

Category POLICY: 7-28 Carry Concealed Handgun (CCH) Policy Approval LT Approved: 1/4/17 Effective Date: 01/4/17 Revised: 5/2/18 Responsible Party: Manager, Safety & Security

Policy Statement

WSU Tech prohibits the possession and use of firearms, explosives, and other weapons on any WSU Tech campus, with certain limited exceptions, as provided below. This policy is in accordance with the <u>Kansas Board of Regents ("Board") Policy</u> and state law, <u>K.S.A 75-7c01, *et seq.*</u>

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

The term "weapons" includes:

- (1) Any object or device which will, is designed to, or may be readily converted to expel bullet, shot or shell by the action of an explosive or other propellant;
- (2) any handgun, pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun or other firearm of any nature, including those that are concealed or openly carried;
- (3) any BB gun, pellet gun, air/C'O2 gun, stun gun or blow gun;
- (4) any explosive, incendiary or poison gas (A) bomb, (B) mine, (C) grenade, (D) rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, or (E) missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than ¹/₄ ounce;
- (5) any incendiary or explosive material, liquid, solid or mixture equipped with a fuse, wick or other detonating device;
- (6) any tear gas bomb or smoke bomb; however, personal self-defense items containing mace or pepper spray shall not be deemed to be a weapon for the purposes of this policy;
- (7) any knife, commonly referred to as a switch-blade, which has a blade that opens automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring or other device in the handle of

the knife, or any knife having a blade that opens or falls or is ejected into position by the force of gravity or by an outward, downward or centrifugal thrust or movement;

- (8) any straight-blade knife of four inches or more such as a dagger, dirk, dangerous knife or stiletto; except that an ordinary pocket knife or culinary knife designed for and used solely in the preparation or service of food shall not be construed to be a weapon for the purposes of this policy;
- (9) any martial arts weapon such as nunchucks or throwing stars;
- (10) any longbow, crossbow and arrows or other projectile that could cause serious harm to any person; or
- (11) any other dangerous or deadly weapon or instrument of like character.

The term "**handgun**" means:

(1) A pistol or revolver which is designed to be fired by the use of a single hand and which is designed to fire or capable of firing fixed cartridge ammunition; or

(2) any other weapon which will or is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive and which is designed to be fired by the use of a single hand.

The term "**firearm**" includes any handgun, rifle, shotgun, and any other weapon which will or is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.

The term "**adequate security measures**" shall have the same meaning as the term is defined in <u>K.S.A. 75-7c20</u>, and "**building**" shall have the same meaning as the term "**state building**" is defined in K.S.A. 75-7c20.

The term "**campus**" means any building or grounds owned by WSU Tech and any building or grounds leased by WSU Tech.

WSU Tech seeks to maintain a safe and secure environment in which to conduct educational, research, and training activities.

Carry Concealed Handgun (CCH) is a handgun that a person who is not prohibited from possessing a firearm under either federal or state law may carry in a concealed fashion, except where as prohibited in certain locations as detailed in state law (KSA 75-7c10). CCH laws refer to firearms defined as handguns, (not Rifles or SBR's) that meet the states requirements (Pistols and/or Revolvers).

The display or "open carry" of any firearm is **strictly prohibited** by college policy with the exception of in defense of one's self, or by WSU Tech security officers and/or law enforcement while acting within the scope of their employment. Display is defined as the intentional showing,

presenting, exhibiting and or drawing of a handgun from a position of concealment on one's person.

Except in those instances where necessary for self-defense or transferring to safe storage, it shall be a violation of WSU Tech policy to openly display any lawfully possessed concealed carry handgun while on campus.

On July 1st, 2017 CCH became legal on WSU Tech property. CCH individuals who carry a handgun on campus must carry it on or about their person, within arm's reach, at all times or secure their handgun in a locked, privately-owned or leased motor vehicle. A CCH individual may not carry a partially or wholly visible handgun on campus premises or on any college driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, or other parking area.

