

CONCEALED CARRY

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



Safety First

Nothing is more important than the safety and well-being of our University of Kansas community. It is our top priority. Safety requires that we work together and do all we can to ensure every KU community member, visitor, and guest understands the state law and the KU policy as well as how the policy is implemented.

While individuals carrying concealed handguns may be at ease with their decision, many people on campus are not familiar with handguns and are uncomfortable in their presence. Regardless of viewpoint, individuals should treat others with respect. KU leadership will not tolerate threatening use of concealed carry handguns, or any other weapons.

What is the Law?

In very simple terms, the [Kansas Personal and Family Protection Act](#) allows the carrying of concealed handguns into most state buildings. Kansas Board of Regents and KU policy further describe campus specific procedures related for safe possession, use and storage of such weapons.

Where is Concealed Carry Prohibited?

Except for law enforcement officials, individuals may not carry a concealed handgun in locations where the university provides adequate security measures. Those locations are anticipated to be KU Athletics facilities where attendance is expected to be more than 5,000. With the exception of law enforcement officers, no one may carry a firearm of any type into any secured area in the facilities of the University Police. This list may expand as additional locations meet requirements.

What are Adequate Security Measures?

"Adequate security measures" means the use of electronic equipment and armed personnel at public entrances to detect and restrict the carrying of any weapons into the state or municipal building, or any public area thereof, including, but not limited to, metal detectors, metal detector wands or any other equipment used for similar purposes to ensure that weapons are not permitted to be carried into such building by members of the public.

Where is Concealed Carry Allowed?

Concealed carry of handguns is allowed in most buildings on the Lawrence and Edwards campuses. The law does not allow individual instructors or employees to prohibit concealed carry of handguns in classrooms, labs, or offices to which they are assigned, unless adequate security measures (detectors and armed personnel) are provided at all public entrances to the space.

Is Concealed Carry Allowed in my Student's Residence Hall or Campus Apartment?

Yes, although few students in residence halls will be legally eligible to carry a concealed handgun. KU Student Housing reports that only 8 percent of its residents (students **and** staff) are 21 or older and the vast majority of age-eligible students, 85 percent, live in Jayhawker Towers.

When not on the person, the handgun should be stored in a secure storage device. Residents are responsible for acquiring their own approved handgun storage device.

What is the Policy?

KU and KBOR policy define the safe possession of handguns and responsibilities of the carrier. Simply put, handguns must be secured in a holster that covers the trigger area and secures any external hammer in an un-cocked position. The safety must be on and the handgun must be carried without a chambered round of ammunition. The handgun must also not be seen by others and be under the carrier's custody and control – on the body or in a backpack or purse – or in a safe storage device or secure location – such as a locked vehicle. Except when necessary for transferring to safe storage or self-defense, a handgun must not be openly displayed. Violations of policy may result in individuals being asked to leave campus with the weapon and being cited for trespass if they refuse. University employees or students who violate policy may face discipline through applicable university codes of conduct. [Learn more.](#)

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Who May Carry a Concealed Handgun?

Individuals age 21 and older who are not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law from possessing a firearm may carry a concealed handgun. A license is not required to carry. It is **not lawful** to carry a firearm when under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Federal regulations prohibit individuals with a nonimmigrant visa from possessing or receiving firearms or ammunition.

What is Considered "Concealed"?

Handguns must be in a holster on the body of the carrier and concealed by clothing. Handguns may also be kept concealed in a backpack or purse provided the backpack or purse is under the custody and control of the person. If a handgun is stored in a vehicle on campus, the handgun must be secured and concealed from view. KU policy also mandates [additional conditions for all concealed handguns](#). It is the responsibility of the carrier to ensure the handgun is kept securely and not seen.

Is Open Carry Allowed?

No. Open carry of handguns or other firearms is not permitted on either the Lawrence or Edwards campuses. Anyone who sees an openly carried firearm on campus should call 911 immediately.

If a Student is Under 21 but has a Concealed Carry License from Another State, Can They Carry on KU's Campus?

Generally, yes. The State of Kansas recognizes all valid concealed carry licenses issued by another state or the District of Columbia. The majority of states set the age limit at 21, although some choose age 18. A small number of states allow residents age 21 and older to carry and active-duty military 18 and older to carry.

What are the Requirements for Lock Boxes and Holsters?

Unsecured firearms can contribute to accidental shootings as well as offer the opportunity for others to use firearms in an unauthorized or unlawful manner.

The consumer marketplace offers numerous varieties and styles of gunlocks and secure storage available for gun owners to purchase that reduce the potential for theft or a handgun's misuse.

KU policy requires that when not on the person or under their custody and control, the handgun must be both secured and concealed from view. The characteristics of one's secure storage choice will be dependent upon the style of handgun, the general location where it will be stored, such as a vehicle or residence; the specific location where it will be stored, such as a desk, cabinet or vehicle console; and other individuals who may have easy access to the storage location.

Holsters must completely cover the trigger and trigger guard area and should secure any external hammer in an un-cocked position through the use of a strap or other means. The holster must have sufficient tension or grip on the handgun to retain it in the holster even when subjected to unexpected jostling.

Can I Sign Up for the Campus Alert Service?

The university has acquired an app that will allow students, parents and parents of minors — primarily students visiting on-campus academic, arts or sports camps — to sign up for an [on-campus alert service](#).

In the Event of an Emergency, What Should I Do?

In the unlikely event of a campus attack visit alerts.ku.edu. The site will provide updates and information as well as issue an all-clear notice. Should an active attack be underway, please refrain from immediately calling your student as audible notifications on cell phones could disclose your student's location to an attacker.

The University of Kansas is obliged to follow this law. Any changes to the law must come through the state legislative process.

