

Southwestern Oregon Community College

AP 3530 Weapons on Campus

The possession of firearms, including by a concealed handgun license holder, or other weapons while on any property or inside any facility owned, under the temporary or permanent control of, and or operated by Southwestern Oregon Community College (SWOCC) is strictly prohibited in accordance with Oregon Revised Statutes with the following exceptions:

- By a police officer or reserve officer, as those terms are defined in ORS 181A.355;
- By a parole and probation officer, as defined in ORS 181A.355, while the parole and probation officer is acting within the scope of employment;
- By a federal officer, as defined in ORS 133.005, or a certified reserve officer or corrections officer, as those terms are defined in ORS 181A.355, while the federal officer, certified reserve officer, or corrections officer is acting within the scope of employment;
- By a person summoned by an officer to assist in making an arrest or preserving the peace, while the summoned person is engaged in assisting the officer;
- By an honorably retired law enforcement officer;
- By an active or reserve member of the military forces of Oregon or the United States, when engaged in the performance of their duty;
- By a person who is authorized by the officer or agency that controls the public building to possess a firearm or dangerous weapon in that public building;
- By an employee of the United States Department of Agriculture, acting within the scope of employment, who possesses a firearm in the course of the lawful taking of wildlife;
- By an individual who is otherwise legally allowed to carry a firearm and only if the firearm remains unloaded and locked in a motor vehicle at all times.

Southwestern Oregon Community College has allowed for the following exceptions:

- The SWOCC President, in consultation with the Director of Emergency Management and Campus Safety, may approve the use of weapons for instructional purposes.
- While the following are considered weapons under Oregon ORS, SWOCC has also approved their possession on campus by employees, students, and visitors; however, they may not be misused.
 - Pepper spray, or any similar deleterious agent defined in ORS 163.211, not including mace or tear gas.
 - An electrical stun gun or any similar instrument.

A weapon is defined as

- A firearm;
- Any dirk, dagger, ice pick, slingshot, metal knuckles, or any similar instrument or a knife other than an ordinary pocketknife with a blade less than four inches in length which does not have a blade that projects or swings into position by force of a spring or by centrifugal force, the use of which could inflict injury upon a person or property;
- Mace or a tear gas weapon as defined in ORS 163.211;
- A club, bat, baton, Billy club, bludgeon, knobkerrie, nunchaku, nightstick, truncheon, or any similar instrument, the use of which could inflict injury upon a person or property; or
- A dangerous or deadly weapon as those terms are defined in ORS 161.015.

SWOCC will maintain appropriate signage at the entrances to all SWOCC-owned, controlled, or operated property or facilities and will post a notice on the SWOCC website, which clearly identifies the properties and facilities included in the administrative procedure.

In the event, a student, employee, or visitor enters into an SWOCC owned, controlled, or operated property/facility and the individual is determined or reported to be in possession of a firearm or other weapon as outlined in this administrative procedure, SWOCC Campus Safety and the SWOCC Director of Emergency Management should be notified immediately. The SWOCC Director of Emergency Management will determine whether or not law enforcement will be notified based on the level of threat posed by the individual, the level of cooperation with Campus Safety, whether or not the individual has violated this procedure previously and any other extenuating circumstances. If the circumstances allow, Campus Safety will advise the individual in possession of the firearm or weapon as to the need to store the unloaded firearm or weapon in their vehicle. Any individual who refuses to store their unloaded firearm or weapon in their vehicle will be asked to leave campus and will be trespassed by Campus Safety indefinitely from the date of the incident.

In the event an individual is in possession of a firearm or other weapon on campus and is presenting an immediate threat to themselves or others, law enforcement will be notified immediately.

In addition to possible criminal charges, the following consequences may occur at the discretion of SWOCC:

- Employees found in violation of this procedure will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.
- Students found in violation of this procedure will be subject to Administrative Procedure 5500 Standards of student Conduct and Administrative Procedure 5520 Student Discipline

References:

ORS 133.005

ORS 161.015

ORS 163.211

ORS 166.291 - ORS 166.292

ORS 166.360 – ORS 166.380

ORS 181A.355

ORS 341.290(4)

Chapter 146, 2021 Laws

Administrative Procedure 5500 Standards of Student Conduct

Created/Adopted by Board of Education Action: Procedure #10.032 - May 18, 1987

Adopted by Board of Education: Procedure #5.014 - February 28, 1994

Changed to Administrative Procedure – January 22, 1996

Revised: May 21, 2021

Revised: February 8, 2023 (Updated from 5.014 Possession of Firearms Destructive Devices)

Revised: November 20, 2025