

Maryland Gun Laws & Firearms Safety Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. Under Maryland law, what is the legal BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) limit while carrying a firearm?**
 - A. 0.02%**
 - B. 0.04%**
 - C. 0.08%**
 - D. There is no legal limit specified**
- 2. Can an individual from another state purchase a handgun in Maryland?**
 - A. Yes, with no restrictions**
 - B. Yes, if they have a HQL from their state**
 - C. No, only Maryland residents can purchase**
 - D. Yes, but only through a licensed dealer**
- 3. What background check system is used in Maryland for firearm purchases from a licensed dealer?**
 - A. NICS**
 - B. MICS**
 - C. SPICS**
 - D. None**
- 4. What is a 'regulated firearm' in Maryland?**
 - A. Any semi-automatic rifle**
 - B. Handguns and assault weapons**
 - C. All rifles and shotguns**
 - D. Firearms with a magazine capacity greater than 10 rounds**
- 5. Can an individual under the age of 21 possess and transport a handgun in Maryland for employment purposes?**
 - A. Yes, without restriction**
 - B. Yes, with written consent from a parent or guardian**
 - C. Yes, but only if they are a part of law enforcement or military**
 - D. No, under no circumstances**

- 6. Can someone with a prior felony conviction own a firearm in Maryland?**
- A. Yes, without restrictions**
 - B. Yes, with restrictions**
 - C. No**
 - D. Yes, but only after 10 years**
- 7. Who is required to complete a Firearms Safety Training Course to purchase a regulated firearm in Maryland?**
- A. All buyers under the age of 21**
 - B. Only military personnel**
 - C. All buyers of regulated firearms**
 - D. Non-residents only**
- 8. What does the Maryland Wear and Carry Permit allow an individual to do?**
- A. Carry a concealed firearm in public**
 - B. Purchase any firearm without a background check**
 - C. Automatically carry a firearm in other states**
 - D. Carry a firearm openly in public spaces**
- 9. Is it legal to carry a concealed handgun in Maryland without a permit?**
- A. Yes, everywhere**
 - B. Yes, but only in your own business**
 - C. No, a permit is required**
 - D. Only in rural areas**
- 10. What is required to transport a handgun in Maryland?**
- A. Keeping it visible**
 - B. Placing it in the glove compartment**
 - C. Calling the local police department in advance**
 - D. Encasing it unloaded in a locked container**

Answers

SAMPLE

- 1. D**
- 2. C**
- 3. A**
- 4. B**
- 5. B**
- 6. C**
- 7. C**
- 8. A**
- 9. C**
- 10. D**

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Explanations

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1. Under Maryland law, what is the legal BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) limit while carrying a firearm?

A. 0.02%

B. 0.04%

C. 0.08%

D. There is no legal limit specified

In Maryland, while there is no specific legal limit for Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) set for individuals carrying a firearm, it's important to understand the implications of alcohol consumption in relation to firearm possession. The law emphasizes that carrying a firearm while impaired can lead to significant legal consequences, including potential criminal charges, regardless of whether one has reached a certain BAC threshold. The absence of a defined limit does not mean that individuals can carry firearms without regard to their level of impairment. It is generally expected that anyone carrying a firearm should do so in a manner that does not compromise their ability to handle the weapon safely and responsibly. This means that any level of alcohol consumption which impairs judgment, coordination, or decision-making could be problematic and could result in legal repercussions if an individual's actions lead to unsafe conditions or incidents. This understanding helps reinforce the principle that firearm safety and responsibility are paramount, and that personal conduct should align with maintaining the highest standards of safety, especially in relation to alcohol consumption. Therefore, while there is no prescribed BAC limit for carrying a firearm in Maryland, responsible behavior dictates that individuals should refrain from alcohol consumption when they intend to carry a firearm.

2. Can an individual from another state purchase a handgun in Maryland?

A. Yes, with no restrictions

B. Yes, if they have a HQL from their state

C. No, only Maryland residents can purchase

D. Yes, but only through a licensed dealer

Individuals from another state are not allowed to purchase a handgun in Maryland, as only Maryland residents are legally permitted to purchase handguns within the state. This is because Maryland has strict gun control laws and only residents who have proved to meet the state's requirements and background checks are allowed to purchase handguns. Options A, B, and D are incorrect because they suggest that an individual from another state can purchase a handgun in Maryland, which is not true.

3. What background check system is used in Maryland for firearm purchases from a licensed dealer?

- A. NICS**
- B. MICS**
- C. SPICS**
- D. None**

The background check system utilized in Maryland for firearm purchases from a licensed dealer is indeed the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). This federal system is essential for verifying the eligibility of individuals wanting to purchase firearms. When a buyer attempts to purchase a firearm, the dealer submits information to NICS, which checks the buyer's criminal history and other factors to determine whether the purchase can be approved. Maryland adheres to this federally mandated process, ensuring that only those who meet specific legal requirements can obtain firearms. It reflects a commitment to responsible gun ownership and enhances public safety by preventing individuals with disqualifying criminal backgrounds from purchasing firearms. Other choices, such as MICS and SPICS, do not correspond to recognized background check systems in Maryland or elsewhere. Therefore, they do not factor into the state's regulated procedures for gun purchases.

