

UCCS CAMPUS POLICY

Policy Title: Weapons on Campus

Policy Number: 400-004 Policy Functional Area: Facilities

Effective: June 25th, 2026

Approved by: Jennifer Sobanet, Chancellor

Responsible Vice Chancellor: Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance

Office of Primary Responsibility: UCCS Police Department

Policy Primary Contact: UCCS Police Department, 719-255-3288

Supersedes: N/A

Last Reviewed/Updated: N/A

Applies to: Administration, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Guests

Reason for Policy: Pursuant to the authority delegated to the chancellors of each CU campus, the purpose of this policy is to enact rules to regulate the possession of firearms, explosives, and other weapons for the University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS) that preserves the learning and working environment of the UCCS campus.

I. INTRODUCTION

Article 14.B.3 of the Laws of the Board of Regents requires the chancellors, on behalf of each campus, to adopt procedures governing the use of university grounds, buildings, and facilities and that such provisions address use that interferes with university functions and activities. In Policy 14.I, the Board of Regents recognized that the unauthorized possession of firearms, explosives, and other dangerous and illegal weapons on or within any University of Colorado campus, leased building, or areas where such possession interferes with the learning and working environment of the University of Colorado is inconsistent with the academic mission of the university.

Further, the Board of Regents acknowledges compliance with the state law, Colorado Revised Statute 18-12-105.5, Unlawfully Carrying a Weapon-Unlawful Possession of Weapons, which makes it a misdemeanor to knowingly carry a firearm onto certain sensitive areas, such as school grounds, and all state concealed carry laws that prohibit carrying a weapon on university property pursuant to a valid concealed carry permit.

Nothing in this policy prevents the University of Colorado from prohibiting employees, guests, or other visitors to the campus from carrying concealed handguns at events or facilities that are typically closed to the public.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

A. The possession of firearms, explosives, or other dangerous or illegal weapons on any property owned, leased, or controlled by the UCCS campus, to include residential halls, is prohibited, except as exempted or authorized by this policy. A harmless instrumentality designed to look like a firearm, explosive, or dangerous or illegal weapon which is used by or is in the possession of a person with the intent to cause fear in or assault to another person is expressly included within this prohibition. In addition, due to the potential for confusion and perception of threat and subsequent disruption that can be caused by their presence, prop or replica firearms, explosives, or dangerous or illegal weapons shall not be brought to campus unless exempted under this policy.

For the purposes of this policy, a "dangerous or illegal weapon" means: an instrument of offensive or defensive combat; anything used, or designed to be used, in destroying, defeating, or injuring a person; an instrument designed or likely to produce bodily harm; or an instrument by the use of which a fatal wound may probably or possibly be given. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following: any firearm (e.g., handgun, machine gun, short shotgun, short rifle), firearm silencer, explosive, blackjack, gas gun, stun gun, slingshot, cross-knuckles, metallic knuckles, any bowie knife, dirk, dagger or similar knife, or any knife having the appearance of a pocketknife, the blade of which can be opened by a flick of a button, pressure on the handle or other mechanical contrivance.

B. Policy Exemptions

- 1. When the possession is authorized by Colorado Law.
- 2. When the possession of prop or replica firearms, explosives, or dangerous or illegal weapons is previously approved in writing by the UCCS Chief of Police, or delegate, pursuant to UCCS Police Department waiver procedure, and includes safety protocol under which the props or replicas may be used.
- 3. Possession of firearms, explosives, or other dangerous weapons is permitted for peace officers or for others similarly situated who are legally authorized to possess such weapons for the purposes of their role or position.
- C. Any person who violates this policy is subject to enforcement actions by university officials, such as ban from university property and disciplinary actions, pursuant to any applicable university process and procedure. Criminal penalties may also be applicable.

III. KEY WORDS

A. Dangerous or Illegal Weapon: an instrument of offensive or defensive combat; anything used, or designed to be used, in destroying, defeating, or injuring a person; an instrument designed or likely to produce bodily harm; or an instrument by the use of which a fatal wound may probably or possibly be given.

IV. RELATED POLICIES, LAWS, AND OTHER RESOURCES

- A. Regent Law 14.B.3
- B. Regent Policy 8.A
- C. Regent Policy 14.1

- D. UCCS Policy 400-001
- E. Colorado Revised Statute 18-12-105.5
- F. Colorado Revised Statute 18-12-206
- G. Colorado Revised Statute 18-12-114.5

V. HISTORY

Initial policy approval June 25th, 2025