

Weapons and Firearms Policy

Statement of Purpose

Eureka College is committed to providing a safe and supportive campus environment for our campus community and our visitors. The Eureka College establishes the Eureka College Weapons and Firearms Policy pursuant to the 2013 Illinois Firearm Concealed Carry Act and its enabling regulations (430 ILCS 66).

Persons Covered by this Policy

This Policy applies to all employees, students, persons conducting business, or individuals visiting the Eureka campus. Visitors include, but are not limited to, prospective students, former students, and their respective families.

Weapons or Firearms

Eureka maintains a Weapons and Firearms-Free Campus. No person covered by this policy, unless authorized by law or specifically exempted by federal or state law or Eureka College regulation, is authorized to possess a weapon or firearm while engaged in Eureka College-related business or activities.

Definitions

- A. A “firearm” is defined as a loaded or unloaded handgun. A “handgun” is defined as any device which is designed to expel a projectile or projectiles by the action of an explosion, expansion of gas, or escape of gas that is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand.
- B. A “weapon” is defined as:
- Any device, whether loaded or unloaded, that shoots a bullet, pellet, flare, or any other projectile including those powered by CO₂. This includes, but is not limited to, machine guns, rifles, shotguns, handguns or other firearm, BB/pellet gun, spring gun, paint ball gun, flare gun, stun gun, taser or dart gun and any ammunition for any such device. Any replica of the foregoing is also prohibited.
 - Any explosive device including, but not limited to, firecrackers and black powder.
 - Any device that is designed or traditionally used to inflict harm including, but not limited to, bows and arrows, any knife with a blade longer than 3 inches, hunting knife, fixed blade knife, throwing knives, dagger, razor or other cutting instrument where the blade of which is exposed.

Locations at Which Policy Applies

This Policy includes any vehicle, parking lot, building, classroom, laboratory, artistic venue, or entertainment venue whether owned, leased, or operated by Eureka College, and any real property, including parking areas, sidewalks, and common areas under the control of Eureka College.

Exceptions

The provisions of this Policy do not apply to the possession of weapons or firearms by Eureka City Police Department Officers while on duty, or at any Eureka College-sponsored activity *if the possession of weapons or firearms is relation to one of the following exceptions:*

- A. The weapon or firearm is used in connection with a course or weapons education course offered in the regular course offered in the regular course of business or approved and authorized by Eureka College
- B. The weapon or firearm is carried by a full-time law enforcement officer required to carry a weapon or firearm as a condition of his or her employment; the weapon or firearm is carried by an enforcement officer from an external agency conducting official business at Eureka College; or any other exception is deemed necessary as

determined by the Eureka College in consultation with the Eureka City Police Department/Chief of Police.

Signage

Eureka College shall determine placement of clearly and conspicuously posted signs at all building and restricted parking area entrances stating that concealed firearms are prohibited. Signs shall be in accordance with the design approved by the Illinois State Police.

Enforcement

Eureka College, in consultation with local law enforcement, shall be responsible for the development and promulgation of procedures and protocols for storage and confiscation of weapons.

The Dean of Students shall be the designee of the President of Eureka College responsible for reporting to the Department of State Police any student or visitor who is determined to pose a clear and present danger.

Any student found to have carried a weapon or firearm onto the property of Eureka College, or found to be carrying a weapon or firearm under circumstances in which the student should have known that he or she was in possession of a weapon or firearm, may be subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension or immediate dismissal from Eureka College.

Any employee including faculty or staff member found to have carried a weapon or firearm onto the property of Eureka College, or found to be carrying a weapon or firearm under circumstances in which the employee should have known that he or she was in possession of a weapon or firearm, may be subject to discipline up to and including, but not limited to, immediate termination of employment, subject to such other employment rules or regulations in place.

Any individual visiting or conducting business on the property of Eureka College found to have carried a weapon or firearm onto the property of Eureka College, or under circumstances in which the person should have known that he or she was in possession of a weapon or firearm, may be banned from Eureka College immediately.