

## **Chapter 11: Weapons on Campus**

To view the Board policies associated with this section, go to <https://pol.tasb.org/PolicyOnline/PolicyDetails?key=304&code=CHF>.

Collin College prohibits the possession of any prohibited weapon, as defined by Board policies [CHF \(LOCAL\)](#), [DH \(LOCAL\)](#), and [FLB \(LOCAL\)](#) on all Collin College property at all times, except by peace officers licensed by a state of the United States or a federal agency.

No violation of this policy occurs when the use, possession, or display of an otherwise prohibited weapon takes place as part of a Collin College-approved activity supervised by proper authorities, or in accordance with law.

### **Concealed Carry Law and Other General Provisions**

The purpose of this policy is to implement rules in compliance with [Texas Government Code, Section 411.2031, Carrying of Handguns by License Holders on Certain Campuses](#), at Collin College effective August 1, 2017, and to outline prohibited firearms and weapons on all Collin College campuses.

### **Firearms/Handguns**

Collin College prohibits the use, possession, or display of a firearm on Collin College property or at a Collin College-sponsored or -related activity in violation of the law or Collin College policies and procedures, unless written authorization is granted in advance by the College District President or designee.

### **Procedures**

After consulting with the students, staff, and faculty of Collin College regarding the nature of the student population, specific safety considerations, and the uniqueness of the Collin College environment, the College District President has established the following rules regarding the carrying of concealed handguns by license holders on the campuses of Collin College:

1. Only individuals with a valid License to Carry a Handgun (LTC) issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (TxDPS), under [Texas Government Code, Chapter 411, Subchapter H](#), as well as LTC licenses\* from other states, the validity of which are recognized by the State of Texas, may carry a concealed handgun on or about their person on the property of Collin College. \*Validly issued LTC licenses are collectively referred to hereinafter as "LTC."
2. Individuals who do not possess a valid LTC are prohibited from possessing a handgun on Collin College campuses.
3. Collin College prohibits the use, possession, or display of any illegal knife, club, or prohibited weapons, as defined by the [Texas Penal Code](#) and described in Board policy CHF (LEGAL), on Collin College property or at a Collin College-sponsored or -related activity, unless written authorization is granted in advance by the College District President or designee. For more information, see Board policy CHF (LEGAL) located at <https://pol.tasb.org/PolicyOnline/PolicyDetails?key=304&code=CHF>.
4. While on Collin College campuses, it is the responsibility of the LTC holder to conceal the handgun so that it is not partially or wholly visible to another person.
5. While on a Collin College campus, an LTC holder who is in possession of a handgun must keep that handgun on or about their person or in a locked vehicle, as permitted by law.
6. Other than a handgun owned by a qualified resident of Collin College Student Housing as defined herein, handguns may not be stored overnight on Collin College campuses, unless in a locked, privately owned or leased motor vehicle as permitted by law.
7. Possession of a handgun on Collin College property while intoxicated, under the influence of illegal drugs,

or while taking prescription drugs that impair judgment or physical abilities is prohibited.

8. This policy applies to persons traveling in Collin College-owned vehicles. However, the policies of the owner of the vehicle apply when private or commercial transportation is used for Collin College travel.
9. This policy applies to all students, staff, faculty, and visitors of Collin College, except for law enforcement officers licensed by a state of the United States or a federal agency and school marshals licensed by the State of Texas and appointed by the Collin College Board of Trustees (Board).
10. Open carry of a handgun on a campus of Collin College is restricted to law enforcement officers licensed by a federal, state, or local law enforcement agency.
11. Students and employees of Collin College, with the exception of police officers employed by Collin College, will not inquire as to whether any person is carrying a concealed weapon or possesses an LTC.
12. The storage or transportation of a firearm or ammunition is allowed by Collin College students, faculty, staff, and employees if the individual is authorized to such possession in a locked, privately owned or leased motor vehicle on those specific premises allowed by law and described in Board policy CHF (LEGAL). For more information, see Board policy CHF (LEGAL) located at <https://pol.tasb.org/PolicyOnline/PolicyDetails?key=304&code=CHF>.

### **On-Campus Student Housing**

A resident with an LTC may only carry or store a concealed handgun in campus housing as established in this policy. Any time a handgun in a campus housing facility is not in the immediate care, custody, or control of the owner, that handgun must be stored in a locked, personal vehicle or within a locked gun safe in the resident's room. No gun storage will be provided by Collin College. This policy applies to all residents as well as live-in staff in any campus facility designed for housing or overnight stay.

#### Residents

An LTC license holder who resides in campus housing in which all the residents of the unit are age 21 or older may carry a concealed handgun into campus housing and may store the weapon in their assigned residential room. An exception to the age 21 requirement is a person who is at least 18 years of age but not yet 21 years of age who:

1. Is a member or veteran of the United States armed forces, including a member or veteran of the reserves or national guard;
2. Was discharged under honorable conditions, if discharged from the United States armed forces, reserves, or national guard; and
3. Meets the other eligibility requirements for an LTC except for the minimum age required by federal law to purchase a handgun.

A resident who brings a concealed handgun into campus housing pursuant to this policy must carry the weapon on their person at all times or store it in their assigned room within a locked gun safe. For more information, see the [Requirements for Proper Storage](#) subsection in this document.

