

## HUNTER and GUN SAFETY - FAQ - April 2021

### **COVID 19 Update - March 22, 2021**

We are ready, willing and able to teach courses, IF, we are not in "Grey lockdown". Under the Grey protocol, we can not teach any courses. Under "red", we can teach with 9 students/class. Under "orange" or lower, we can teach with 12 students per instructor.

We are accepting bookings for our future dated courses, but you should know that they might get cancelled at the last minute or we may be forced to reduce class size from 12 to 9 to stay compliant with the regulations. Thank you for understanding and please be safe. Please send us your information and we will add you to a notification list.

The only way to secure a spot for a course is to send us your information and a deposit. E-transfers are the easiest way to send a deposit.

### **FAQ - Updated September 8, 2021**

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#### **Q. What courses do I need?**

**A: Choose which suits you best:**

**I want to hunt without ever using firearms**

**Hunter Education Course only (minimum age = 12)**

**I want to hunt with firearms**

**"One Stop" program = Canadian Firearms Safety Course**

**+ Hunter Education Course (minimum age = 12)**

**I do not want to hunt. I want to own or use "non-restricted" firearms**

**Canadian Firearms Safety Course (minimum age = 12)**

**I do not want to hunt. I want to own or use "restricted" firearms, like handguns**

**Canadian Firearms Safety Course**

**+ Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course (minimum age = 18)**

**NOTE: If you want to "do it all" and have a full PAL (Canadian Firearms Possession and Acquisition License) covering non-restricted and restricted firearms AND do some hunting AND if you are over 18, we strongly recommend doing the CFSC + CRFSC first (typically on a weekend) and then pick up the Hunter Education course later on another weekend (or do the hunting course and exam online). If you choose to do the hunting course**

**"in-person" you only have to attend the Sunday of the 2nd weekend. (Why? Because it takes several months to apply for and get a PAL after the course, but you can buy a hunting license the day after your Hunting Course, so start the PAL process first).**

#### **Q. Do I have to take the Firearms Safety Course and test?**

**A: The Firearms Act requires that individuals wishing to acquire non-restricted firearms or ammunition must take the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) and pass a written and practical test. If you wish to have restricted privileges on your PAL, you must also take and pass a restricted firearms safety course. We teach both.**

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## Q. How do I get my Canadian Federal Firearms License (PAL)?

A: You need to take a course, pass a test and complete a PAL application form. The course is no longer optional (as of July 2015).

Every person in Canada must have a PAL before they can legally own a firearm or purchase ammunition in Canada. This applies to non-Canadian citizens (while in Canada) as well. If you want to own a firearm for trap and skeet or target shooting this is the only license you need. If you might want to hunt with a firearm, you should also see the section on getting a hunting license.

- To apply for a PAL, you need to have taken the **Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC)** and passed the **exam** or test before you can apply. The course and optional text book will help you prepare for the exam. You must be 18 years old and apply for a firearms license. If under 18, your parent can request the Minor's License application, (by calling the CFO - 1-800-731-4000 ext. 7548) but the young person must have taken the CFSC **and** passed the exam.
- You must be taught and tested by a certified instructor/examiner for the Canadian Firearms Safety Course. A listing of instructors and examiners in Ontario is posted here - <http://www.fseso.org>
- Three to six weeks after passing the test you should receive a certified copy of your test results back from the Chief Firearms Office (CFO). Once you receive the test results, you can mail a copy of that document with your completed PAL license application and you should expect your PAL in 1 to 4 months ~45 days after applying.
- The application forms are available online <http://www.rcmp.gc.ca/en/firearms/firearms-forms><http://www.rcmp-gc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/form-formulaire/pdfs/5592-eng.pdf> and should be downloaded, completed and then printed and sent along with proof that you passed the course.

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## Q. Can you tell me a bit about the CFSC and the exam?

A: With the implementation of Bill C-42, in July of 2015, you can no longer challenge the test. You must first take the course and then pass the test.

