



**FAIRLEIGH  
DICKINSON  
UNIVERSITY**

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| Responsible Office   | University Public Safety           | Effective Date | 09/01/2026 |
| Responsible Official | University Director, Public Safety | Last Revision  |            |

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## **WEAPONS AND FIREARMS POLICY**

### **I. POLICY STATEMENT**

Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) is committed to promoting the safety and well-being of all students engaged in programs and activities associated with the institution. All members of the university community have a responsibility to assist in ensuring that weapons and firearms are not used, possessed, or stored on any FDU campus or FDU controlled property.

### **II. PURPOSE OF POLICY**

The purpose of this Weapons and Firearms Policy (“Policy”) is to prohibit weapons and Firearms on any FDU campus or FDU controlled property in compliance with the State of New Jersey under N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5(e).

### **III. SCOPE OF POLICY**

This Policy applies to students, faculty, staff, administrators, trustees, recognized organizations/groups and established groups, and third parties while on-campus, including visitors, alumni, guests, and the agents, representatives, and employees of suppliers and vendors (the “FDU Community”).

This Policy was written to follow the requirements of all applicable federal and state laws. If this Policy is inconsistent with those laws, or the laws change before it has been updated, state and federal law supersede this Policy. If any provision of this Policy is found to be invalid, illegal, unconstitutional, or unenforceable, this Policy shall be deemed amended to reflect as nearly as possible the original intention of the provision in accordance with applicable law, and that finding shall not affect or undermine the validity of any other provision.

## IV. DEFINITIONS

Terms used in this Policy have the following meanings:

**Explosives:** Any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that contains oxidizing and combustible units, or other ingredients, in such proportion, quantities, or packing that an ignition by fire, friction, concussion, percussion or detonator, or any part of the compound or mixture, may cause a sudden generation of highly heated gases that results in gaseous pressure capable of producing destructive forces on contiguous objects or of destroying life or limb. This definition includes, but is not limited to, fireworks, toy cannons or toy guns in which explosive material are used or other devices containing any combustible or explosive substance used to propel another object.

**Firearms:** A firearm is defined as any device which is designated to fire a bullet, pellet, shot, flare, spear or other projectile. This includes, but is not limited to, handguns, rifles, shotguns, machine guns, automatic or semi-automatic rifles, or any gun, device or instrument in the nature of a weapon from which projectiles or gas can be fired by an explosive, whether loaded or unloaded, as well as the ammunition for these devices.

**Imitations, Replicas, Antiques:** any items that could be reasonably mistaken for a Firearm, Weapon, or Explosive device, such as imitations, replicas, or antiques, regardless of whether they were designed to fire a bullet, shot, or other projectile. The definition includes devices which are designed to fire a projectile and powered by a propellant, including CO2 (e.g., paint ball and airsoft guns).

**Weapons:** a weapon is any device that is designed to or traditionally used as an instrument to inflict or threaten bodily harm or to damage or destroy University property or the property of others. Weapons may include, but are not limited to, knives, swords or other bladed instruments, throwing stars, nunchucks, firearms, bows and arrows, mace, pepper and other self-defense sprays or gels that use Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) to cause intense pain, temporary blindness, and trouble breathing, and common objects and materials modified for use as a weapon or any other object legally controlled as a weapon.

## V. POLICY

Fairleigh Dickinson University is committed to maintaining a safe learning and working environment for all members of the FDU Community. Except as expressly authorized within this Policy, the use, possession, or storage of any Explosive, Firearm, Imitation, Replica or Antique, or Weapon is expressly prohibited (i) on all FDU campuses, grounds, facilities, University leased or controlled property, (ii) at University sponsored events, or (iii) in any vehicle owned, leased or controlled by the University.

This prohibition exists even if a federal or state license to carry or possess the weapon has been issued to the possessor.

#### A. Exceptions

1. Authorized law enforcement officers, military personnel, and U.S. agency personnel when acting solely in their official capacity. This authorization is limited to United States federal, state, and local employees vested by their agency to carry a weapon and individuals invited onto campus in their official capacity, to the extent that they are legally permitted to possess weapons in the jurisdiction in which the University premises are located.
2. Weapons, Firearms, Imitations, Replicas or Antiques on display as objects of artistic, decorative, historical, or cultural value, provided that they are secured so as to prevent access or removal of them by unauthorized persons, have been rendered inert and inoperable, and prior approval for such display is obtained from the University Director of Public Safety or designee, or if in Vancouver, from the Executive Director of Operations or designee. Such displays are strictly prohibited in all on-campus residence halls.
3. University-recognized groups, activities or events where a Weapon, Firearm, Imitation, Replica, or Antique is required as part of the curriculum or activity, including athletic practice and competition, dramatic performances, and official military ceremonies. The Weapons, Firearms, Imitations, Replicas or Antiques used must be inert replicas, working weapons rendered inert, or military ceremonial swords carried in conformance with applicable branch of service regulations. They must be stored in a secure location, which has been inspected and approved by the FDU Department of Public Safety, or if in Vancouver, by the Executive Director of Operations or designee. Prior to any such use in the curriculum or activity, approval by the University Director of Public Safety, or if in Vancouver, by the Executive Director of Operations, must be obtained at least one week before the scheduled activity.
4. Easily identifiable toys, such as brightly colored or clear water guns. Toy replicas designed to resemble real weapons or firearms are prohibited.
5. Chemical compounds used for scientific, teaching, or research purposes by faculty or under the supervision of faculty.
6. Knives that are intended and used solely for cooking or in the course of an individual's job.

#### B. Reporting Requirements

Any member of the FDU community who observes an unattended Weapon, Explosive, Firearm, Imitation, Replica, or Antique, or who observes an individual in possession of same, which is not connected to that individual's status as someone who is authorized under this

Policy to possess must report this sighting to any member of the FDU Department of Public Safety, or if in Vancouver, to the Executive Director of Operations.

## **VI. VIOLATIONS OF THIS POLICY**

### **A. Students:**

Students who violate this Policy may be subject to disciplinary actions via the process and procedures as outlined in the University Student Code of Conduct.

### **B. Employees:**

Employees who violate this Policy are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension without pay, or termination of employment, in accordance with applicable disciplinary procedures (e.g., Faculty Handbook, Employee Handbook).

### **C. Third Parties:**

Third parties while on campus, including visitors, alumni, guests, and the agents, representatives, and employees of suppliers and vendors, shall be advised of this Policy and given the opportunity to comply or leave University property. Third parties who are asked to leave University property may be prohibited from returning to campus.

Any Explosive, Firearm, Imitation, Replica, or Antique, or Weapon carried onto University property in violation of this Policy may be confiscated by the Department of Public Safety. In addition, any violation of this Policy which may also be a crime will be reported to law enforcement officials.