

Weapons Are Prohibited on Campus

Fresno State Police Department

California State University
Police Department



What is a weapon?

A weapon is basically anything somebody could use to hurt or harm somebody else. Weapons could be any of the following:

- a knife
- a gun
- pepper spray
- your own hands
- your feet
- any available object that could be used to hurt somebody else

What kind of weapon can't I bring to school?

Most weapons are not permitted on campus. This list is just a few examples to give you an idea.

- any knife with a fixed blade longer than 2 ½ inches, switchblade, butterfly knife, belt buckle knife, dirk, dagger, cane sword, pen knife, lipstick knife, or any knife that opens automatically or has more than one sharp edge
- any gun without written permission and in accordance with California Penal Code
- nunchaku
- metal knuckles
- any concealed weapon (hidden from plain sight)

When can I have a weapon?

Some self-defense weapons can be carried on campus within legal limits. i. e.: You can have pepper spray as long as it is for self-defense, not larger than 2.5oz. and has a "Warning" label.

What about if you have a knife?

You can have a pocket knife, as long as it does not open automatically and has only one sharp edge.

What happens if I am found in possession of a weapon on Campus?

The punishment for having weapons on campus changes with different kinds of weapons. Punishments can be either or both fine and imprisonment. For further information regarding weapons on campus, contact the Fresno State Police Department at 559.278.8400.

Note: There are special circumstances when a firearm may be authorized on campus. Some examples include for use by ROTC, theatrical performances, movie shoots, class instruction, etc. Written authorization to possess a firearm on campus must be obtained through the Fresno State Police Department. Contact the Patrol Operations Lieutenant at 559.278.8400 for further information. While this requirement does not apply to law enforcement personnel, it is highly recommended that for the safety of all our department be notified when armed officers are going to be on campus.

For further information on California Laws:

<http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes.xhtml>

Weapons Related Laws

626.9 (i) California Penal Code

Any person who brings or possesses a firearm upon the grounds of a public university, or any property owned or operated by the public university, without written permission is subject to felony arrest, prosecution, and imprisonment for one, two, or three years. Up to four years for a loaded firearm, 626.9 (h).

626.10 (b) California Penal Code

Any person who brings or possesses any dirk, dagger, ice pick, or knife having a fixed blade longer than 2 ½ inches upon the grounds of the California State University is guilty of a public offense, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or as a felony imprisonment for one or two years.

16590 California Penal Code

The possession of many weapons is prohibited, including: undetectable firearm, cane gun, wallet gun, zip gun, belt buckle knife, blackjack, billy, nunchaku, shuriken, metal knuckles, sandbag, sandclub, sap, and slungshot. Violations are punishable by imprisonment in county jail or in the state prison.

21510 California Penal Code

It is a misdemeanor to carry upon the person, or in the passenger or driver's area of a motor vehicle, a switch blade knife having a blade two or more inches in length.

417 (a)(2) California Penal Code

Any person who exhibits a firearm or any deadly weapon in a rude, angry, or threatening manner, or who in any manner, unlawfully uses the same in any fight or quarrel is subject to prosecution and imprisonment in accordance with the specific subsections of this law.

244.5 (b) California Penal Code

Every person who commits an assault upon the person of another with a stun gun or less lethal weapon shall be punished by imprisonment in a county jail for a term not exceeding one year, or by imprisonment for 16 months, two, or three years.

245 (a)(1) California Penal Code

Any person who commits an assault upon the person of another with a firearm or deadly weapon shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for two, three, or four years. An assault with a semiautomatic firearm is punishable up to nine years in state prison.

417.25 (a) California Penal Code

Every person who aims or points a laser scope or a laser pointer at another person in a threatening manner with the specific intent to cause a reasonable person fear or bodily harm is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for up to 30 days.

417.4 California Penal Code

Every person who draws or exhibits an imitation firearm in a threatening manner against another in such a way as to cause a reasonable person apprehension or fear of bodily harm is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for a term of not less than 30 days.

626.10 (i) California Penal Code

Any person who, without written permission, brings or possesses a less lethal weapon or a stun gun upon the grounds of a university campus is guilty of a misdemeanor.