- The CFSC course includes the "PROVE" process, loading, unloading, range procedures, the shooting positions, the carry positions, everything up to but not including live fire exercises. You will learn the theory required for the written test and become familiar enough with each of the action types that you should have no problem whatsoever in passing the practical handling portions of the test. We assume you have never handled a firearm before coming to the course.
  - The Canadian Firearms Safety Course **test** consists of 50 true/false and multiple-choice questions AND a "one on one" practical handling test (about 15-20 minutes per student) with non-restricted firearms.
  - You must pass BOTH the written and the practical portions with at least 80% to pass the overall test.
  - If you want to have Possession and Acquisition privileges for restricted firearms, like handguns or some military style semi-auto rifles, you must also take and pass the Canadian **Restricted** Firearms Safety **Course** (CRFSC) and **exam**. It is very similar to the CFSC, except it pertains to and uses restricted handguns for the practical test. You must be 18 years old to take the restricted firearms course.
- Since many people that want a PAL also want to get a hunting license, the Federal and Provincial governments approved a combined 20 hour "One Stop" course designed to cover the material for a hunting license and the CFSC, which can be completed over one weekend.

There is an option to do the hunting course online.

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**Q. What resources are available to help me prepare for the CFSC (non-restricted firearms) or the CRFSC (restricted firearms) course and test?**

A: A paperback copy of the study manual (covering both CFSC & CRFSC) is available via <http://www.fseso.org/course-information><http://www.fseso.org/study-manuals>, for \$21 (including tax & shipping to your home). It is also available for \$21 at several local gun stores like “The Crappie Store” in Dresden, [Wortner’s](#) in Chatham and [Santarossa’s](#) in Rodney

- It can be downloaded for free at: <http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.801815/publication.html>
- The RCMP has made several training videos that are now on YouTube, showing the practical handling procedures for non-restricted and restricted firearms. Check out a link [here](#) and <http://www.youtube.com/user/1stShotFirearms> Searching CFSC or CRFSC at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) may provide some useful information.
- There is a free online website that has “practice” questions for the written portion of the tests available at [www.gunexams.com](http://www.gunexams.com) (you must register, but it is free)

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**Q. How do I arrange to take the CRSC or CRFSC course and exams?**

A:

1.To sign up for a COURSE: I need your full legal name, a phone number, an email address, your age (if under 18 or confirmation that you are over 18) and the course(s) and dates you want. With COVID, we also need to know your town of residence.

e-Mailing the info or filling out our online form is the easiest way to send information to us.

2.A few days later you will get an email that confirms your information and requests your deposit. To complete your registration, we require a \$50 **non-refundable** deposit. The easiest way to send payment is via Interac e-Transfer (Electronic Money Transfer). Once we have a \$50 per person deposit, we will confirm your registration. If you cancel AFTER Noon on the Monday preceding the course, or fail to attend the course, you will lose your deposit. If you contact us BEFORE NOON on the Monday preceding the course (or the course is cancelled due to COVID-19), you will be able to re-book for a future course without penalty.

- This website will have a list of the dates and locations of our upcoming courses. This may also be on Kijiji [here](#) as well or search “CFSC in Chatham-Kent”

You can sign up for a course by contacting us at: [hunterandgunsafety@gmail.com](mailto:hunterandgunsafety@gmail.com) – email works best

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**Q. What does the Canadian Firearms Safety Course Cover?**

A:

- The course follows the chapters or modules in the text book. [See FAQ#3 to get a text book.](#)
- In general the topics covered include: the evolution of firearms, major parts, types and actions, basic firearms safety practices, ammunition, operating firearms actions, safe handling and carrying procedures, firing techniques and procedures, care of firearms, responsibilities of the firearms owner/user, and safe storage, display, transportation and handling of firearms.
- In the course and test, all firearms are disabled and only dummy ammunition is used. You learn to identify and safely use 5 different actions types (bolt, lever, pump, break and semi-automatic).
- The Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety course is similar except that it focuses exclusively on handguns and the special aspects of restricted firearms in Canada. Students handle double and single action revolvers and semi-automatic pistols.

