



Firearms in Foster Care

State	Firearms allowed in Foster Care?	Cited Language From State Administrative Code	State	Firearms allowed in Foster Care?	Cited Language From State Administrative Code
AL	Yes	Firearms must be unloaded during storage and kept in locked storage inaccessible to children. Ammunition shall be locked in a storage area separate from firearms and inaccessible to children (Source)	DE	--	N/A
AK	No	Firearms are not allowed in assisted living homes licensed for six or more residents, in a child care center, residential child care facility, and maternity home (Source)	DC	Yes	Firearms must be unloaded in a locked container inaccessible to children; equipped with tamper-resistant mechanical lock or other safety device; stored separately from ammunition, which must also be locked and stored separately from firearms (Source)
AZ	Yes	Firearms and ammunition must both be in locked storage inaccessible to children. Firearms must be: trigger-locked/fully inoperable while stored, ammunition must be stored in separate location from firearms (Source)	FL	Yes	Firearms in Foster Care policies must comply with Section 790.174, F.S: Firearm must be securely locked, in a secure location and/or with a secure safety lock. Foster Parents looking to possess a firearm must sign CF-FSP 5343, Acknowledgement of Firearm Safety Requirements (Source)
AR	Yes	Firearms must be unloaded; maintained in secure, locked location; and stored separately from ammunition (Source)	GA	Yes	Firearms must be locked and kept away from children (Source)
CA	Yes	Firearms must be locked and stored where inaccessible to children. In lieu of locked storage of firearms, foster parents may use trigger locks or remove firing pin. Firing pins and ammunition must be stored and locked separately from firearms (Source)	HI	Yes	Firearms shall be protected from children (Source)
CO	Yes	Firearms must be locked and stored where inaccessible to children. Ammunition must be stored in separate, locked container (Source)	ID	Yes	Firearms shall be locked and stored away with trigger lock; or unassembled and inoperable, unloaded and fully inoperable and incapable of being assembled and fired; stored in a locked cabinet or container, unloaded and stored in a cabinet or storage container that is inaccessible to children; locked in a gun safe that is inaccessible to children (Source)
CT	YES	Must notify department of possession of firearm. Firearms and ammunition must be locked in separate places inaccessible to children. Whenever practicable, firearms shall be equipped with trigger lock. Must be unloaded. Keys to the locked storage area of firearms, ammunition, etc. must be in secure possession of adult or reasonably secure from children (Source)	IL	Yes	Firearms and ammunition must be locked up at all times and kept in places inaccessible to children. Firearms must be in accordance with State or federal law. Loaded guns shall not be kept in foster home unless required by law enforcement and in accordance with their law enforcement agency's safety procedures. Ammunition must be locked and secured in a place inaccessible to children (Source)

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IN	Yes	Foster parents shall comply with state and local laws with regard to firearms. Firearms shall be unloaded and locked up. Ammunition must be locked up and safely stored separately from firearm. Foster children shall not be given access to firearms unless approved by department for educational or recreational purposes (Source)	MA	Yes	Firearm must be licensed and registered in accordance to state law. Firearm must be locked or fully inoperable and stored without ammunition in a locked area. Ammunition must be separately stored and locked from firearm (Source)
IA	Yes	Firearms and ammunition must be inaccessible to children. Firearms must be in a locked place and ammunition shall be maintained in a locked place separate from firearms. Any motor vehicle used to transport foster children shall not contain a loaded gun and any ammunition in the vehicle must be kept separate, and locked away (Source)	MI	--	N/A
KS	Yes	Firearms shall be stored unloaded and in a locked container, closet, or cabinet. If locked container, cabinet, or closet is constructed in whole or in part of glass or Plexiglass, each firearm shall be additionally secured with a hammer lock, barrel lock, or trigger guard. Ammunition shall be kept secured and locked in a storage container designed for that purpose separate from firearm. Each key to a locked storage container of guns, ammunition, and other weapons must be in possession and control of licensee at all times (Source)	MN	--	N/A
KY	Yes	Must be in accordance with KRS 527.100 AND 527.110 (Source)	MS	Yes	The home shall be safeguarded, inside and out, against firearms (Source)
LA	Yes	Store unloaded firearms and ammunition in separate locked places, inaccessible to children (Source)	MO	Yes	Any and all firearms and ammunition shall be stored and locked with keys secured so as to be inaccessible to children. Foster parents shall store ammunition separately from any weapons. No firearms shall be kept in any vehicle transporting foster children, UNLESS the firearm is in a locked glove box or other locked container or in the trunk of the vehicle. An exception will be made for those who have to carry a weapon as part of their job responsibilities-- i.e. law enforcement. All firearms must comply with state, federal, and/or local government ordinance (Source)
ME	Yes	Firearms must be locked up and unloaded. Ammunition shall be locked separately. Weapons shall not be transported in any vehicle with children unless the weapon is made inoperable and inaccessible (Source)	MT	Yes	Guns and ammunition shall be kept in locked storage with guns stored separately from ammunition. Guns kept in vehicles shall be locked in the glove compartment or gun rack, shall be unloaded, and ammunition must be kept locked in a separate location in the vehicle (Source)
MD	Yes	Firearms must be in accordance with all state and federal laws pertaining to permits, registration, and maintenance of firearms. Firearms and ammunition are maintained in a locked storage inaccessible to children. Assure that loaded firearms are not kept in home unless a State, federal, or local law enforcement agent lives in the home and maintains and stores the firearms in accordance with state, federal, and local law enforcement offices safety procedures (Source)	NE	Yes	All weapons and firearms are deactivated and locked or stored in a locked cabinet or area; and all ammunition is stored in a locked cabinet or area separate from firearms (Source)

