



Idaho Sheriffs' Association

3100 S. Vista Ave. Suite 203
Boise, ID 83705
208-287-0001
www.idahosheriffs.org

Idaho's CWL Law At A Glance

I.C. 18-3302

Effective July 1, 2016

Idaho's Concealed Weapon's License law was amended in the last legislative session and significant changes occur on July 1st of this year.

A concealed weapon means any deadly weapon. A deadly weapon means any dirk, dirk knife, bowie knife, dagger, firearm, or any other device designed or intended to be capable of causing death or serious injury. A deadly weapon is not a knife or cleaver or other instrument used by a person in processing, preparing or eating food, or a knife with a blade of 4 inches or less, or a taser, stun-gun, pepper spray or mace. A regular CWL holder must apply and provide prints just as any new applicant to obtain an enhanced CWL.

- All qualified persons 18 years of age or older can carry a deadly weapon outside the limits of a city.
- Prohibited persons are those that are either charged with or convicted of a felony, a fugitive from justice, a drug user, mentally ill or lacking in capacity to care for oneself, received a dishonorable discharge, received a withheld or suspended sentence on a felony, an illegal alien, a person who has renounced his citizenship, is subject to a protection order, or is ineligible under federal law to own or possess a firearm.
- An adult 21 years of age or older and a resident of Idaho can carry a handgun* concealed without a CWL inside city limits.
- A non-resident adult 21 years of age or older can carry a deadly weapon outside city limits, but not inside city limits unless they possess a CWL/CWP from another state.
- A person 18 years of age to under 21 years of age can carry a deadly weapon within city limits with a CWL that meets the requirements of the enhanced CWL.
- A CWL shall be issued to a person 18 years of age to under 21 years of age if qualified.
- An 18 to under 21 year old CWL shall expire on the person's 21st birthday and the renewal procedure and associated costs are the same as an adult renewing an enhanced CWL and the renewal license issued shall be an enhanced CWL.
- The 18 to under 21 year old CWL card shall be vertical in design distinguishing it from CWL's issued to persons 21 years of age or older.
- Non-immigrant persons visiting the U.S. cannot possess a firearm under federal law with a few exceptions such as hunting (18 U.S.C. 922(y)(2)). Canadians often seek an Idaho CWL, however in addition to the above, the FBI cannot run a Canadian criminal history from fingerprints which is required under Idaho law, hence Canadians and other similar foreign nationals are disqualified from being issued a CWL.

*Note, the legislation is flawed in that the legislation uses the word "handgun" instead of "deadly weapon" in I.C. 18-3302(4)(f). In essence, an Idaho resident 21 years of age or older can only carry a handgun concealed without a CWL inside city limits and not other deadly weapons, except outside city limits.