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### **Q. Can I get Restricted Firearms acquisition privileges at the same time?**

A: The Canadian government has passed laws that have made it more and more difficult to obtain and use firearms over the years. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Firearms\\_regulation\\_in\\_Canada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Firearms_regulation_in_Canada)

- If you are over 18 years of age, we strongly urge you to consider completing the Restricted course at the same time as your non-restricted, simply for the fact that it will not get any easier in the future and you are more than half way there once we have booked the non-restricted course.
- The Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course (CRFSC) is 6 hours long.
- We usually run Restricted Courses on the same weekends as the non-restricted courses – most months of the year. We usually teach this course at the same time as the Hunter Education course (on Sunday) so anyone wishing to take all 3 courses must split their time over two separate weekends or take the Ontario Hunter Education course online.
- The cost for the Restricted Course and exam is \$160. There is a discount of \$40 (\$120 vs. \$160) if you have completed the Non-restricted course within the prior 30 days of the Restricted course.. See FAQ#11 **NTD: can we hyperlink to that?].**
- If you want Restricted privileges on your PAL, you must also have FULLY completed the non-restricted CFSC exam first. (ie you can't only get a Restricted PAL; you must complete both non-restricted and restricted courses and testing).
- If taking the CFSC + CRFSC on the same weekend, you must pass both the written test and practical test for the CFSC before taking the CRFSC.
- Information on the CRFSC is available at <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/firearms-safety>

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### **Q. I want to get my Hunting License. What do I have to do?**

A: Check out the requirements posted on [www.ohcp.net](http://www.ohcp.net)

- In summary, you must buy a text book, take a Ontario Hunter Education Course (either "in-person" or online) or a 20 hour One Stop Course; then pass a 70 question multiple choice test. If you want to use a rifle or a shotgun, you must also get a PAL. Most new hunters take a One Stop Course so they can meet the minimum training required for the hunting course and also get the benefits of the CFSC training.
- There is now an option to meet the requirements for an Ontario Hunter Education Course through an online process. See [www.ohcp.net](http://www.ohcp.net) for more information.

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### **Q. Do I have to take the Ontario Hunter Education course to get a hunting license?**

A: Generally – Yes - The Ontario Hunter Education Course is mandatory for all wishing to get their Small Game or any hunting license. There are exceptions for people that have a hunting license from another state or province and have just moved to Ontario, or you are a diplomat, but otherwise, you must take a Hunter Ed “stand alone” course or a One Stop Course. If this exception describes you, you may challenge this test (without taking the course). If you fail the challenge, then you must then take the full course. No second challenges are allowed.

- There is an option to meet the requirements for an Ontario Hunter Education course through an online process. See [www.ohep.net](http://www.ohep.net) for more information. The choice of doing it online or with an experienced instructor is up to you.
- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry requires students under age 15 to complete the Canadian Firearms Safety course and pass the exam in order to acquire a Hunter Apprentice Card.

Attending Sunday's Hunter Education portion of the “One Stop” course will allow you to write the provincial Hunting License test (after taking the CFSC). Successful candidates will then apply to the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry to receive their Outdoors Card ([www.ontario.ca/outdoorscard](http://www.ontario.ca/outdoorscard)). You cannot go hunting for anything, period, without first getting your Outdoors card.

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### **Q. What are the hours for each course and what is a "One Stop" course?**

A: A “One Stop” course is a combined Ontario Hunter Education Course (OHEC) (otherwise a minimum 12.5 hours) PLUS a Federal CFSC course back to back, usually over a 2 ½ day weekend covering ~20 hours.

- Typical hours for a One Stop course are Friday night 6:30-10 pm, Sat 8-5 pm +exams and Sun 8-6 pm
  - Stand-alone CFSC course is Friday 6:30-10 pm and Saturday 8 am to 5 pm +exams
  - Stand-alone CRFSC course is Sunday 8 am to 3 pm + exams
  - Stand-alone Hunter Ed. course if you have already completed the CFSC is Sunday 8 am to 6 pm, otherwise it is Fri. 6:30-10 pm, Sat. 8 am to 10 am & Sun. 8 am to 6 pm
  - Exams are usually held Saturday night from 5 to 9 pm and/or Sunday after the course is completed (or by mutually agreed appointment time). We try to schedule the CFSC practical exam on Saturday night, (after the course and after the written exam) - from 5 to ~9 pm Sat. night. – it can take several hours as each student must do a 1:1 practical exam that takes 15 to 20 minutes each - there is a maximum of 12 students per examiner, so it can take about 3 hours to complete the practical testing Sat. nigh if the class is full
- Testing may add 1 to 3 hours to the course duration depending on:
  - class size,
  - how long it takes for you to write 1 or 2 exams and
  - where you are on the practical testing schedule (1st or 12th )
  - Students are tested right after their course is completed.
  - The testing schedule is flexible, however we generally try to test those people who are travelling the greatest distances or those who have to go to work etc. first and then test the remaining students later in the evening. Your practical test runs about 15 - 20 minutes and is scheduled after the CFSC.

