



## RIDEM Pistol/Revolver Certification (“Blue Card”)



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.

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 50 question exam is comprised of multiple choice and true-or-false type questions based on information contained in the study booklet entitled “*Set Your Sights on Handgun Basics.*” This booklet is available at participating firearms vendors or by calling the RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife at (401) 789-0281, or emailing DEM.DFW@dem.ri.gov. The examination is available in Spanish. The test can also be taken at the RIDEM Headquarters at 235 Promenade Street, Providence, R.I., on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday between 9AM and 3PM in the Permit Application Center. For the names and telephone numbers of firearms vendors who give the examination, contact the RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife.

After completion of the exam, it will be sent by the vendor to the RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife for grading. 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 fail. 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.

Records of blue card tests are not kept longer than a month to protect the participants’ privacy. If a blue card is lost, the test must be retaken and a new card issued. Blue cards should be laminated to prevent damage. To replace a worn blue card, contact the RIDEM Division of Fish and Wildlife.

A Rhode Island Hunter Education Course Card (“orange card”) issued by the RIDEM Division of Fish & Wildlife Hunter Education Program can be used in lieu of the Pistol/Revolver Safety Certificate (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.