

# Campus Conceal Carry Policy

(Effective August 1, 2017)

## Policy Statement

Cisco College is committed to maintaining a safe environment for students, faculty, staff, and guests, while at the same time respecting the rights of individuals who are licensed to carry a concealed handgun where permitted by law. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for compliance with state campus carry law. Individuals who are licensed to carry may do so on Cisco College campus premises except in locations and at activities prohibited by law or by this policy.

## Policy Application

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students, vendors, guests, visitors, individuals, and organizations doing business on behalf of the College at all campus locations. This policy does not apply to commissioned peace officers as defined in article 2.12 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures.

## Campus Carry Procedures and Responsibilities.

- I. **Open Carry is Prohibited.** All persons, including license holders, are prohibited from openly carrying a handgun in Cisco College campus buildings or on campus premises, including on any public driveway, street, walkway (sidewalk), parking lot, or other parking area on the campus premises.
- II. **Carrying of Concealed Handgun by a License Holder.**
  - A. **Right to Carry.** A license holder may carry a concealed handgun while on the campus premises (including public driveways, streets, walkways or sidewalks, parking lots, and other parking areas) and in College passenger transportation vehicles, unless prohibited by state or federal law, or by this policy. License holders are responsible for knowing areas where carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited where notice is not required to be posted.
  - B. **Intoxication.** A license holder may not carry a concealed handgun while intoxicated.
  - C. **Display of Concealed Handgun.** A license holder may not carry a partially or wholly visible handgun, or intentionally or knowingly display a handgun in plain view of another person, even if holstered, in Cisco College buildings or campus premises, including public driveways, streets, walkways, sidewalks or parking areas, on the premises of the College.
  - D. **Requirement to Display License.** A license holder must display his or her License to Carry (LTC) when directed by a law enforcement officer in accordance with section 411.205 of the Texas Government Code. Otherwise, an individual is not required to disclose whether he or she is a license holder in order to participate in any program or service offered by Cisco College, except as required by law.
- III. **Carrying of Concealed Handgun by Employees.** An employee who lawfully holds a License to Carry (LTC) may carry a concealed handgun into his or her work area unless prohibited by law or this policy. An employee whose possession, storage, or use of a handgun results in personal injury or property damage is personally liable for the injury or damage, and is not entitled to immunity under section 411.208 of the Government Code or any other immunity the individual may otherwise be entitled to as a College employee.

IV. Locations and Activities where Concealed Handguns are prohibited. A license holder is prohibited from carrying a concealed handgun on to the campus premises where prohibited by law and where prohibited by this policy based on the nature of the student population, specific safety concerns, and uniqueness of the campus environment.

V. Concealed handguns are prohibited on Cisco College Premises:

1. at a location where a high school sporting event or interscholastic event (function or program involving elementary, middle, or secondary school students) is taking place as prohibited under section 46.035(b)(2) of the Texas Penal Code, or
2. at a location where intercollegiate, club, and intramural athletic events occur on the campus premises, specifically, on the Cisco Campus, the Gym, outdoor practice facilities, baseball field, softball field, those fields used for intramurals activities and the B.B Owen Rodeo Arena;
3. at a location used as an established place of religious worship as prohibited under section 46.035(b)(6) of the Texas Penal Code;
4. at a location designated as a polling place on the day of a federal, state, or local election, including while early voting is in progress as set out in section 46.03(a)(2) of the Texas Penal Code;
5. at a location where the campus premises is used by a court unless the handgun is carried pursuant to written regulation or written authorization of the court in accordance with section 46.03(a)(3) of the Texas Penal Code;
6. in a location where substances designated as “potentially dangerous to life and health” are present, such as chemistry laboratories or other areas containing toxic substances and/or explosive gasses. Specifically, the following locations:

Cisco College Main Campus

- Chemistry lab # 18 Stamey Hall (presence and use of toxic chemicals)
- Chemistry lab # 16 Stamey Hall (presence and use of toxic chemicals)
- Chemistry store room Stamey Hall (presence and storage of toxic chemicals)
- Welding classroom/lab Vo-Tech II building room # 54 (presence, use and storage of industrial gasses in pressurized cylinders)
- Automotive Technology classroom and shop (presence, use and storage of industrial gasses in pressurized cylinders)
- Athletic Training Building (sharps containers, biohazard potential)

Cisco College Abilene Educational Center

- Industrial technologies wing room #'s 132, 134, 135, 136, 138, 140, 142, 143 (presence, use, and storage of industrial gasses in pressurized cylinders)
- Exterior HVAC buildings (presence, use, and storage of industrial gasses in pressurized cylinders)
- Anatomy and Physiology lab # 144 (sharps containers, biohazard potential)
- Chemical prep room #145 (presence and use of toxic chemicals)

- Chemistry storeroom # 145B (presence and storage of toxic chemicals)
  - Chemistry lab # 147 (presence and use of toxic chemicals)
  - Respiratory care class room/lab # 155 (presence, use, and storage of medical oxygen and medical air in pressurized cylinders)
  - Nursing lab # 220 (Sharps containers, biohazard potential)
  - Bio-technology classroom #221 (bio-hazard potential)
  - Bio-technology lab # 221A (bio-hazard potential)
  - Phlebotomy class room/lab # 222 (Sharps containers, bio-hazard potential)
  - Nursing lab # 237 (Sharps containers, biohazard potential)
7. at a location where large-scale events/activities (“large-scale event/activity” means a function or event, other than a classroom or academic program, where attendance is reasonably anticipated to exceed 200 individuals) occur on the campus premises.