- Special Needs: If for some reason you feel you would benefit from having these tests delivered orally (read to you) we can arrange for a reader to come in and you can complete the written portion of the test in that manner. There is no extra fee for this service but we do like to know in advance so we can make the appropriate arrangements.
- Note: you must attend the entire course (Friday night and all day Sat.) in order to be eligible for the “completion of CFSC course” designation.

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**Q. I am signed up and confirmed for a course, what should I do before the course and what should I bring to the course?**

A: Please try to get the text book(s) ahead of time and read or at least skim them over. The books make excellent gifts for potential students. See {please actually put in links to the other questions} for how to get the books. Bring the books to the course.

- Complete the COVID acknowledgement form and daily screening form (sent to you with the confirmation of registration and/or course reminder email). Bring your own mask and have it on prior to entering the building.
- On the first night, arrive by 6:30 pm to find a seat and get checked in and registered.
- Payment for your course (net of the \$50 minimum deposit), can be made in advance, but is due that first night. Cash or Electronic Money Transfer is preferred. We do not accept debit or credit cards.
- Bring ball point pens (black and / or blue). The forms must be filled out with this style of pen.
- Bring note paper and a highlighter (for the text books) (easier than taking a lot of notes).
- Bring original government issued ID (Drivers License, Passport, Birth certificate, Status Card, SIN etc.) Photo ID is best (Driver’s License, Passport, etc.) for each person including Minors.
- If you are taking the Hunter Education course or the One Stop course, bring your Outdoors Card (fishing license) IF you have one. (do not go and buy one just for this)
- DO NOT bring any live ammunition or firearms to the course. We will have at least one disabled firearm per person in the class and plenty of dummy ammo for practicing.

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**Q. Are all the Instructors licensed and experienced?**

A: I often co-teach with at least one other instructor (except during COVID). All of us are from the Chatham/Blenheim area and are all fully accredited instructor/examiners in the Canadian Firearms Safety Course, Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course, Ontario Hunter Education Course, and Canadian Shooting Sports Association Handgun Safety course. We are all listed on the [www.fseso.org](http://www.fseso.org) and the [www.ohep.net](http://www.ohep.net) website as certified instructors & examiners. We are all also approved RCMP Firearms Verifiers as well. My co-instructor and I bring a combined 80 plus years of shooting and hunting experience to each and every course, delivering a program superior to anything else offered in this region.

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**Q. What happens if a course is cancelled?**

A: In the 25+ years I have been holding courses **we have never** cancelled a public course once it has been announced (i.e. posted on a website) – other than due to COVID. The COVID pandemic did cancel our March 2020

to July 2020 and Jan and Feb 2021 courses, but we are back teaching as of Aug 2021. A published course will run (if COVID allows). Typical class sizes are around 10 to 12 for single instructor courses and twice that for “double instructor” courses.

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### **Q. How often do you run Public or Private Courses and exams?**

A: Usually we hold public courses once per month, except July & December. Check our website <https://HunterAndGunSafety.com> advertisement on [www.kijiji.ca](http://www.kijiji.ca) for an up to date listing of course dates and locations.

- If you have a group of 8 or more, we can create a private course just for your group. If you don't quite have enough people, we can try to combine your group with another to fill it up to the minimum needed to put on a course.
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### **Q: Which Courses do I need?**

[LINK to Page - Which Courses Do I Need?](#)

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### **Q. Are your Instructors Licensed and Certified?**

A: All of our instructors are Licensed and Certified by the Chief Firearms Officer of Ontario and are members of the Firearms Safety Education Service of Ontario. Each instructor has over 25 years experience teaching the CFSC and CRFSC and the Ontario Hunter Education Course.

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### **Q. When are the fees payable?**

A: A \$50 per person (per weekend) **non-refundable** deposit is required as part of the registration process to secure your spot on the course. The easiest way to send payment is via Interac e-Transfer (Electronic Money Transfer) to me at [hunterandgunsafety@gmail.com](mailto:hunterandgunsafety@gmail.com) Be sure to include the full name(s) of the person(s) being covered by the deposit and the date of the course in the notes. If required, set the answer to the security question to “**SafetyFirst**” if a question is required. Once we have a \$50 per person deposit, we will confirm your registration. If you cancel AFTER Noon on the Monday preceding the course, or do not attend the course, you will lose your deposit. If you contact us BEFORE NOON on the Monday preceding the course, with a request to change course dates, (or the course is cancelled due to Public Health concerns, you will be able to re-book for a future course without penalty.

