



**OP 91.120: Possession of Firearms, Explosives,
or Other Devices, Substances, or Weapons**

Purpose

To provide regulations and guidelines for the safety and welfare of the members and guests of the university community and to comply with university regulations, Institutions of Higher Learning policies and state law.

Policy and Procedure

GENERAL BAN

In accordance with university regulations, Institutions of Higher Learning policies, and state law, the university prohibits:

1. The possession of any weapon, including firearms, on Mississippi State University property, including University vehicles. For the purpose of this policy, firearms include any small arms weapon from which a projectile is fired by gunpowder.
2. The possession of any type of explosive, fireworks, or the like on university-controlled property. Exceptions may be permitted for fireworks displays planned in advance for celebrations.

EXCEPTION

The university permits duly authorized law enforcement officials to carry firearms and other weapons.

Additionally, certain individuals may be authorized by applicable law, by the President, or by the possession of an unexpired state firearms permits with the IC sticker on the back or the equivalent permit issued by a state with a reciprocity agreement with Mississippi to possess firearms in the following locations:

Colvard Student Union; University Dining Facilities (including, but not limited to, Perry Cafeteria, Fresh Food Company, Moe's Southwest Grill, Subway, Burger King, Templeton Cafeteria); outdoor locations including the Drill Field and the Junction; The Chapel of Memories; University Florist; Barnes & Noble Bookstore and the MAFES Store.

Authorized persons, excluding authorized law enforcement officials, may not possess a firearm in the following locations:

Academic buildings; Administrative offices and buildings; Athletic facilities including, but not limited to, Humphrey Coliseum and Davis Wade Stadium; Residence Halls; Fraternity & Sorority Housing; Sanderson Recreation Center including outdoor recreational space/fields (RecPlex); Longest Student Health Center; College of Veterinary Medicine Animal Health Center; Child Development Center; Mitchell Memorial Library; Aikin Village Preschool; University Television Center; and any research centers.

UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS

No University student or employee, unless a duly authorized law enforcement official or authorized by the President, may possess firearms on University property, including University vehicles, regardless of the possession of any kind of firearms permit.

University employees residing in faculty/staff housing (except those located in residence halls) who possess a valid, unexpired state firearms permit with the IC sticker on the back, or the equivalent permit issued by a state with a reciprocity agreement with Mississippi, may be permitted by the Chief of Police, as the designee of the President, to possess a firearm in their faculty/staff housing in accordance with the restrictions associated with an enhanced concealed carry permit. Any university employee who wishes to possess a firearm in their faculty/staff housing, must provide the Chief of Police with notification of the firearm, including a description of the weapon, along with a copy of the enhanced concealed carry permit of the owner/resident.

ENFORCEMENT

Anyone found violating this policy will be required to remove the weapon from campus immediately. Additionally, individuals may face criminal charges.

In addition to the above, students violating this policy may be suspended immediately pending a disciplinary hearing and employees may be suspended immediately pending a review by Human Resources Management.

Review

The Vice President for Student Affairs and the Provost & Executive Vice President are responsible for the review of this operating policy every four years or as needed.

REVIEWED BY:

/s/ Regina Y. Hyatt
Vice President for Student Affairs

06/27/2016
Date

/s/ Julia Hodges
Interim Provost & Executive Vice President

06/27/2016
Date

/s/ Timothy N. Chamblee
Assistant Vice President & Director
Institutional Research and Effectiveness

06/27/2016
Date

/s/ Joan Lucas
General Counsel

06/27/2016
Date

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Mark Keenum
President

06/27/2016
Date