



# 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.

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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## Rhode Island Handgun Safety Certification Testing Locations 2022

Testing Location	Address	Town	Telephone
A & M Tactical	10 Coddington Hwy	Middletown	401-619-5620
Anchor Art & Antiques	316 Warwick Neck Ave	Warwick	401-203-1366
The Armhouse (appointment only)	15 Taylor Drive	North Smithfield	401-424-1802
Big Bear Hunting & Fishing	401 Putnum Pike	Harmony	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	PO Box 19236	Johnston	401-330-9284
Cranston Gun & Coin	6595 Post Road	North Kingstown	401-885-8474
Cumberland Beagle Club	PO Box 7413	Cumberland	401-658-5218
D&L Shooting	3314 West Shore Road	Warwick	401-738-1889
East Warren Rod & Gun	PO Box 12	Warren	401-245-5763
Fancywood Farm (SIRT Training)	PO Box 914	Ashaway	401-377-8184
Fastrack Firearms	159 Stoneham Drive	Woonsocket	401-258-1727
Firearms Unlimited	560 South County Trail	Exeter	401-397-4867
Flint Armament	125 Harrison Avenue	Woonsocket	401-597-0221
Freedom Sports and Arms	236 High Street	Wakefield	401-782-1140
Gendron's Pawn & Loan	225 Cowesett Avenue	West Warwick	401-821-2001
Heritage Gun and Coin	250 Cowesett Ave, #4	West Warwick	401-826-0000
Heritage G&C (second location)	1287 Post Road	Warwick	N/A
Highland Rod & Gun	PO Box 239	North Scituate	401-332-1705
Hope Valley Bait and Tackle	PO Box 245	Hope Valley	401-539-2757
Island Gun Shop	1678 East Main Road Unit 17	Portsmouth	401-683-1418
Kane Corporation	1028 Boston Neck Road	North Kingstown	401-295-0642
Lost Treasures	242 Middle Street	Pawtucket	401-475-5667
Manville Sportman's Club	PO Box 26	Manville	437-0429
Massasoit Gun Club	PO Box 14232	East Providence	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
Newport Rifle Club	PO Box 4366	Middletown	401-847-5678
On Target Firearms	1 Gray Birch Drive	Cranston	401-474-7720
Patriot Custom Manufacturing Inc.	8 Industrial Lane, Suite 6	Johnston	401-487-6451
Peace Dale Shooting Preserve	130 Pearls Way	Wakefield	401-792-7000
Pocasset Arms LLC	2968 East Main Road	Portsmouth	401-683-0032
Practical Defense Tactics	PO Box 365	Chepachet	401-868-4703
Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle	4019 Quaker Lane	North Kingstown	401-294-9642
RI Dept. of Environmental Management ( <a href="#">Appointment Only</a> )	235 Promenade Street, Permit Application Center, 2nd Floor	Providence	401-222-4700 x 2777265
Rhode Island Guns & Ammo	1175 Post Road	Warwick	401-437-6976
Rhode Island Gunworks	15 Sandy Bottom Road, Unit 3	Coventry	401-828-1000

Testing Location	Address	Town	Telephone
Rhody Outdoors	2 Goldmine Rd	Foster	401-413-1807
Riverside Sportsman's Association	PO Box 15301	Riverside	401-437-0429
River Street Tactical	1174 River Street	Woonsocket	508-951-4867
Route 6 Outpost	52 Danielson Pike	Foster	401-647-4867
Sakonnet River Outfitters	777 Main Road	Tiverton	401-816-0815
Shanbri Arms	332 South County Trail	Exeter	401-295-5121
Smithfield Sportsman's Club	PO Box 386	Greenville	401-231-9863
South County Rod & Gun Club	PO Box 1323	Coventry	401-533-3898
The Sporting Shoppe	87 Kingstown Road	Wyoming	401-247-4867
Tiverton Rod & Gun	PO Box 115	Tiverton	401-624-3859
Ure Outfitters	1009 Main Street	Hope Valley	401-539-4050
Wallum Lake Rod and Gun Club	200 Brook Road	Harrisville	401-639-9179
Woonsocket Sportsman's Club	PO Box 931	Woonsocket	401-480-1007

## 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>