- Final course payment (net of the \$50 deposit) must be received no later than at the beginning of the course. Cash at the beginning of the course or Interac e-Transfer (Electronic Money Transfer) are the two payment options. We do not have access to debit or credit payment options. If you haven't yet bought textbooks and wish to buy them at the course, please bring cash for that.
- If you plan to come back and do another course with us at a future date, we can “roll” your deposit from the current course to the future course after you pay for the first course. (eg. make a deposit for the first course,

then pay for it in full when you show up and that will “roll” your deposit forward to the next course you plan to take)

- Deposits are not transferable between different people.

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### **Q. What are the common fees (payable to the instructor/examiner) for the various courses and exams?**

A.

- CFSC with the written and practical exam = \$160
- CRFSC with the written and practical exam = \$160 (\$120 if done within 30 days of the CFSC - we are extending the 30 day provision during COVID)
- In-Person Ontario Hunter Education Course with exams = \$120
- CFSC + CRFSC = \$280 (if done on the same weekend, or CRFSC within 30 days of CFSC)
- “One Stop” – Combined CFSC + Hunter Ed. Course = \$280
- All three courses and exams (CFSC + CRFSC + Hunter Ed) with exams = \$400 (to take all three courses will require you to take CFSC + CRFSC first on one weekend, then the Hunter Education Course on a subsequent Sunday, within 6 months of the CFSC).
- If you take the course(s) and fail any of the tests on the first attempt, we offer the option to re-take the appropriate course, for free, within 6 months, if you commit to do the re-test with us.
- If you fail and need a re-test for CFSC (both written and practical) **test only** (no course) = \$60
- If you fail and need a re-test for CRFSC (both written and practical) **test only** (no course) = \$60
- If you fail and need to re-test the Hunter Education Program Test (written only- there is no Hunter Ed. Practical) = \$40
- If you fail either the written or practical portions of the CFSC or CRFSC (pass= 80%), you must take both parts over again and pay the \$60 fee again

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### **Q. What are the fees payable to the government?**

A.

- A “first time” PAL with only non-restricted is \$62.55 (as of March 31, 2021) (good for 5 years) .
- A “first time” PAL with both non-restricted AND restricted privileges is \$83.40 (as of March 31, 2021 & good for 5 years).
- Upgrading from a non-restricted PAL to a restricted PAL is no longer free and you need to re-submit the full PAL application and a \$41.70 fee.
- See <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/changes-service-fees> for more details.

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### **Q. If I pass my tests do I ever have to re-take the tests or take the course(s) again?**

A: No - only if the courts revoke your license or order that retaking the course and/or test is a condition of getting you license back. It is similar to your Ontario driver’s license; once you get it, you just keep renewing it. (don’t let your PAL expire if you still own firearms – it is a criminal offence to have firearms without a proper license)

About 4-6 weeks after you pass the test(s) you will receive a “Course Report” that proves you have passed the course. We strongly suggest you scan and archive a copy of your Course Report(s) and apply for your PAL immediately. If you wait years before applying for the PAL and lose your course report(s) and the government cannot

find their copy, they may make you take the course again. We suggest applying for your PAL as soon as you get the course report back.

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### Q. What two textbooks are used in the One Stop course?

A.

- For the CFSC portion, the text book is the “Canadian Firearms Safety Course Manual”. It is available for \$21 at several local gun stores like “[The Crappie Store](#)” in Dresden, [Wortner’s](#) in Chatham and [Santarossa’s](#) in Rodney or from the Firearms Safety Education Service of Ontario at [www.fseso.org](http://www.fseso.org) for \$21 shipped to your home. See FAQ#3 [[LINK to other FAQ](#)please insert a link to the other question and answer]for a free source for this book.
- For the Ontario Hunter Education course, this text book is available at the same local gun stores ~\$25. Alternatively, you can buy a hard copy online from the Ontario Hunter Education Program (OHEP) <https://www.ohep.net/product/hunter-education-manual/> delivered to your door (with a valid credit card). Cost is ~\$28 (including tax and delivery). For a limited time, this text book is available for free download here : [https://www.ohep.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/HunterEducationManual\\_2\\_020.pdf](https://www.ohep.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/HunterEducationManual_2_020.pdf)
- The [Ontario Hunting regulations](#) are provided to each student taking the Hunting Course and a copy can be used by the student while taking the Hunter Ed. Test. Students are encouraged to also read over it ahead of time.

