

## **CC Weapons Policy FAQ Sheet**

*(Effective July 1, 2025)*

### **Q: Why is Casper College revising its weapons policy?**

**A:** Recent changes to Wyoming law (W.S. § 6-8-105) have repealed “gun-free zones.” This means that Wyoming concealed carry permit holders now have the right to carry concealed on public college campuses, including Casper College. Our updated policy ensures compliance while maintaining a safe learning environment.

### **Q: Who can carry a concealed firearm on campus?**

**A:** Only individuals who have been issued a valid Wyoming concealed carry permit under W.S. § 6-8-104 may lawfully carry a concealed firearm on campus.

### **Q: What is required for a person to be eligible for a Wyoming-issued concealed carry permit?**

**A:** Generally, an applicant for a Wyoming-issued concealed carry permit must meet all of the following requirements:

- Has been a legal resident of Wyoming for six months prior to application
- Is at least 21 years of age
- Does not suffer from a physical infirmity which prevents the safe handling of a firearm
- Is not ineligible to possess a firearm pursuant to 18 U.S.C. section 922(g) or W.S. 6-8-102
- Has not been committed to a state or federal facility for the abuse of a controlled substance within one year prior to application, or has not been convicted of certain felonies or misdemeanors under the Wyoming Controlled Substances act or similar laws or other states or the United States
- Does not chronically or habitually use alcoholic liquor and malt beverages to the extent that normal faculties are impaired
- Demonstrates familiarity with a firearm
- Is not currently adjudicated to be legally incompetent
- Has not been committed to a mental institution

Applicants for a Wyoming-issued concealed carry permit must demonstrate familiarity with a firearm by taking and satisfactorily completing a firearm use and safety course taught by a qualified instructor. Please refer to W.S. § 6-8-104 for exact eligibility requirements.

### **Q: What weapons are covered under the concealed carry permit?**

**A:** Concealed carry on campus is limited to handguns, defined by W.S. § 6-8-104(y)(ii) as any pistol, revolver, or derringer, designed to be fired by the use of a single hand.

### **Q: What are “dangerous weapons” and are they allowed on campus?**

**A:** Casper College prohibits the possession, storage, and use of firearms and other dangerous weapons, unless an individual is authorized to carry a concealed firearm under W.S. § 6-8-104(a)(ii). Dangerous weapons include, but are not limited to:

- Any object or substance designed to or perceived to inflict a wound, cause injury, or incapacitate
- Explosives or dangerous chemicals outside of laboratory settings
- Clubs or other impact weapons
- Tasers or stun guns
- Swords
- Bows and arrows
- Martial arts weapons
- Knives designed or adapted for combat or use against another person
- Switchblade knives, fixed-blade knives of four inches or more (with the exception of culinary knives used solely in the preparation and service of food)

**Q: Are there any (non-firearm) exceptions to the weapons policy?**

**A:** Yes. The college weapons policy permits the possession of mace or other self-defense spray (less than 2 oz), and pocket knives with blades less than four inches in length.

**Q: Are there restrictions on how a concealed firearm must be carried?**

**A:** Yes. Firearms must be:

- Carried completely concealed.
- Carried in a holster that fully covers the trigger guard and retains the firearm securely.
- Carried with the external safety engaged, if applicable.
- Carried on or about the person or in very close proximity (e.g., immediately accessible in a backpack or handbag).

**Q: Is open carry allowed?**

**A:** No. Open carry of firearms is still prohibited on Casper College property.

**Q: Can the President or Campus Security prevent concealed carry?**

**A:** No. The college cannot revoke or decline to recognize a lawfully issued Wyoming concealed carry permit. However, the president retains authority to manage exceptions involving non-permittee use of weapons (such as theatre productions or training exercises).

**Q: Are concealed firearms permitted in campus housing?**

**A:** Yes, for Wyoming-issued concealed carry permittees only. Permittees must secure their firearm within a concealed biometric container or in a lock box when the firearm

cannot be secured on or about the person (for example, while sleeping, changing, taking a shower, etc.). The College will provide high-quality lock boxes for residential permittees who require them within their residence hall room.

**Q: Are there any places on campus where a permittee cannot carry a concealed firearm?**

**A:** Yes. In accordance with W.S. § 6-8-105, the following areas are prohibited areas for firearms and other dangerous weapons, including for permittees:

- College events where alcohol is being sold/tendered
- College property where explosive or volatile materials are present, in such amount, that may reasonably cause serious bodily injury due to the materials' explosive or volatile nature.
  - These locations include, but are not limited to: welding laboratories, science laboratories with explosive or volatile materials, and chemical storage rooms.
- The Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC).
- The CC Wellness Center.
- Any place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law or regulation or state law.

**Q: Can meetings be conducted in a gun-free exclusion zone?**

**A:** Yes, but only if the meeting is required to take place in such an exclusion zone (such as a welding class being held in a welding laboratory). Scheduling meetings in exclusion zones for the purpose of limiting the lawful carrying of a concealed firearm is not permitted.

**Q: Can a faculty member or employee prohibit concealed carrying of firearms in their classroom/office?**

**A:** No. Under W.S. § 6-8-105(e), individuals with a valid Wyoming concealed carry permit may not be prohibited from carrying in authorized areas, including classrooms and offices.

**Q: Can an employee put a sign on their office door requesting that individuals not enter if they are carrying a firearm?**

**A:** No. Such a sign would likely violate W.S. § 6-8-105(e), as it would effectively deny access to lawful Wyoming-issued concealed carry permittees.

**Q: What happens if someone violates the policy?**

**A:** Individuals who improperly display, handle, or store a firearm or other dangerous weapon in violation of this policy may face disciplinary action and/or referral to law enforcement, depending on the situation.

**Q: What should I do if I see a firearm or any other type of dangerous weapon on campus?**

**A:** Call 911, then Campus Security (307-268-2688). While concealed firearms must remain out of sight, if you see a firearm or suspect a violation (e.g., unsafe handling or improper display), report it immediately.

**Q: What process did the College use to revise this policy?**

**A:** Following the passage of HB 172 in 2025, Casper College joined the other seven Wyoming community colleges in collaboratively working on policy language that would comply with the changes to state law. The community colleges met with a goal that firearms-related policies would be substantively similar between institutions. Casper College incorporated the shared policy language within the existing weapons policy, and submitted the revised policy to the Board of Trustees for approval.