



**Policy Title: Campus Weapon Regulations**

**Policy Number:**

**Date Issued: March 25, 2019**

**Responsible Executive: Associate Vice  
President, Public Safety and Security**

**Date Last Revised:**

**Responsible Office: Department of Public Safety**

## **Campus Weapon Regulations Policy**

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### **Policy Statement**

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Baylor University (“Baylor” or the “University”) seeks to provide a safe, secure environment in which to pursue its educational mission. Consequently, all members of the Baylor community, including faculty, staff, students, University affiliates, and visitors are prohibited from possessing firearms, explosives, other dangerous weapons, and replicas of dangerous weapons (as described in this policy) while on Baylor property, in buildings where a Baylor-sponsored activity is held, and/or in a passenger transportation vehicle either owned by or contracted by Baylor University. This prohibition against weapons possession is in effect to the full extent allowed under Texas laws, including laws pertaining to weapons generally ([Texas Penal Code Chapter 46](#)) and to concealed handgun licenses ([Texas Penal Code Section 46.035](#)).

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### **Reason for the Policy**

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The policy was written to enhance campus safety and security. The policy consolidates several different Baylor policies that addressed weapons on campus and establishes definitive regulations for the possession of weapons while on Baylor property. This policy also memorializes the rules and regulations enacted by the University regarding the carrying of concealed handguns by license holders on campus or Baylor University-owned property.

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### **Individuals/Entities Affected by this Policy**

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This policy applies to all Baylor University students, employees, affiliates, and visitors while on campus or University-owned property.

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## Exclusions

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This policy does not apply to:

1. Military personnel in the performance of their official duties or commissioned peace officers as defined in Texas Code of Criminal Procedures, [Article 2.12.](#)
2. Exceptions permitted in writing given by BUPD's Chief of Police, or designee.
3. Approved University experiments or projects, if written permission has first been obtained from the Baylor Chief of Police, or designee.
4. Official ROTC activities, provided that the person in charge of the activity has alerted the Baylor Chief of Police, or designee, in advance of the activity utilizing the weapons.
5. State law ([Texas Labor Code § 52.061](#)) permits employees (including Baylor employees) who hold concealed handgun licenses and lawfully possess a firearm or ammunition to store or transport the firearm or ammunition in a locked, privately owned vehicle in a parking lot, garage, or other parking area that the employer provides to the employee. In addition, state law ([Texas Government Code § 411.2032](#)) permits persons who hold concealed handgun licenses (including enrolled Baylor students) to store or transport a firearm or ammunition in a locked, privately owned or leased vehicle located in Baylor parking facilities or on-campus streets or driveways.

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## Related Documents and Forms

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[Texas Penal Code § 30.06](#)

[Texas Penal Code § 30.07](#)

[Texas Penal Code § 46.03](#)

[Texas Penal Code § 46.035](#)

[Texas Penal Code § 46.05](#)

[Texas Government Code Chapter 411 Subchapter H](#)

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## University Policies and Documents

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[Violence in the Workplace BU-PP 835](#)

[Baylor Student Code of Conduct](#)

[Baylor University Campus Carry Statement](#)

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## Definitions

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These definitions apply to terms as they are used in this policy.

