

WEAPONS POLICY

.010 Introduction

Pratt Community College prohibits the possession and use of firearms, explosives, and other weapons on any of its campus, with certain limited exceptions, which include use of weapons as part of approved Pratt Community College Programs, use of weapons by law enforcement personnel, and the lawful concealed carrying of handguns, as provided below. This policy is in accordance with state law, K.S.A 75-7c01, *et seq.*

.020 Definitions

For purposes of this policy:

i. The term “weapons” includes:

1. Any object or device which will, is designed to, or may be readily converted to expel bullet, shot or shell by the action of an explosive or other propellant;
2. any handgun, pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun or other firearm of anynature, including those that are concealed or openly carried;
3. any BB gun, pellet gun, air/C’O2 gun, blow gun, or any Taser or similar electrical weapon that discharges a projectile, which is possessed with the intent to use the same unlawfully against another;
4. any explosive, incendiary or poison gas (A) bomb, (B) mine, (C) grenade, (D) rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, or (E) missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than ¼ ounce;
5. any incendiary or explosive material, liquid, solid or mixture equipped with a fuse, wick or other detonating device, which is possessed with the intent to use the same unlawfully against another;
6. anytear gas bomb or smoke bomb, which is possessed with the intent to use the same unlawfully against another; however, personal self-defense items containing mace or pepper spray shall not be deemed to be a weapon for the purposes of this policy;

7. any knife, commonly referred to as a switch-blade, which has a blade that opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring or other device in the handle of the knife or any knife having a blade that opens or falls or is ejected into position by the force of gravity or by an outward, downward or centrifugal thrust or movement, which is possessed with the intent to use the same unlawfully against another;
8. any straight-blade knife of four inches or more such as a dagger, dirk, dangerous knife or stiletto, which is possessed with the intent to use the same unlawfully against another; except that an ordinary pocket knife or culinary knife designed for and used solely in the preparation or service of food shall not be construed to be a weapon for the purposes of this policy;
9. any martial arts weapon such as nunchucks or throwing stars;
10. any longbow, crossbow and arrows or other projectile that could cause serious harm to any person, which is possessed with the intent to use the same unlawfully against another; or
11. any other dangerous or deadly weapon or instrument of like character.

ii. The term “handgun” means:

1. A pistol or revolver which is designed to be fired by the use of a single hand and which is designed to fire or capable of firing fixed cartridge ammunition; or
2. any other weapon which will or is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive and which is designed to be fired by the use of a single hand.

iii. The term “firearm” includes any handgun, rifle, shotgun, and any other weapon which will or is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.

iv. The term “adequate security measures” shall have the same meaning as the term is defined in K.S.A. 75-7c20, and “building” shall have the same meaning as the term “state building” is defined in K.S.A. 75-7c20.

v. The term “campus” means any building or grounds owned by Pratt Community College (PCC) or the PCC Board of Trustees (Board) and any building or grounds leased by Pratt Community College (PCC) or the PCC Board of Trustees (Board) for Pratt Community College use.

.030 Policy

i. General Rules on Open Carry and Concealed Carry on Campus

Open carry of firearms and possession of weapons other than concealed handguns shall be prohibited inside buildings on campus, while concealed carry of handguns is permitted inside buildings on campus, subject to the rules stated in this policy. All weapons are prohibited at all off-campus PCC sponsored or supervised activities, except that, as required by law, PCC does not prohibit employees, who are legally qualified, from carrying a concealed handgun while engaged in the duties of their employment outside of PCC's place of business, including while in a means of conveyance.

Nothing in this policy shall be read to prohibit possession of weapons on campus as necessary for the conduct of Board-approved academic programs or PCC-approved activities or practices with the advance written approval of the PCC President, or by PCC security personnel while acting within the scope of their employment.

It shall be a violation of Board and PCC policy to openly display any lawfully possessed concealed carry handgun while inside buildings on campus, except as provided herein.

There are no PCC locations that have been designated as prohibiting concealed carry with permanent adequate security measures. PCC may from time to time designate a specific location as temporarily prohibiting concealed carry and use temporary adequate security measures as defined and required by law. Appropriate notice will be given whenever this temporary designation is made, including notice to the Board and appropriate signage.

In addition, areas of buildings that have no public access entrances and are limited to restricted access entrances only may be off-limits to concealed carry, as determined by the PCC. "Restricted access entrance" means an entrance that is restricted to the public and requires a key, keycard, code, or similar device to allow entry to authorized personnel. "Authorized personnel" means employees of PCC and any person granted authorization pursuant to K.S.A. 75-7c20(d)(2), who are authorized to enter a PCC building through a restricted access entrance. Appropriate signage will be provided in these areas.

ii. Prohibitions Based on State Law

Beginning July 1, 2017, any individual who is 21 years of age or older and who is lawfully eligible to carry a concealed handgun in Kansas or who is 18 years of age and in possession of a valid provisional license issued pursuant to K.S.A. 75-7c03 shall not be precluded from doing so on campus except in

PCC buildings and areas of buildings for which adequate security measures are provided, and except as otherwise prohibited by law.