A resident may not intentionally or knowingly display a handgun in plain view of another person in campus housing except as necessary to properly store and secure the weapon within a gun safe in their assigned residential room.

A student who is assigned to a residential room in campus housing where a firearm is stored and is concerned about their well-being may request a transfer to another residential room through the regular housing process with no penalty.

#### Non-Residents

An LTC license holder who does not reside in campus housing may carry a concealed handgun into campus housing.

The handgun must be carried on or about the non-resident's person at all times and may not be stored in a campus housing room.

#### Responsibility for Personal Injury or Damage

A resident or non-resident whose possession, use, or storage of a handgun results in personal injury or property damage is personally liable for the injury or damage.

#### Requirements for Proper Storage

When not carried on or about a person, handguns must be in a locked personal vehicle or a locked gun safe that meets Collin College's following requirements:

1. Be large enough to fully contain the firearm(s) placed in it and provide for secure storage;
2. Have exterior walls constructed of a minimum 16-gauge steel;
3. Have a high-strength locking system consisting of a mechanical or electronic combination or biometric lock, and not a key lock; and
4. Be certified and listed as meeting Underwriters Laboratories Residential Security Container rating standards by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).

Compliance with storage and security requirements are part of the residence inspection process, as outlined in the current *Collin College Resident Handbook* located on Collin College's website at [www.collin.edu/studenthousing/](http://www.collin.edu/studenthousing/).

#### **Other Weapons and Devices Prohibited**

All other weapons are strictly prohibited for students, staff, faculty, and visitors on Collin College property or at any Collin College-sponsored or -related activity, including, but not limited to, long guns, location-restricted knives, clubs, knuckle devices, firearm silencers, explosives, fireworks of any kind, incendiary devices, instruments designed to expel a projectile with the use of pressurized air, such as a BB gun, martial arts throwing stars, or any weapons described in Board policy CHF (LEGAL). For more information, see Board policy CHF (LEGAL) located at <https://pol.tasb.org/PolicyOnline/PolicyDetails?key=304&code=CHF>.

An exception is authorized for the limited purpose of honor guards who carry ceremonial swords at a Collin College-sponsored event (e.g., Military Ball). The possession or use of articles not generally considered to be weapons may be prohibited when the College District President or designee determines that a danger exists for any student, Collin College employee, or Collin College property by virtue of possession or use.

Possession of other weapons on Collin College campuses is grounds for immediate disciplinary action and possible prosecution for violations of state law.

#### **Exclusion Zones**

Possession of a handgun is prohibited on Collin College campuses in the following locations by any person except law enforcement officers licensed by a state of the United States or a federal agency. These locations will be appropriately identified by signage as specified under [Sections 30.06](#) and [30.07](#) of the [Texas Penal Code](#):

1. Childcare facilities.
2. Polling locations.
3. In the room or rooms where a meeting of a governmental entity is held, and if the meeting is an open meeting subject to [Chapter 551, Government Code](#), and notice as required by that chapter is provided.
4. High-hazard laboratories and health science education facilities where the presence of high-hazard materials or operations creates a significant risk of catastrophic harm due to a negligent discharge.
5. Designated meeting room(s) at each campus in Student and Enrollment Services that can be used, as

needed, for disciplinary meetings or counseling meetings.

6. Facilities where professional, high school, college sporting, or interscholastic events are in progress as prohibited by the [Texas Penal Code, Section 46.035\(b\)\(2\)](#).
7. Locker and dressing rooms where individuals change clothes, including those at athletic, theatre, and health science education facilities.
8. Any location or facility of Collin College, as directed or approved by the College District President as necessary for campus safety, where effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to [Sections 30.06 and 30.07, Texas Penal Code](#), has been given by the required signage. An example might include a Collin College facility where alcohol is being served for a special event.

A violation of these specific prohibitions is considered an offense under [Section 46.035 \(a-3\), Texas Penal Code](#).

### **Violations**

Violations of this policy should be reported immediately to the Collin College Police Department at **972.578.5555**. Such violations may result in disciplinary action by Collin College up to and including criminal prosecution for violation of the [Texas Penal Code](#).

Employees and students found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. For more information, see Board policies DH (LOCAL), FM (LOCAL), and FMA (LOCAL) located at <https://pol.tasb.org/PolicyOnline/SearchResults/?key=304&query=disciplinary+procedures> and [Chapter 13: Student Disciplinary Procedures](#) in this *Student Code of Conduct*.

### **Reporting**

Not later than September 1 of even-numbered years, Collin College will submit a report to the Texas State Legislature and to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over the implementation and continuation of [Section 411.2031, Texas Government Code](#) that:

1. Describes the Collin College rules, regulations, or other provisions regarding the carrying of concealed handguns on the campuses of Collin College; and
2. Explains the reasons the institution has established these provisions.

### **Safety Committee**

The College District President will appoint a standing committee, the Collin College Safety Committee, that is chaired by the executive vice president or College District President's designee and includes representatives from the administration, faculty, staff, and student government. The Safety Committee will be charged with meeting as needed, but at least once each fall and spring semester, to review Collin College's weapons policy, any new legislation and legal decisions relating to this issue, and the effectiveness of the implementation of Collin College's policy. Advisory notes and recommendations from the Safety Committee will be forwarded for review and consideration by the Executive Leadership Team, College District President, and Board of Trustees (Board), as necessary.