VI. Concealed handguns are prohibited at the following activities:

1. Intercollegiate, club, and intramural athletic events occurring on the campus premises.
2. Cisco College graduation ceremonies occurring on campus premises.
3. Interscholastic events (functions or programs involving elementary, middle, or secondary school students). Responsible Party: Chief of Police

VII. Obligation to Provide Notice Where Concealed Handguns are Prohibited. The College shall provide notice at all locations and activities where concealed handguns are prohibited under this policy and may post notice where handguns are expressly prohibited but where notice is not required to be posted by law. The language of the notice, which is set out in section 30.06 of the Texas Penal Code, shall not be altered in any way unless revised by state law. Any individual who without authorization, tampers with, defaces, modifies or removes a notice provided pursuant to this policy is subject to disciplinary action, including trespass from campus, suspension, termination of employment or a business relationship, and is subject to criminal prosecution.

A. Notice required under this policy must read:

*Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with a concealed handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun.*

- B. Notice must be provided in writing and on a card or other document in both English and Spanish. When notice is posted at a location, the sign must appear in contrasting colors with block letters at least one (1) inch in height, displayed in a conspicuous manner that is clearly visible to the public, and at a sufficient distance from the location or Activity to inform a license holder that entry on the property or presence at the Activity with a concealed handgun is prohibited.
- C. The College shall publish this policy annually in the policy manual and student handbook, and on a webpage dedicated to the carrying of concealed handguns on campus premises.
- D. Cisco College facility use agreements shall include pertinent provisions of this policy. Responsible Party: Chief of Police

VIII. Campus Housing. A concealed handgun may be carried or stored in campus housing as set out in this policy.

A. Residents.

1. A license holder who resides in campus housing may carry a concealed handgun into campus housing and may store the weapon in his or her private residential room, with the exception of periods between the spring and fall semesters if the facility hosts summer camps attended by minors.
2. A campus housing resident who brings a concealed handgun into their residence hall must carry the weapon on his or her person at all times or store it in his or her private residential room.
3. A campus housing resident, who holds a license to carry and wants to store a handgun in his/her private residential room must provide and properly secure their own locking steel container designed and manufactured for the storage of a handgun. The locking container must be approved by the College. Authorized locking containers must :
  - a) Be purposefully designed to secure firearms, and
  - b) Be equipped with a cable tether to facilitate securing and may be secured by either key, combination or biometric lock.

An approved list of firearm storage containers can be located on the college campus safety webpage or in the Student Life Office.

4. A campus housing resident may not intentionally or knowingly display a handgun in plain view of another person in campus housing except as necessary to properly store the weapon in his or her private residential room.
5. A negligent discharge of a firearm on campus or in housing may be considered as grounds for removal from campus. Criminal charges may also be considered.

B. Non-Residents.

1. A license holder who does not reside in campus housing may carry a concealed handgun into campus housing except during periods between the spring and fall semesters if the facility is hosting a summer camp attended by minors.
2. The handgun must be concealed on the non-resident's person at all times and may not be stored in a campus housing room.

C. Responsible 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. Responsible Party: Vice President for Student Services

IX. Temporarily Prohibiting Concealed Handguns on Campus Premises.

- A. The President or President's designee may temporarily prohibit the carrying of concealed handguns for up to seven (7) days in order to promote safety on the campus premises:

1. when an Activity has a history for violence; or
  2. where a large-scale event/activity (“large-scale event/activity” means a function or event, other than a classroom or academic program, where attendance is reasonably anticipated to exceed 200 individuals, due to the uniqueness of the campus environment, specific threat of violence, or other safety considerations present a reasonable threat to health or safety.
- B. The College Chief of Police may temporarily prohibit the carrying of concealed handguns on the campus premises:
1. when it reasonably appears there is threat of injury to human life, destruction to College property, or a threat of willful disruption of orderly operation of the College as defined in section 51.231 of the Education Code, or
  2. upon receipt of credible information of imminent injury to human life or destruction to College property.
- X. **Sanctions for Violating this Policy.** Any individual who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action to include removal from residence hall, trespass from campus, suspension, or termination of employment or a business relationship, and is subject to criminal prosecution. **Responsible Party:** Executive Council Administrators
- XI. **Report to Legislature.** The College shall prepare a report for the Texas Legislature describing the campus rules adopted to regulate the carrying of concealed handguns on campus and the reasons for the rules not later than September 1 of every even-numbered year. **Responsible Party:** President
- XII. **Amending Policy.** The President may amend this policy as necessary for campus safety, to include permanently designating new or additional locations where the carrying of concealed handguns on campus premises is prohibited. Any prohibition must be based on specific safety considerations, the nature of the student population, and the uniqueness of the campus environment and may not generally prohibit or have the effect of generally prohibiting license holders from carrying concealed handguns on campus premises.
- A. Any amendment to this policy that has the effect of restricting the lawful carrying of a concealed handgun by a license holder must be submitted to the Board of Regents within 90 days of the President’s approval, and will not take effect until reviewed by the Board. **Responsible Party:** President

**References and Cross-references.**

Tex. Gov’t Code, Chapter 411

Tex. Educ. Code, section 51.231

Tex. Penal Code, Chapter 30

Tex. Code. Crim. Proc., article 2.12

Tex. Penal Code, Chapter 46

Approved 4-10-2017