

AB 1078 – CCW Law Changes & Firearm Purchase Limits

Current Law

- California allows sheriffs and police chiefs to issue licenses to carry concealed firearms (CCWs) if the applicant meets background, residency, and training requirements.
- Applicants must be California residents (or business owners in-county) and pass Department of Justice background checks.
- Current law limits firearm purchases to one gun every 30 days and restricts CCW holders from carrying in certain public places.

How Does AB 1078 Change Current Law?

- Establishes **new CCW application standards** for both California and out-of-state residents, including live-fire training and detailed firearm listings for each gun to be carried.
- Allows **non-California residents** to apply for a CCW if they attest under oath that the issuing county is their primary location of travel in the state.
- Adds new **disqualifiers** for applicants, including recent restraining orders, drug or alcohol abuse, and certain misdemeanor convictions.
- Expands **revocation rules** licenses can now be revoked for inaccurate or incomplete application information or failure to report new arrests or restraining orders.
- Requires **fingerprinting for renewals** (starting 2026) and adds stricter notice timelines for approvals or denials.
- References and reinforces the "sensitive place" carry restrictions created under SB 2 though many of those bans (such as churches, parks, and private businesses) are currently blocked by federal court injunctions and are not being enforced pending ongoing litigation.
- Increases (this is deceptive language, as the 1-in-30 days rule was already struck down in *Nguyen v Bonta*) firearm purchase limits from **1 gun per 30 days to 3 guns per 30 days**, effective April 1, 2026.

How Does AB 1078 Affect Me?

- Expect **longer wait times and higher costs** for new and renewal CCW permits due to expanded background checks and fingerprinting.
- Some sensitive-place restrictions remain tied up in court, but if reinstated, would sharply reduce where permit holders can legally carry.
- Non-resident applicants may now apply but must verify intent to travel primarily in the issuing county.
- Starting 2026, individuals may apply to purchase up to three firearms within a 30-day period.
- Failure to report restraining orders or arrests can result in **immediate CCW revocation**.

In Short:

- New CCW rules, more paperwork, more restrictions.
- Sensitive-place bans remain in court but not gone.
- Out-of-state residents can now apply for limited California CCWs.
- Firearm purchase limit decreased to 3 guns per 30 days (starting 2026).

