



Firearms Policy Updated 05/2018

VCFA is committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment in which to conduct educational activities for its students, faculty, employees, visitors and contractors. To mitigate risk and in keeping with Vermont statutes, the College expressly prohibits the possession, manufacture, transfer, sale, or use of firearms by anyone on College business on College property (defined as property owned, leased or controlled by VCFA, including but not limited to buildings, grounds, parking lots/garages, and vehicles) or at a College event.

Exceptions to the Policy may only be made for the following circumstances:

Authorized law enforcement officers or authorized military personnel, in performance of their official duties, and to the extent they are legally permitted to possess firearms in the State of Vermont.

Anyone possessing, manufacturing, transferring, selling, or using a weapon other than those in the exception categories listed above will be asked to immediately cease and desist and remove that weapon from College Property or a College Event.

Employees violating this policy may be subject to corrective action, up to and including termination of employment. Employees, visitors, or contractors may also be subject to arrest by appropriate law enforcement if they do not remove the weapon from College Property or from a College Event after the request is made by the VP for Campus Planning or their designee. These actions may be taken even if the person in possession of the weapon is licensed by a state or federal agency to possess, manufacture, transfer, sell, or use the weapon. Possession of unlicensed firearms, on the other hand, may lead to criminal prosecution by the appropriate jurisdiction as well as corrective action, up to and including termination of employment.

Any member of the College community who observes an individual possessing, manufacturing, transferring, selling, or using a weapon and who reasonably believes that the individual is doing so without the consent of the College as set forth in this policy should immediately report this to the VP for Campus Planning. Likewise, any member of the College community who observes unattended items they reasonably believe to be firearms should also immediately report to the VP for Campus Planning the description and location of these items.

Only under the most unusual circumstances will an exception to this policy be granted. Requests for an exception may be made in writing to the VP for Campus Planning or his/her designee. The Director or his/her designee will review the request in consultation with appropriate members of the College's administration and will respond to the requestor in writing with his/her decision.

Questions about the applicability of this policy should be directed to the VP for Campus Planning or the VP for Administration before the item is brought on College Property or to a College Event.

VCFA reserves the right to modify this policy in whole or in part, at any time, in its sole discretion.