Regardless whether the individual is otherwise lawfully eligible to carry a concealed handgun, the following restrictions apply to the carrying of a firearm by Kansas law, and the violation of any of the following restrictions is a crime under Kansas law and a violation of this policy:

1. An individual in possession of a concealed firearm must be at least 21 years of age or at least 18 years of age and in possession of a valid provisional license issued pursuant to K.S.A. 75-7co3 [K.S.A. 21-6302(a)(4)];
2. A firearm cannot be carried by an individual under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or both, to such a degree as to render the individual incapable of safely operating the firearm [K.S.A. 21-6332];
3. A firearm cannot be carried by an individual who is both addicted to and an unlawful user of a controlled substance [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(10)];
4. A firearm cannot be carried by an individual who is or has been a mentally ill person subject to involuntary commitment [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(13)];
5. A firearm cannot be carried by an individual with an alcohol or substance abuse problem subject to involuntary commitment [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(13)];
6. A firearm cannot be carried by an individual who has been convicted of a felony crime [K.S.A. 21-6304];
7. An automatic firearm cannot be carried [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(5)];
8. A cartridge which can be fired by a handgun and which has a plastic-coated bullet with a core of less than 60% lead by weight is illegal [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(6)];
9. Suppressors and silencers cannot be used with a firearm [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(4)]; and,
10. Firearms cannot be fired in the corporate limits of a city or at a dwelling, or at a structure or vehicle in which people are present, except in self-defense [K.S.A. 21-6308, 6308a].

It shall also be a violation of this policy to otherwise possess, store, transport, trade, sell, or in any other way use a firearm in violation of any applicable law.

iii. Carrying and Storing Handguns

Each individual who lawfully possesses a handgun on campus shall be wholly and solely responsible for carrying, storing and using that handgun in a safe manner and in accordance with the law, Board policy and PCC policy. Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted to require individuals who lawfully possess a handgun to use it in defense of others.

Beginning July 1, 2017, each individual who lawfully possesses a concealed handgun on campus shall at all times have that handgun in their custody and control, and shall either:

1. carry it concealed on or about their person in a manner that complies with this policy, or;
2. keep it stored in any secure storage location provided by PCC specifically for that purpose, at their residence, or in their privately-owned or leased vehicle.

Individuals who carry a handgun inside buildings on campus must carry it concealed on or about their person at all times. With respect to this policy, “concealed” means completely hidden from view and does not reveal the weapon in any way, shape, or form. “About” the person means that an individual may carry a handgun if it can be carried securely in a suitable carrier, such as a backpack, purse, handbag, or other personal carrier designed and intended for the carrying of an individual’s personal items.

Moreover, the carrier must at all times remain within the exclusive and uninterrupted control of the individual. This includes wearing the carrier with one or more straps consistent with the carrier’s design, carrying or holding the carrier, or setting the carrier next to or within the immediate reach of the individual. Except in those instances where necessary for self-defense or transferring to safe storage and except as otherwise provided in this policy, it shall be a violation of Board and PCC policy to openly display any lawfully possessed concealed carry handgun while on campus.

Every handgun carried by an individual, whether on their person or in a carrier, must be secured in a holster that completely covers the trigger and the entire trigger guard area and that secures any external hammer in an uncocked position. The handgun must be secured in the holster with a strap or by other means of retention. The holster must have sufficient tension or grip on the handgun to retain it in the holster even when subjected to unexpected jostling. Handguns with an external safety must be carried with the safety in the “on” position. Semiautomatic handguns must be carried without a chambered round of ammunition. Revolvers must be carried with the hammer resting on an empty chamber.

Handguns shall not be stored:

1. in any PCC classroom, lab, office, or facility;
2. in an on-campus residential unit, except in the on-campus residential unit of the individual who is at least 21 years of age or who is 18 years of age and in possession of a valid provisional license issued pursuant to K.S.A, 75-7co3, who legally owns the handgun, and when the handgun is secured in a holster in an approved storage device;

3. in any non-privately owned or leased motor vehicle;
or,
4. in any other location and under any circumstances except as specifically permitted by this policy and by state and federal law.

Handguns may be stored:

1. in an individual's privately-owned or leased motor vehicle when the vehicle is locked (if unattended) and the handgun is secured in a location within the vehicle that is not visible from outside the vehicle;
or,
2. in the on-campus residential unit of the individual who is at least 21 years of age or who is 18 years of age and in possession of a valid provisional license issued pursuant to K.S.A. 75-7co3, who legally owns the hand gun, and when the storage by any other means than specifically permitted in this policy is prohibited.

For any on-campus residential unit that does not have adequate security measures, each resident who lawfully possesses a handgun on campus and elects to store the handgun they possess in the room to which they are assigned when not carrying it on their person in a concealed fashion shall secure the handgun in a secure storage device that conceals the gun from view. Such storage devices shall be provided by the individual who possesses the handgun and must meet minimum industry standards for safe-keeping of handguns.

PCC does not provide approved handgun storage devices to any person under any circumstances. Each individual who stores a handgun in an on-campus residence must provide their own approved storage device. An approved storage device has each of these characteristics:

1. it is of sufficient size to fully enclose the handgun while secured in an approved holster;
2. it is constructed of sturdy materials that are non-flammable;
3. it has a combination, digital, or other secure locking device that can only be unlocked by the individual using the storage device, but devices secured exclusively with a key lock are prohibited; and,
4. the device is constructed specifically for the storage of a handgun and/or ammunition. All ammunition stored in an on-campus residence must be stored in an approved storage device.

.040 Sanctions

Any individual who violates one or more provisions of this policy may be issued a lawful directive to leave campus with the weapon immediately. Any individual who violates the directive shall be considered to be in trespass and may be cited accordingly. Any employee or student of PCC who violates one or more provisions of this policy shall be subject to discipline in accordance with applicable PCC disciplinary policy. Any individual who violates state or federal

law may be detained, arrested or otherwise subjected to lawful processes appropriate to the circumstances.

.050 Notice

Notice of this policy, the Board policy, and the concealed carry law are given in this policy and shall also be given by way of reference to this policy in the PCC Handbook, the Student Code of Conduct and Responsibility (PCC Administrative Policy 600-01) and each housing contract. To the extent adequate security measures are used to prohibit concealed carry into stadiums, arenas and other large venues that require tickets for admission, the tickets shall state that concealed carry will be prohibited at that event.

Signs will be posted as appropriate.

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