



Pima County Community College District Administrative Procedure

<i>AP Title:</i>	Firearms and Other Weapons – Enforcement and Exceptions
<i>AP Number:</i>	AP 11.05.01
<i>Adoption Date:</i>	6/8/16
<i>Schedule for Review & Update:</i>	Every three years
<i>Revision Date(s):</i>	6/8/16, 10/31/19, 4/26/22
<i>Review Date(s):</i>	10/31/19, 4/26/22
<i>Sponsoring Unit/Department:</i>	President of Campuses and Executive Vice Chancellor for Student Experience and Workforce Development
<i>Policy Title(s) & No(s):</i>	Firearms and Other Weapons, BP 11.05
<i>Legal Reference:</i>	A.R.S. § 12-781; 13-2911; 13-3102; 13-1502, and 13-1503
<i>Cross Reference:</i>	

PURPOSE

Pima Community College (“College”) prohibits the use, possession, or display of firearms and other weapons, explosive device, or fireworks on any campus and in all buildings owned or under the control of the College. Firearms may be stored in a person’s locked and privately owned motor vehicle or in a locked compartment on the person’s privately owned motorcycle in accordance with A.R.S. § 12-781. Possession of a valid concealed-carry permit does not exempt any person from this policy.

In addition to the exceptions listed below, if any person requests an exemption from this policy, the Chief of Police of the Pima Community College Police Department (“College Police”) has been empowered to review and grant any such requests.

SECTION 1: Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions will apply.

- **Weapon:** Any object or substance designed to inflict a wound, cause injury, or incapacitate, including, without limitation, all firearms, BB guns, air guns, pellet guns, switchblade knives, knives with blades five inches long or more, and chemicals such as mace, tear gas, or oleoresin capsicum, but excluding normally available, over-the-counter self-defense repellents. Chemical repellents labeled “for police use only” or “for law enforcement use only” may not be possessed by the general public.
- **Fireworks:** Any fireworks, firecrackers, sparklers, rockets, or any propellant-activated device whose intended purpose is primarily for illumination.
- **Explosive:** Any dynamite, nitroglycerin, black powder, or other similar explosive material, including plastic explosives; any breakable container that contains a flammable liquid with a flash point of 150 degrees F or less and has a wick or similar ignition device.

SECTION 2: Violations

The College’s Chief of Police, or an officer or employee designated by the Chief of Police to maintain order, may order a person to leave College property if the officer or employee believes that the person is committing any act or has entered College property with the purpose of committing any act that disrupts the lawful use of the property by others at the College.

Violations are enforceable against all College employees, students, and visitors. Any person who interferes with or disrupts the lawful use of College property by others or is in violation of a lawful order to remove weapons, explosives, fireworks, or after a reasonable request to store a firearm(s) in the person’s locked and privately owned motor vehicle or in a locked compartment on the person’s privately owned motorcycle in accordance with A.R.S. § 12-781(A), are subject to arrest by College Police.

SECTION 3: Enforcement

Violations of this Administrative Procedure (“AP”) by students and employees will be considered misconduct subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and Employee Handbook. Violation of this AP by members of the public may result in ejection from College property and/or

confiscation of the weapon or other dangerous instrument. Violations may also result in arrest. Confiscated weapon(s) or instrument(s) may be sold, destroyed, or otherwise legally disposed of. All seizures of prohibited items will be carried out according to College Police policies regarding the processing of evidence.

SECTION 4: Exceptions

Exceptions to this policy include:

- Peace officers certified by the State of Arizona and currently employed by an Arizona law enforcement agency who are performing official duties;
- Peace officers certified by the State of Arizona in an off-duty capacity and currently employed by an Arizona law enforcement agency;
- Any law enforcement officer working under their color of authority;
- Firearms and/or weapons used in authorized academic programs for which prior approval has been obtained from the Dean or Department Head, Provost, and Chief of Police or their authorized representatives;
- Any other activity that has been given prior written approval by the Chief of Police.

SECTION 5: Request for Exceptions

Any request to use, possess, or display a firearm and/or other weapon on College property in connection with official College business must first be reviewed by the responsible Dean or Department Head. The Dean or Department Head may comment and shall forward the request to the Provost for review and comment. The request must then be forwarded to the College's Chief of Police in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the intended date and must identify the following:

- The purpose of the request;
- How this request furthers the mission of the College;
- The firearm or weapon to be used, possessed, or displayed;
- The duration of the request;
- the responsible person;
- How the firearm or weapon will be secured;
- How the firearm or weapon will be used.

The request will be evaluated by the Chief of Police (or designee), and a written decision will be made within ten (10) business days. If the request is approved, the approval will include any conditions or restrictions necessary to ensure safety and consistency with the intent of the AP. Approvals must be reviewed annually and

renewed by the requestor. College Police will keep all approved requests on file and available for confirmation by law enforcement officials.