Rock Valley College

Weapons/Concealed Carry

RVC Administrative Procedure (2:20.070)

I. Statement of Purpose

Rock Valley College hereby establishes this Concealed Carry administrative procedure (hereafter referred to as the "procedure") pursuant to the 2013 Illinois Firearm Concealed Carry Act, 430 ILCS 66/5 et seq. (the “Act”). The College is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for the College community and its guests. In support of this commitment, the College establishes restrictions on the ability to carry firearms or weapons on the College campus in accordance with the College’s authority to promulgate rules and regulations under the Act.

II. Persons Covered by this Policy

This Policy applies to all employees, students, persons conducting business, or individuals visiting the College campus, as the term “campus” is defined in this procedure. Visitors include, but are not limited to, prospective students, former students and their representatives.

III. Prohibited Activities

A. Weapons or Firearms

The College maintains a weapons and firearms-free Campus. "Campus" means the College’s campus at 3301 N. Mulford Road, Rockford, Illinois and includes all sites, whether owned, leased or controlled by the College where College programs, activities and classes are held. No person covered by this procedure, unless authorized by law or specifically exempted by federal or state law or College regulation, is authorized to possess a weapon or firearm while engaged in College-related business or activities.

It is the Policy of the College to prohibit:

- Any person covered by this procedure from possessing a weapon or firearm on property owned, leased or controlled by the College, even if that person has a valid federal or state license to possess a weapon or firearm. Property owned, leased or controlled by the College includes any vehicle, building, classroom, laboratory, medical clinic, hospital, artistic venue, or entertainment venue whether owned, leased or operated by the College, and any real property, including parking areas, sidewalks and common areas under the control of the College. This Policy also applies to all College-related organization property whether leased or owned by the College and all College- officially- recognized organization property whether leased or owned by the College.
- Any person covered by this procedure is prohibited from displaying, brandishing, discharging or otherwise using any and all weapons or firearms, including concealed weapons or firearms.

B. Weapons or Firearms

The provisions of this procedure do not apply to the possession of weapons or firearms in College vehicles, College buildings, on College grounds, or at any College-sponsored activity if the possession of weapons or firearms is related to one of the following exceptions:

a. The weapon or firearm is used in connection with a weapons safety course, weapons education course, military science or law enforcement training course offered by the College and/or approved and authorized by the College.
b. The weapon or firearm is carried by a full-time law enforcement officer required to carry a weapon or firearm as a condition of his or her employment; the weapon or firearm is carried by an enforcement officer from an external agency conducting official business at the College; the weapon or firearm is carried by a retired law enforcement officer qualified under the Law Enforcement Officer's Safety Act (Public Act 108-277); or for any other exception deemed necessary as determined by the Chief of the College Police Department
c. The weapon or firearm is used in connection with sanctioned classes, athletics, or recreational sports practices, games, matches, tournaments or events on Campus when the activity requires the use of such weapons or firearms (e.g., fencing, starter pistols and archery).
d. The use of simulated weapons or firearms in connection with College-related theatrical productions.
e. Off-duty full-time law enforcement officers on Campus, including off duty law enforcement officers attending classes as students.

IV. Signage that Concealed Firearms are Prohibited

The College's Facilities Department in consultation with the College's Police Department shall determine placement of clearly and conspicuously posted signs at all building entrances stating that concealed firearms are prohibited. Signs shall be in accordance with the design approved by the Illinois Department of State Police and shall be posted in accordance with any other signage regulations as may be promulgated from time to time by the Illinois Department of State Police.

The College's Facilities Department in consultation with the College's Police Department shall be responsible for the placement and maintenance of signage at building entrances.

V. Parking and Firearm Storage

A weapon or firearm may be transported into a parking area within a vehicle if the weapon or firearm and its ammunition remain locked in a case out of plain view within the parked vehicle. "Case" is defined as a glove compartment or console that completely encases the weapon or firearm and its ammunition, the trunk of the vehicle, or a weapon or firearm carrying box, shipping box or other container. The weapon or firearm may only be removed from a vehicle for the limited purpose of storage or retrieval from within the trunk of the vehicle. A weapon or firearm must first be unloaded before removal from the vehicle.