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NV	--	N/A	OH	--	Firearms must be stored in an inoperative condition in a locked area and inaccessible to children (Source)
NH	Yes	Foster Parent applicant must inform licensing agency if he/she or other household member possesses any weapon or firearms. If so, all weapons and firearms in the foster home shall be kept in a locked cabinet, storage container, or be secured with trigger locks. Ammunition, projectiles, etc. shall be locked and stored separate from firearms. All weapons and firearms shall be secured and inaccessible when carried in a vehicle operated by foster parents or other household member in which children in care are transported (Source)	OK	--	N/A
			OR	--	N/A
NJ	Yes	All firearms shall be secured in a locked steel gun vault approved by the Office of Licensing and all ammunition shall be secured in a locked area separate from firearm storage vault (Source)	PA	--	N/A
NM	Yes	All weapons owned or acquired by a foster family shall be stored and locked with ammunition stored separately as per the PSD approved weapons safety agreement. The foster family shall provide a signed copy of the PSD approved weapons safety agreement to the licensing agent (Source)	RI	Yes	The Department must be informed if a resident of the household owns or possesses any firearm. Ownership of firearms must conform to state and local laws. Any firearm must be stored in an area inaccessible to children. Any ammunition must be stored separately from the weapon of firearm in a locked space (Source)
NY	Yes	All firearms, rifles, and shotguns as defined in Section 265.00 of the Penal Law, must be securely stored and must be maintained in compliance with applicable State and Local standards regarding the licensing, storage, and maintenance of such weapons (Source)	SC	Yes	Firearms and any ammunition shall be kept in locked storage except when being legally carried upon the foster parent's person; being used for educational, recreational, or defense of self or property purposes by the foster parent; or being cleaned by the foster parent (Source)
NC	Yes	All explosive materials, ammunition, and firearms shall be stored separately, in locked places (Source)	SD	Yes	Firearms must be inaccessible to children. Firearms must be kept unloaded, in a locked room, closet, cabinet or carrying case, and separate from ammunition (Source)
ND	Yes	Firearms must be kept in locked storage or trigger locks must be used, and ammunition must be kept separate from firearms (Source)	TN	--	N/A

State	Firearms allowed in Foster Care?	Cited Language From State Administrative Code	State	Firearms allowed in Foster Care?	Cited Language From State Administrative Code
TX	Yes	<p>Locked storage for weapons and ammunition. Locked storage must be made of strong, unbreakable material. If the locked storage has a glass or another breakable front or enclosure, guns must be secured with a locked cable or chain placed through the trigger guard. Firearms and ammunition must be locked and stored separately.</p> <p>Ammunition may be stored with weapons in the same location provided that access to both ammunition and weapons cannot be accessed with the same key/combination. Foster parents must notify relevant parties of addition to weapons/firearms. Firearms that are strictly ornamental are excluded from this policy. Firearms must be unloaded, inaccessible to children, and legally possessed if transporting children in a vehicle where firearms are present.</p> <p>A caregiver may transport a child in a vehicle where a handgun is present if: the handgun is in the possession and control of the caregiver and the caregiver is licensed to carry the handgun under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, of the Government Code (Source)</p>	WA	Yes	<p>Firearms must be licensed. Firearms and ammunition must be kept in a locked container, gun cabinet, gun safe, or another storage area made of strong, unbreakable material when not in use.</p> <p>If storage cabinet has a glass or another breakable material display, the guns must be secured with a locked cable or chain placed through the trigger guards. Ammunition must be stored in a place that is separate from firearms (Source)</p>
UT	Yes	<p>Firearms and ammunition must be inaccessible to children at all times. Firearms and ammunition that are stored together must be securely locked in security vaults or locked cases, not in glass fronted display cases. Firearms stored in display cases shall be rendered inoperable with trigger locks, bolts removed or other disabling methods. Ammunition for those firearms shall be kept securely locked in a separate location (Source)</p>	WV	Yes	<p>Guns and ammunition shall be kept in a locked cabinet or locked closet (Source)</p>
VT	Yes	<p>Any firearm shall be kept in a locked storage space with ammunition stored separately in a locked space, or shall be incapacitated by means of locking of essential parts of firearm or the removal and separate locking of such parts (Source)</p>	WI	Yes	<p>No loaded firearm may be kept in a foster home. Firearms must be unloaded and not readily accessible to foster children. Ammunition materials and firearms shall be stored in locked areas that are not readily accessible to children. A firearm need not be locked in an area not readily accessible to children if it has been disassembled in such a manner that it is not operable. Trigger locks alone do not meet above requirements. A weapon cabinet with a glass front is not considered secure, even if it can be locked (Source)</p>
VA	Yes	<p>Firearms and ammunition must be unloaded and locked. Ammunition must be stored and locked separate from firearms (Source)</p>	WY	Yes	<p>Firearms and ammunition shall be stored and locked separately and made inaccessible to children. All Foster Homes are required to comply with Chapter 3 Section 18 (k) in reference to weapons/firearms (Source)</p>



Firearms in Foster Care – Citations

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