all persons born on or after January 1, 1972, and plans to purchase a Mississippi hunting license. Also, anyone 12-16 years old must have a certificate of satisfactory completion of a hunter education course approved by the department before hunting in this state. Anyone under the age of 12 must be in the presence and under the direct supervision of a licensed or exempt hunter at least 21 years of age when the child is hunting.

### **Missouri**

Any person born on or after January 1, 1967 shall obtain and display an approved Hunter Education certificate card prior to purchase of any firearms hunting permit.

### **Montana**

Effective Oct. 1, 2003, anyone born after Jan. 1, 1985 must have a hunter ed card to purchase a Montana hunting license. We honor cards from all states and provinces.

### **Nebraska**

Proof of completion of a hunter and/or bowhunter education course is required to be carried on you person while hunting, by everyone one born on or after January 1, 1977. Under age 12 must be in the company of a licensed adult 19 or older for small game, age 12 thru 16 can only hunt big game in the company of an adult 21 or older.

### **Nevada**

Anyone born after Jan. 1, 1960, must show proof of Hunter Education each time they purchase a hunting license. Proof of Hunter Education is: An official original or duplicate Hunter Education certificate, or a past year's hunting license with a Hunter Education number or unique mark signifying Hunter Education.

### **New Hampshire**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course, or provide proof that you have previously held a hunting license in any state or province. Hunters and trappers in New Hampshire must attend training courses specific to the license type they wish to purchase. By state law, anyone planning to buy a basic hunting license, archery license or trapping license must complete the respective hunter, bowhunter or trapper education course. Individuals

may purchase each of these licenses by showing a certificate of completion from the appropriate course, or a previously issued license of the same type.

### **New Jersey**

Hunter Education is mandatory for all first-time firearms hunters. Students 10 to 15 years of age are issued a free youth license, which includes a pheasant stamp, upon completion of the course. While hunting, youths ages 10 to 13 must be accompanied by a properly licensed adult 21 years of age or older. If you lose your hunting or trapping license and had never taken a hunter education course, you must also take one of these courses.

### **New Mexico**

Hunter Education is required of persons under the age of 18 before hunting with or shooting a firearm.

### **New York**

All hunters, regardless of age, are required to present either a hunter education certificate or a previous hunting license to qualify for a license.

### **North Carolina**

No person, regardless of age, may procure a hunting license or hunt in this state without first producing a certificate of competency showing completion of a hunter safety course or a hunting license issued prior to July 1, 1991, or a signed statement (shown on the license) that he or she has such a license.

### **North Dakota**

All persons born after 1961 shall submit or exhibit a certificate of successful completion of a hunter education course before purchasing any hunting license. A certificate of completion for the same course of study issued by other states, provinces or countries is valid in North Dakota.

### **Ohio**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course or present evidence of having previously held a hunting license.

### **Oklahoma**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course if you were born on or after January 1, 1972.

### **Oregon**

All persons under 18 years of age must possess a hunter education certificate while hunting any species by any means, except when hunting on own property or parent's property.

### **Pennsylvania**

To purchase a hunting license you must complete an approved Hunter Education course, if you have not held a hunting license in this Commonwealth or another state or nation.

### **Rhode Island**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course unless you present evidence of holding a prior years Rhode Island license.

### **South Carolina**

All residents and nonresidents born after June 30, 1979, must successfully complete a hunter education course that is approved by the Department of Natural Resources before a hunting license can be obtained.

**South Dakota**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education Course if you are under the age of 16.

**Tennessee**

If born on or after Jan 1, 1969, must have proof of successfully completing a hunter education course.

**Texas**

Every hunter (including out-of-state hunters) born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, must successfully complete a Hunter Education Training Course. Minimum age of certification is 12 years and cost is \$15. If you were born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, and you are: • under 12 years of age, you must be accompanied\*. • age 12 through 16, you must successfully complete a hunter education course or be accompanied\*. • age 17 and over, you must successfully complete a hunter education course; or purchase a "Hunter Education Deferral" and be accompanied\*\*. Hunter Education Deferral (cost: \$10) – Allows a person 17 years of age or older who has not completed a hunter education program to defer completion for up to one year. A deferral may only be obtained once and is only valid until the end of the current license year. A person who has been convicted or has received deferred adjudication for violation of the mandatory hunter education requirement is prohibited from applying for a deferral. Take the course by August 31 of the current license year and receive a \$5 discount. \*\*Accompanied means: By a person (resident or non-resident) who is at least 17, who is licensed to hunt in Texas, who has passed hunter education or is exempt (born before Sept. 2, 1971), and you must be within normal voice control, (Preferably within physical control). Proof of certification or deferral is required to be on your person while hunting. Note: Certification is NOT required to purchase a hunting license. Note: Bowhunter education does NOT substitute for Hunter Education certification.

