



Policy Number 7.2.2

Chapter: Police and Safety

Title: Weapons on Campus

**Division/Department: Police and Safety/Auraria
Campus Police Department**

Policy Administrator: Chief of Police

Adoption Date: September 17, 2003

Revision Dates: 9/27/2017, 4/23/2025

1. PURPOSE

Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) § 23-70-106(1)(a) authorizes the Auraria Board to promulgate rules and regulations for the safety of students, employees, visitors and property on the Auraria Campus. C.R.S. § 18-12-105.5 generally prohibits the possession of a firearm or deadly weapon on Auraria Campus subject to certain exceptions.

The Auraria Board finds and determines that the free and unregulated possession of weapons on the Auraria Campus would:

- Create an unreasonable risk to the health, welfare and safety of students and employees and the preservation of property on the Auraria Campus by careless or malicious use.
- Create a climate of fear and intimidation that would distract and interfere with the reasoned discourse and cooperation required for productive learning and working environments on the Auraria Campus.

Therefore, the Auraria Board adopts the following policy for the purpose of enhancing security and safety on the Auraria Campus.

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. Auraria Campus: All grounds, buildings and facilities located within the boundaries of the Auraria Higher Education Center.
- 2.2. Constituent Institution: As defined in C.R.S. § 23-70-101(b), an institution of higher education at and within AHEC, including Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and University of Colorado Denver.
- 2.3. “Weapons” include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Firearms of any size or type of construction and ammunition.

- Gas or air guns, including BB, pellet and paint ball guns.
- Bows and arrows, and crossbows.
- Blackjacks, bludgeons, batons, nunchaku, throwing stars, and metallic knuckles.
- Swords, pikes, lances, and spears.
- Any knife with a blade over 3.5 inches in length, including hunting and fishing knives.
- Ballistic, gravity and switchblade knives, regardless of the length of the blade.
- Fireworks, bombs, grenades, torches, and incendiary or explosive devices.
- Shields, poles or other objects that may or are being used to strike, block, push or corral another person.
- Any object designed to look convincingly like a firearm, explosive or incendiary device, or other Weapon.

3. POLICY

- 3.1. Except as expressly provided herein or as other authorized by law, the possession of Weapons on the Auraria Campus is prohibited.
- 3.2. Except as otherwise provided herein, this policy shall apply to all persons while on the Auraria Campus.
- 3.3. Exceptions: This policy shall not apply to:
 - A peace officer, as described in C.R.S. § 16-2.5-101, when carrying a weapon in conformance with the policy of their employing agency as provided in § 16-2.5-101(2).
 - A member of the armed forces of the United States or Colorado National Guard while engaged in training exercises for which a Weapon is required.
 - A law enforcement officer, agent or employee of the United States, when lawfully carrying a weapon in conformance with the policy of their employing agency.
 - Individuals carrying concealed handguns in parking areas of the Auraria Campus provided they have a lawful permit.
 - A Weapon that remains inside a locked motor vehicle while on the Auraria Campus, provided that the weapon is unloaded. This exception shall not apply to explosive or incendiary devices.

- As set forth in C.R.S. § 18-12-105.5, a student, employee or invitee of a Constituent Institution or AHEC who has a legitimate educational or employment related purpose for the possession of a Weapon and has obtained written permission from (i) the appropriate office of their respective Constituent Institution or AHEC and (ii) the Auraria Campus Police Department.

3.4. Violations: All violations of this policy shall be reported to the [Auraria Campus Police Department](#) (303-556-5000). Violators may be disciplined, banned from the Auraria Campus, and subject to criminal prosecution.

4. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION

This Policy has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors for the Auraria Higher Education Center.

Date: April 23, 2024

Approved by: /s/ Kate Barton
Chairperson of the Auraria Board