Baylor Community Member	Baylor University students, employees, affiliates, and vendors of the University
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Baylor University Property	Buildings, grounds, and land that are owned by Baylor University or controlled by Baylor University via leases or other formal contractual arrangements to house ongoing Baylor University operations.
BUPD	Baylor University Police Department
Handgun or Pistol	A handgun is any firearm that is designed, made, or adapted to be fired with one hand. This characteristic differentiates handguns as a general class of firearms from long guns such as rifles and shotguns (which usually can be braced against the shoulder). The most common types of handguns carried by license holders are semi-automatic pistols and to a lesser degree revolvers.
License Holder	A person licensed to carry a handgun under Chapter 411 of the Texas Government Code.
Open Carry	The handgun is intentionally displayed by the license holder.
Possession	Possession includes, but is not limited to, having the weapon on one's person or storing the weapon in workplaces, residential facilities, lockers, desks, briefcases, any type of carrying bags or containers, or vehicles on University property.
Premises	Building or part of a building.
Weapon	<p>Encompasses any object or substance designed to inflict a wound, incapacitate, or cause injury, and includes, but is not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• firearms, including, without limitation, rifles, shotguns, handguns;</li> <li>• other weapons that expel projectiles to include BB or pellet guns, compressed-air guns, stun guns (expels projectiles), paintball or airsoft guns;</li> <li>• ammunition, including materials for making ammunition;</li> <li>• explosive material or components, including bombs, grenades, rockets, fireworks, and explosive targets;</li> <li>• chemical weapons (<u>other than small chemical dispensers sold commercially for personal protection, such as pepper spray</u>);</li> <li>• daggers, swords, spears, knives with blades longer than 5½ inches, switchblades, butterfly knives, and other bladed weapons (including those intended for ceremonial or decorative uses);</li> <li>• slingshots, bow and arrows, clubs, blackjacks, nightsticks, hunting or martial arts weapons;</li> <li>• weapons prohibited by Texas Penal Code, Section 46.05, Prohibited Weapons;</li> <li>• replicas or other objects that are made to look like actual weapons and could reasonably be mistaken by community members or police officers as actual weapons (including toy, fake, or facsimile weapons).</li> </ul>

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	Any questions about whether an item may constitute a “weapon” addressed by this policy should be directed to BUPD.
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## Contacts

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Subject	Contact	Telephone	Office email/web site
Policy	Associate Vice President, Public Safety and Security	254-710-4619	<a href="http://www.baylor.edu/dps/index.php?id=866871">www.baylor.edu/dps/index.php?id=866871</a>
	Baylor University Police Department	254-710-2222	<a href="http://www.baylor.edu/dps/index.php?id=941073">www.baylor.edu/dps/index.php?id=941073</a>
	Office of General Counsel	254-710-3821	<a href="http://www.baylor.edu/ogc/index.php">www.baylor.edu/ogc/index.php</a>

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## Responsibilities

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<b>Associate Vice President, Public Safety and Security</b>	The staff member who manages and leads the BUDPS
<b>Office of General Counsel</b>	Manages and supervises all legal affairs for Baylor University
<b>Chief of Police</b>	The staff member who manages and leads the BUPD

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## Principles

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Baylor University is a weapons-free campus.

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## Operational Guidelines

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1. All members of the Baylor community and visitors are personally responsible for complying with state and federal laws, as well as University policies concerning the possession of weapons on campus.
  2. Baylor University policy prohibits the carrying, possession, or storing of weapons on the Baylor campus or Baylor-owned property.
  3. All weapons are banned from Baylor student housing.
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## Procedures

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1. Reporting Violations of this Policy: Any violations of this policy should be reported to BUPD.
2. Exemption requests from this policy must be made in writing and submitted to the Baylor Chief of Police, or designee, at least one week prior to the date of the requested
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exemption or activity.

- The Baylor Chief of Police, or designee, will make notification to the Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Security of the request and they will jointly determine a response to the request.
  - The Baylor Chief of Police, or designee, will notify the requestor via email within two business days concerning the decision on their request. If the request is granted, appropriate University officials will be notified.
3. The BUPD does not provide storage of non-BUPD firearms.
  4. Texas Penal Code Section 46.03, Place Weapons Prohibited, makes it a criminal offense for anyone to be in possession of any **firearm** while on the premises of Baylor University as [Baylor University's response to Texas Senate Bill 11](#) was to opt out of campus carry.
  5. Texas Penal Code Section 46.035, Unlawful Carrying of Handgun by License Holder, strictly forbids the open carry of a handgun on the grounds of an institution of higher education.
  6. Questions concerning this policy should be directed to BUPD at 254-710-2211.

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## **Sanctions**

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Any violations of Baylor University policy by an individual and/or unit not in compliance with the above procedures and the applicable laws will be dealt with in accordance with applicable University policies, which may include disciplinary actions up to and including termination or expulsion from the University.

Criminal legal action may also be pursued against those who violate legal prohibitions regarding weapon possession on campus.