Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Where do I apply for a Permit?
**A:** A new or renewed Permit to Carry a Concealed Pistol may be obtained from the sheriff of the county which the applicant is a resident.

**Q:** How long is a Permit valid?
**A:** The Regular, Gold Card and Enhanced Permits are valid for five years.

**Q:** What is the age requirement for a Permit?
**A:** The applicant must be eighteen years-of-age or older.

**Q:** What do I do if I need to change my address, have changed my last name because I recently got married, or lost my Permit?
**A:** Send a written letter to the SOS office with name, date of birth, and what information needs to be updated.

**Q:** How long does it take to obtain residency in the state for the purpose of obtaining a Permit?
**A:** 30 days.

**Q:** Does South Dakota issue non-resident Permits?
**A:** No, but South Dakota does recognize all other states valid concealed weapon Permits.

**Q:** How soon can I renew my permit?
**A:** Regular Permits may be renewed 90 days prior to expiration. Gold Cards and Enhanced Permits may be renewed 180 days prior to expiration.

**Q:** What is the difference between a Regular Permit, a Gold Card Permit and an Enhanced Permit?
**A:** Regular: purchase exemption for permits issued after 7/1/2018, reciprocity with 31 states. Gold Card: purchase exemption, reciprocity with 32 states. Enhanced: purchase exemption, reciprocity with 38 states, including MN and NE.

**Q:** Do I need a permit to carry a concealed pistol in South Dakota?
**A:** No, South Dakota residents and nonresidents who may lawfully possess a pistol are not required to have a permit in order to carry a concealed pistol in this state.

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**Active Duty Military and Spouses (SDCL 23-7-7.5)**

Any active duty military personnel or the spouse of a person who is active duty military with South Dakota as their home of record is considered to have met the residency requirements under SDCL 23-7-7.1 (6) (See also SDCL 23-7-7.5).

For military personnel that possess a regular concealed carry permit that expires while the holder is deployed outside of the holder’s state of residence, the holder may complete the application form and have his or her unit commander or commanding officer attest to the identity of the holder. The application form and required accompanying documents are then mailed to the sheriff of the county of the holder’s residence in South Dakota for the background check.

If approved, the temporary permit will be forwarded to the military member (SDCL 23-7-8.12).

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**Requirement for carrying concealed in state capitol (SDCL 22-14-24)**

- The person possessing the concealed pistol holds an enhanced permit issued in accordance with SDCL 23-7-53;
- At least twenty-four hours prior to initially entering the state capitol with a concealed pistol, the person notifies the superintendent of the Division of Highway Patrol, orally or in writing, that the person intends to possess a concealed pistol in the state capitol;
- The required notification:
  - Includes the date on which, or the range of dates during, which the person intends to possess a concealed pistol in the state capitol, provided the range of dates may not extend beyond December 31st of each year, and may be renewed, as necessary and without limit.

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Active Duty Military and Spouses (SDCL 23-7-7.5)

A Guide To Understanding Concealed Carry Pistol Permits in South Dakota

South Dakota is proud of its strong 2nd Amendment heritage.

Secretary of State
Capitol Building
500 East Capitol Avenue, Ste 204
Pierre, SD 57501-5701

For current information, visit SDSOS.GOV or call (605) 773-3537.

10,000 copies published by the Secretary of State office on 06/01/22 at a cost of $0.17 each.

For SD Firearm Handbook, scan here!

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Requirements

Same requirements as listed with the regular permit, plus the following:

- Certification of completion of qualifying handgun course, which includes use of force training, basic concepts, self-defense principles and live fire training of at least 98 rounds.
- FBI fingerprint background check
- Authorization to conduct the fingerprint background check
- Periodic NICS background checks to ensure continued eligibility

Renewal

- Every five years
- Renew 180 days prior to expiration
- FBI Fingerprint Background Check and National Instant Criminal Background Check

Restricted Enhanced Permit

- All enhanced permit applications for anyone under the age of 21 years of age must be issued a restricted enhanced permit.
- Once applicant turns 21 years old, it is the applicant’s responsibility to request an updated non-restricted enhanced permit.

Renewal

- FBI Fingerprint Background Check
- National Instant Criminal Background Check
- Show proof of the following:
  - Successfully completed the live fire training of the qualifying handgun course
  - Received instructions regarding the use of force standards and relevant criminal statutory changes
- Every five years
- Renew 180 days prior to expiration