Handguns carried by individuals, whether on their person or in a carrier, must be secured in a holster that completely covers the trigger and the entire trigger guard area and that secures an external hammer in an un-cocked position through the use of a strap or by other means. Handguns with an external safety must be carried with the safety in the "on" position. The holster must have sufficient tension or grip on the handgun to retain it in the holster even when subjected to unexpected jostling.

There are no WSU Tech locations that have been designated as prohibiting concealed carry with permanent adequate security measures. WSU Tech may from time to time designate a specific location as temporarily prohibiting concealed carry and use temporary adequate security measures as defined and required by law. Appropriate notice will be given whenever this temporary designation is made.

This policy may not be applicable on all locations leased by WSU Tech if the College is not the sole tenant of the leased property. Leased locations leased and controlled by an entity that may lawfully exclude or permit firearms at their premises (concealed or otherwise) may choose at their sole discretion to exclude or permit concealed firearms from their premises, notwithstanding a lease with the College so long as the College is not the sole tenant on the leased property.

CCH may be prohibited in areas where the discharge of a firearm might cause great harm, such as laboratories with dangerous chemicals, biologic agents, or explosive agents, and areas with equipment that may snag, catch, or make contact the weapon, and with equipment that is incompatible with metallic objects.

Any person may be held responsible to disciplinary action including but not limited to dismissal from the college and/or criminal prosecution for:

- possession of a concealed firearm under 21 years of age [K.S.A. 21-6302(a)(4)];
- carrying a firearm under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or both, to such a degree as to render the individual unable to safely operate the firearm [K.S.A. 21-6332];
- carrying a firearm by an individual who is both addicted to and an unlawful user of a controlled substance [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(10)];
- carrying a firearm by an individual who is or has been a mentally ill person subject to involuntary commitment [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(13)];

- carrying a firearm by an individual with an alcohol or substance abuse problem subject to involuntary commitment [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(13)];
- carrying a firearm by an individual who has been convicted of a felony crime [K.S.A. 216304];
- carrying an automatic firearm [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(5)];
- carrying a cartridge which can be fired by a handgun and which has a plastic-coated bullet with a core of less than 60% lead by weight is illegal [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(6)];
- carrying a firearm with a suppressor and silencer [K.S.A. 21-6301(a)(4)]; and,
- Firearms cannot be fired in the corporate limits of a city or at a dwelling, or at a structure or vehicle in which people are present, except in self-defense [K.S.A. 21-6308, 6308a].

It shall also be a violation of this policy to otherwise possess, store, transport, trade, sell, or in any other way use a firearm in violation of any applicable law.

Any person may be held responsible to disciplinary action including but not limited to dismissal from the college and/or criminal prosecution for:

- Intentionally displaying a concealed handgun without cause or reason
- Possession of a handgun under the influence of alcohol or mind altering drugs
- Leaving or storing, intentionally or unintentionally, a firearm in a location not authorized by this policy
- Accidental or unintentional discharge of a firearm on college property
- Threating or verbalizing, even in jest, to shoot another person with a concealed handgun (other than in self-defense)

Any person(s) found to violate this policy may be issued a lawful directive to leave campus with the weapon immediately. Any individual who violates the directive shall be considered to be in trespass and law enforcement may be notified to issue a trespass citation. Any employee or student of WSU Tech who violates one or more provisions of this policy shall be subject to discipline in accordance with the applicable code of conduct.

WSU Tech will not maintain a list of concealed carry license holders. This information is not a matter of public record. WSU Tech employees may not, under any circumstances, require students or other employees to disclose their concealed carry license status.

Students and guests are also prohibited from storing a firearm on College property other than in a secured compartment in their vehicle, or in a safe provided, and/or approved by the college. WSU Tech will provide a weapons storage area on each campus for the convenience of students and employees. Persons who chose to store their weapons in their vehicles are encouraged to do so in a concealed manner in compliance with local, State and Federal laws, preferably in a locked compartment inside their vehicle. It is also advisable not to disclose the presence of said weapon to anyone other than authorities if asked.

WSU Tech reserves the right to change, modify or adapt this policy at any time for the safety of its College population.