**Utah**

A person born after December 21, 1965, may not purchase a hunting license or permit unless proof is presented to the Division or one of its authorized wildlife license agents that the person has passed a Division-approved hunter education course offered by a state, province or country.

**Vermont**

An applicant for a hunting license must present either a previous or current hunting license from another state or Canadian province, or a certificate or letter of proof showing satisfactory completion of an approved hunter or firearms safety course from Vermont or any other state or province, or other satisfactory proof of prior license or hunter/firearms safety certification.

**Virginia**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course if you are twelve to fifteen years of age, or sixteen and over and have never held a license to hunt.

**Washington**

All first-time hunters purchasing their first Washington license and who are born after 1/1/72

**West Virginia**

A hunting license may not be issued to any person who was born on or after Jan. 1, 1975, unless that person submits to the license agent a certificate of training or proof of completion of a course approved by the I.H.E.A. or Director of WV DNR 20-2-30a

**Wisconsin**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course if you were born on or after January 1, 1973.

**Wyoming**

NO person born on or after Jan. 1, 1966, may apply for and receive any Wyoming hunting license, NOR take any wildlife by the use of firearms on land other than that of his own family, unless the person possesses and can exhibit a certificate of competency and safety in the use and handling of firearms.

**Canada****Alberta**

Hunter Education is mandatory for 12 & 13 year olds. Anyone 14 and older can challenge the First Time Hunter Test or take the Hunter Education course.

**British Columbia**

Youth ages 10-13 may hunt with a junior hunting licence, no education requirement. At 14 years of age, the Conservation and Outdoor Education (CORE) program, BC hunter education program is mandatory. All youth under 19 years of age must be accompanied by a licenced adult hunter. Non residents hunting big game must be accompanied by a licenced guide. No education course require to get a non-resident hunting licence.

**Manitoba**

Students must be a minimum of twelve years of age. All first-time hunters (including bowhunters) must show proof of having taken the Manitoba Hunter and Firearm Safety Course OR a similar course from another province or state. Hunter Education became mandatory in Manitoba in 1969, therefore anyone purchasing a hunting license who was not 19 years of age in 1969 and had not previously held a hunting license, must have the Hunter Education training requirements.

**Newfoundland and Labrador**

All New Hunters must complete the Firearm Safety/Hunter Education Program prior to applying for Big or Small game license.

**Nova Scotia**

To purchase a hunting license you must have completed an approved Hunter Education course.

**Northwest Territory****New Brunswick**

All hunters born on or after January 1, 1981 and all first time hunters must complete a Firearm Safety/Hunter Education course. Bow hunters are also required to complete a Bow Hunter Education course. Students must be 13 years of age to participate in the Firearm Safety/Hunter Education program. Conservation Education certificates from other states or provinces are recognized by New Brunswick.

**Nunavut****Ontario**

Hunter Education Stand Alone course is minimum of 12.5 hours of instructor-based education. A "One Stop" course combines the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and Hunter Education Course. Minimum 20 hours of instruction. \* Ontario residents may hunt at 15 years of age provided they have parental consent. The Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Program (HASP) allows residents (12 yrs and older) to participate under the direct and immediate supervision of a qualified mentor following the successful completion of a hunter education course and examination. Participants must share one firearm and have parental consent if under the age of 16.

### **Quebec**

To purchase a hunting license to hunt with a firearm, a bow or a cossbow, residents must have successfully completed an approved Hunter Education course. To trap, residents must have successfully completed an approved Trapper Education course. The requirements to obtain a hunter or a trapper's certificates are: be a Quebec resident, be at least 12 years of age and not have had the said certificate suspended or cancelled following a Court conviction. Anyone under the age of 16 for bow or crossbow hunting, and 18 for firearm hunting, must be accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older who is the holder of a hunter's certificate appropriate with the arm used or a non-resident's hunting license. Under the "Federal Firearm Act", for firearm hunting, anyone who doesn't have a firearm possession license, must be under the presence and immediate supervision of a person who is in lawful possession of the firearm.

### **Prince Edward Island**

All hunters hunting on Prince Edward Island are required to be in possession of a Firearm Safety Certificate from any province or state. 1) All first time hunters and all individuals born on or after September 1, 1968 are required to successfully complete a Firearm/ Hunter Safety Course. 2) All individuals who were born before September 1, 1968, and who have hunted previously can apply for a P.E.I. Firearm Safety Certificate by signing an affidavit. ( currently under review)

### **Saskatchewan**

Mandatory

### **Yukon**

Compulsory since 2003