The primary place of storage for a weapon or firearm is within a locked case out of plain view within a parked vehicle in an unrestricted parking area.

VI. Firearms in Rights of Way

Notwithstanding any other provision in this Concealed Cary Policy, a person licensed to carry concealed firearms may carry concealed firearms while he or she is traveling along a public right of way that touches or crosses the College's Campus if the concealed firearm is carried on the person of the licensee in accordance with the provisions of the Act or is being transported in a vehicle by the licensee in accordance with the Act and all other applicable provisions of law.

VII. Enforcement

Any individual visiting or conducting business on the property of the College found to be carrying or have carried a weapon or firearm onto the property of the College knowingly, or under circumstances in which the person should have known that he or she was in possession of a weapon or firearm, may be banned from the College Campus.

Any student found to be carrying or have carried a weapon or firearm onto the property of the College knowingly, or found to be carrying or have carried a weapon under circumstances in which the student should have known that he or she was in possession of a weapon or firearm, may be subject to discipline up to and including, but not limited to, expulsion from the College.

Any employee found to be carrying or have carried a weapon or firearm onto the property of the College knowingly, or be carrying or have carried a weapon or firearm under circumstances in which the employee should have known that he or she was in possession of a weapon or firearm, may be subject to discipline up to and including, but not limited to, immediate termination of employment, subject to such other employment rules or regulations in place.

Any individual found to be carrying or have carried a weapon or firearm onto the property of the College knowingly, or found to be carrying or have carried a weapon or firearm under circumstances in which the individual should have known that he or she was in possession of a weapon or firearm, may be subject to administrative action by the College and possible arrest and prosecution. Violations of this Policy may result in referrals to external law enforcement agencies.

VIII. Definitions

A. The term "firearm" is defined as a "loaded or unloaded handgun." A "handgun" is defined as any "device which is designed to expel a projectile or projectiles by the action of an explosion, expansion of gas, or escape of gas that is designed to be held and fired by the use of a single hand." 430 ILCS 66/5.

B. The term "weapon" is defined as:
Any device, whether loaded or unloaded, that shoots a bullet, pellet, flare or any other projectile including those powered by CO2. This includes, but is not limited to, machine guns, rifles, shotguns, handguns or other firearm, BB/pellet gun,

spring gun, paint ball gun, flare gun, stun gun, taser or dart gun and any ammunition for any such device. Any replica of the foregoing is also prohibited.

Any explosive device including, but not limited to, firecrackers and black powder.

Any device that is designed or traditionally used to inflict harm including, but not limited to, bows and arrows, any knife with a blade longer than three inches, hunting knife, fixed blade knife, throwing knives and daggers.

C. The term "clear and present danger" means:
"A person who demonstrates threatening physical or verbal behavior, such as violent, suicidal, or assaultive threats, actions, or other behavior as determined by a physician, clinical psychologist, qualified examiner, school administrator, or law enforcement official." 430 ILCS 66/105.

IX. College Police Department

The College Police Department shall be responsible for the development and promulgation of procedures and protocols for storage and confiscation of weapons.

The College Police Department, in consultation with the College President and Board of Trustees, shall be responsible for determining the clear and conspicuous posting of signage at all building entrances, stating that concealed firearms are prohibited, and signs shall be in accordance with the design approved by the Illinois Department of State Police and posting shall comply with any other administrative rules or procedures that may be promulgated from time to time by the Illinois Department of State Police.

X. College Dean of Students

Pursuant to the Firearm Concealed Carry Act, the College President or designee is required to report to the Illinois Department of State Police when a student is determined to pose a clear and present danger to himself, herself, or to others, within 24 hours of the determination and in accordance with Section 6-103.3 of the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code, 405 ILCS 5/6-103.3. "Clear and present danger" is defined in this Policy.

The College Dean of Students shall be the designee of the College President responsible for reporting to the Department of State Police any student or visitor who is determined to pose a clear and present danger.

Reference: Attorney Resolution 314
Implemented: April 8, 2014
Revised: June 9, 2025