

Campus Concealed Carry

Temple College adheres to all state and federal laws and is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for the students, faculty members, employees, and visitors of Temple College.

Senate Bill 11 of the 84th Legislative Session and Government Code 411.2031 generally authorizes a handgun license holder to carry a concealed handgun on the campus of a community college effective August 1, 2017, subject to rules adopted in accordance with the legislation. As outlined in the legislation, an institution may create a rule that prohibits concealed carry from specific campus areas or activities as long as the rule does not generally prohibit or have the effect of generally prohibiting concealed carry of handguns by license holders.

Open carry of handguns is not authorized as outlined in HB 910, Government Code Sec. 411.2031, and Penal Code 46.035. The open carry law effective January 1, 2016, provides that a handgun license holder cannot carry a partially or wholly visible handgun, regardless if it is holstered, and intentionally or knowingly display the handgun in plain view of another person on the premises of an institution of higher education, or any public or private driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area of an institution of higher education.

As provided by law, handgun license holders may carry concealed weapons on Temple College campuses/centers, except for the excluded areas indicated below.

Permanent Exclusion Zones:

Main Campus (2600 South First Street, Temple, Texas 76504)

Student Success Center, Testing Center, room 3617 - Language in the contracts with the College Board, Prometric Test Center, and Pearson Education prohibits the carrying of weapons in the area of the testing center where testing is being conducted.

The University Courtyard Apartments and Temple College Apartments are not owned or leased by Temple College. Temple College will follow the policies established by these entities related to the carry and storage of concealed handguns at these locations.

Texas Bioscience Institute (TBI) (5701 Airport Road, Temple, Texas 76504)

The TBI is not owned or leased by Temple College. Temple College will follow the policies established by Baylor Scott & White Healthcare System related to the carrying of concealed handguns at this location.

East Williamson County Higher Education Center – Taylor (EWCHEC-Taylor) - 516 North Main Street, Taylor, Texas 76574

The Taylor Independent School District (ISD) owns the EWCHEC-Taylor location. Temple College will follow the policies established by Taylor ISD related to the carrying of concealed handguns at this location.

East Williamson County Higher Education Center – Hutto (EWCHEC-Hutto) - 1600 Innovation Boulevard, Hutto, Texas 78634

Texas State Technical College (TSTC) owns the EWCHEC-Hutto location. Temple College will follow the policies established by TSTC related to the carrying of concealed handguns at this location.

Temporary Exclusion Zones:

Concealed handgun carry is not permitted on the premises where a high school, collegiate, or professional sporting event or interscholastic event (e.g., University Interscholastic League event) is taking place outlined in Texas Penal Code Sec. 46.035(b)(2). Temporary Texas Penal Code 30.06 signage must be displayed in a conspicuous manner clearly visible to the public at the beginning of such events, during the events, and must be removed at the conclusion of such events.

Any room used as a formal hearing location that operates similar to a court, i.e., where an individual or panel is designated under institutional policy to adjudicate the rights or privileges of a student or an employee of the institution may be excluded as outline in Texas Penal Code Section 46.03(a)(3).

Texas Penal Code Sec. 46.035(c) - A license holder commits an offense if the license holder intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carries a handgun under the authority of Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, regardless of whether the handgun is concealed or carried in a shoulder or belt holster, in the room or rooms where a meeting of a governmental entity is held (e.g., Temple College Board of Trustee meetings) and if the meeting is an open meeting subject to Chapter 551, Government Code, and the entity provided notice as required by that chapter.

Safety training will be provided by the College for faculty members, staff, and students interested in more in-depth information about campus carry and related issues. Responsibility for safety training rests with Campus Police and the Emergency Management Coordinator.

License handgun holders bear the responsibility for safeguarding their handguns at all times, and must take all necessary precautions to ensure their handguns are secured as outlined in Penal Code section 46.02, 46.03, and 46.035. License holders who fail to use reasonable care in securing their handguns or act negligently are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension, termination, or dismissal.

If a person is believed to have improperly displayed a handgun or carried a handgun into a location where concealed carry is not permitted, campus police should be immediately contacted.

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