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### Q. What are the minimum age requirements?

A:

- To take the CFSC, you should be at least 12 years old.
  - To get a PAL, you must be 18 and have passed the test. Those under 18 that have passed the CFSC can have their parents apply for a Minor’s License on their behalf, but the minor must take the course and pass the test. See <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/minors>
  - To hunt, un-supervised, in Ontario, you must be 15 and you must have a Minor’s License. The requirements for hunting vary by age. Check out [www.ohep.net](http://www.ohep.net) for more details.
  - You can hunt, under supervision, with a licensed mentor who is over 18, if you are 12-14 and you have taken the Hunter Education Course (or a One Stop Course) and passed the Hunter education test.
  - You must be 18 to take the Restricted Course (CRFSC).
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### Q. How do I know if my daughter or son, grandchild, etc. is mature enough to take the course?

A:

- We do not recommend taking the CFSC and Hunter Ed. Course unless you are over 12.
- The CFSC material and tests were written at the level most 12-year old’s can easily comprehend (Grade 7). The Ontario Hunter Education program material was written at a slightly higher level.
- All participants are expected to complete their own course participant forms (requires knowing their full mailing address and postal code, spelling of their full legal name, phone number, height and eye colour) and signing the forms with a cursive signature.
- Our experience is that students that have been “pushed” to attend the course will **not** be successful in passing. We recommend that the prospective student obtain the 2 text books (for the One Stop course –

See FAQ#20 – [LINK?] please insert a hyper link back to that FAQ] ahead of time and read them before committing to the course or test. If the student devours the books and craves more knowledge, then they are ready.

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**Q. I took my "gun test" a long time ago -- do I have to take the test course again?**

1. It depends on what test was actually taken and passed and when. If it was the old Hunter Education course and test, you may have already met the requirements for obtaining a hunting license – but probably not a PAL. If the “test” was after 1993, it might have been an early version of the CFSC test and it might meet the PAL requirements. Find the paperwork you received when you did the test and verify what it actually covered. Between 1993 and Feb 1999, the Firearms course and test covered both non-restricted and restricted firearms. After Feb 2, 1999 the course “split” into two separate courses.
2. If you can't find the paperwork, the MNRF can do archive searches to verify that you have the hunting course and exam already completed. Contact Service Ontario to verify your particular hunting requirements or to initiate a records search. See [www.serviceontario.ca](http://www.serviceontario.ca) for more information. Start by calling the Outdoors Card centre at 1-800-387-7011.
3. The RCMP can verify if you have already taken a test that meets the requirements of the PAL (if they can find you in their system). Contact the Canadian Firearms Program for help with this at <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/contact-the-canadian-firearms-program>
4. If it has been a long time since you have taken a test, you should know that the laws have changed over time and you may want to consider re-taking the course and test just to get “reacquainted” with the new laws and materials.

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**Q. I work most weekends, which is when you offer the course -- what sort of flexibility can you provide?**

A.

- In general, most courses are offered over a weekend. [See FAQ#9 for normal times.](#)
- If you can't attend all three days on the same weekend, (or you want all 3 courses) there is flexibility to spread your course(s) over two or 3 different weekends, within a 6 month period.
- You can take the CFSC portion one weekend and the CRFSC or Hunter Education portion on another weekend as long as it is within a 6 month timeframe. Any person wishing to take all three of the courses must split their time between two separate weekends (unless they do the Hunting course online). A person may opt to take the CFSC and the CRFSC courses in one weekend and then come back another weekend to complete the Hunter Education course. (This is what we recommend if you are after all 3 courses). Alternatively, you may decide to do the CFSC and the Hunter Ed together on one weekend (the “One Stop” Course) and return for the CRFSC another time (being mindful of the higher fee if beyond 30 days). Both are viable options. As of July of 2021, the Ontario government is allowing the Ontario Hunting course and exam to be done online (see [www.ohep.net](http://www.ohep.net) )

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## Q. How do I get my wild turkey license?

A:

- Effective January 1, 2017, the requirement for a separate course or exam for wild turkey hunting has been eliminated. Completion of the Hunter Education course will now entitle students to purchase a Wild Turkey license (without having to take any further courses or exams).
- See

<http://www.ohep.net/courses/ontario-wild-turkey-hunter-education-course/>.

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## Q. What is involved in getting a handgun so I can go target shooting?

A: This procedure has changed as a result of Bill C-42 coming into effect in July of 2015. The old Authorization to Transport (ATT) paperwork is now partially automated. New PALs that have restricted privileges include TWO automatic ATT conditions attached at issuance – carefully read the letter that comes with your PAL. Upon purchase of your first restricted firearm, several standard ATT conditions are automatically added to your license. See <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/bill-c-71-need-know>

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## Q. What are some other resources that I should be aware of?

A:

- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters – [www.ofah.org](http://www.ofah.org) – all new hunters should join. Membership includes liability insurance, a great magazine, keeping you up to date on hunter issues in Ontario and good liability insurance and the way to get your turkey training.
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – [www.ontario.ca/mnrf](http://www.ontario.ca/mnrf) - a good source of information including maps and regulations.
- Canadian Firearms Program of the RCMP -

<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms> [www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp](http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp) - licensing and registration of firearms, legal requirements, PAL applications etc. Via website or 1-800-731-4000

- Ontario Hunter Education Program [www.ohep.net](http://www.ohep.net) – good information on getting your hunting license, ordering the Hunter Ed manual, learning about the licensing process and the new online course and exam option, a listing of Hunter Education Instructors for “in-person” courses and more information on the Hunter Apprenticeship Safety Program.
- Firearms Safety Education Service of Ontario – [www.fseso.org](http://www.fseso.org) – an Ontario organization dedicated to teaching firearms safety - includes a listing of instructors and examiners and the source for the CFSC and CRFSC text books.
- Rondeau Bay Waterfowler's - <http://rondeauwaterfowlers.com> - a local group that runs duck hunting in Rondeau Provincial Park and Rondeau Bay
- Canadian Shooting Sports Association – <http://cssa-cila.org/> supporting and promoting all manner of shooting sports and competitions. They have a great free weekly email service to help keep you up to date on firearms matters in Canada.

- National Firearms Association – [www.nfa.ca](http://www.nfa.ca) - a Canadian firearms group dedicated to promoting and advocating on issues relevant to Canadian Firearms owners – includes a nice magazine.
- Canadian Access to Firearms – <https://canadianguns.com> – a Canadian “buy and sell” publication for new and used guns, including listings of most gun stores in Canada
- Canadian Coalition for Firearms Rights (CCFR) - <https://firearmrights.ca/en/home/> a great pro-rights organization

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## Q. What gun clubs etc. are available in Southwestern Ontario?

A:

- **Rondeau Rod and Gun Club** – [www.rrgc.ca](http://www.rrgc.ca) 10260 Campbell Line, Blenheim, ON
- 2 trap ranges, 5 stand and skeet, 25 yd and **100 yard** Outdoor Rifle & Handgun range, IDPA & PPC venues
  
- **Dover Rod & Gun Club** – [www.doverrodandgunclub.com](http://www.doverrodandgunclub.com) 5806 Heron Line, Grande Point, ON
- Trap range, Outdoor 3D Archery Range, 30 yd Indoor Archery.
  
- **Lambton Sportsman Club** – <http://www.lambtonsportsman.com> 521 Bickford Line, Sombra, ON
- Trap ranges, Sporting Clays range, 25 yd Outdoor Rifle & Handgun, 50 yd Outdoor Rifle & Handgun, 85 yard Outdoor Rifle.

CAN-AM clays, IDPA & SASS venues:

- **Trails End Club** – <http://www.workingcowboyleather.com/terange.htm> 10635 Pioneer Line, Chatham ON
- Trap Range, 50 position 100 yd Outdoor Handgun & Rifle Range SASS, IDPA & Canadian Muzzleloading competitions.
  
- **Kent Cloverleaf Conservation Club** – [www.kentcloverleafconservationclub.org](http://www.kentcloverleafconservationclub.org) 9092 English Line, Chatham, ON
- Trap ranges, 1 Skeet range, 50 yd. Outdoor Rifle & Handgun, 25 yd Indoor Handgun, IDPA, PPC, Bullseye & SASS venues.