4. What is a 'regulated firearm' in Maryland?

- A. Any semi-automatic rifle**
- B. Handguns and assault weapons**
- C. All rifles and shotguns**
- D. Firearms with a magazine capacity greater than 10 rounds**

The correct answer is B, handguns and assault weapons. This is because, according to the Maryland State Police, a "regulated firearm" is defined as a handgun or specifically designated assault weapon. A handgun refers to any firearm with a barrel length of less than 12 inches, or an overall length of less than 26 inches. Assault weapons are semi-automatic rifles or shotguns with certain military-style features. Option A is incorrect because it does not specify "handguns" and includes all semi-automatic rifles. Option C is incorrect because it includes all rifles and shotguns, not just specific types. Option D is incorrect because it only specifies firearms with a certain magazine capacity, but does not include all handguns and assault weapons.

5. Can an individual under the age of 21 possess and transport a handgun in Maryland for employment purposes?
- A. Yes, without restriction
 - B. Yes, with written consent from a parent or guardian**
 - C. Yes, but only if they are a part of law enforcement or military
 - D. No, under no circumstances

In Maryland, individuals under the age of 21 are generally prohibited from possessing and transporting handguns, with specific exceptions. One such exception allows for possession if the individual is engaged in employment that requires handling a handgun, and this is permitted if they have written consent from a parent or guardian. This provision recognizes the unique circumstances around employment while still maintaining restrictions to protect public safety. Obtaining written consent ensures that parents or guardians are aware of and authorize the minor's access to a firearm in the context of their work. Therefore, the necessity of parental or guardian consent is crucial to meet the legal requirements set forth by Maryland law.

6. Can someone with a prior felony conviction own a firearm in Maryland?
- A. Yes, without restrictions
 - B. Yes, with restrictions
 - C. No**
 - D. Yes, but only after 10 years

In Maryland, individuals with a prior felony conviction are generally prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm. This law stems from the state's commitment to reducing gun violence and ensuring public safety. The legal framework is designed to restrict access to firearms for those who have been convicted of serious crimes, reflecting the belief that individuals who have shown a disregard for the law may pose a greater risk if allowed to possess firearms. This prohibition typically extends indefinitely, meaning that a person with a felony conviction cannot regain their firearm rights unless they seek and obtain a full pardon or specific legal relief from the state regarding their conviction. Given this context, the correct answer emphasizes that a person with a felony conviction is not permitted to own a firearm in Maryland.

7. Who is required to complete a Firearms Safety Training Course to purchase a regulated firearm in Maryland?
- A. All buyers under the age of 21
 - B. Only military personnel
 - C. All buyers of regulated firearms**
 - D. Non-residents only

All buyers of regulated firearms in Maryland are required to complete a Firearms Safety Training Course before they can purchase a regulated firearm. Option A is incorrect because age is not a determining factor for completing the training course. Option B is incorrect because military personnel are not the only ones required to complete the training course; all buyers are required to do so. Option D is incorrect because the requirement to complete the training course applies to both residents and non-residents of Maryland.

8. What does the Maryland Wear and Carry Permit allow an individual to do?

- A. Carry a concealed firearm in public**
- B. Purchase any firearm without a background check**
- C. Automatically carry a firearm in other states**
- D. Carry a firearm openly in public spaces**

The Maryland Wear and Carry Permit allows an individual to legally carry a concealed firearm in public within the state of Maryland. Option B is incorrect because background checks are still required for firearm purchases regardless of possessing a carry permit. Option C is incorrect because each state has its own laws regarding the carry of firearms, and a Maryland permit does not automatically permit carrying in other states. Option D is incorrect because Maryland is not an open carry state, so the permit does not allow for open carry in public spaces.

9. Is it legal to carry a concealed handgun in Maryland without a permit?

- A. Yes, everywhere**
- B. Yes, but only in your own business**
- C. No, a permit is required**
- D. Only in rural areas**

The correct answer is that a permit is required to carry a concealed handgun in Maryland. The state has specific laws governing the carrying of firearms, which mandate that individuals must obtain a Handgun Permit to carry a concealed weapon in public. This requirement is put in place to ensure that those who carry firearms have undergone proper training and background checks to promote public safety. Maryland's laws are designed to regulate the carrying of concealed firearms strictly, reflecting a commitment to maintaining an organized approach to firearm possession and use. Carrying a concealed handgun without a permit would not only be illegal but could also result in serious legal consequences for the individual involved. The other options either misinterpret the scope of concealed carry laws or limit the permit requirement to certain areas or circumstances, which does not align with the broader regulations established in Maryland.

10. What is required to transport a handgun in Maryland?

- A. Keeping it visible
- B. Placing it in the glove compartment
- C. Calling the local police department in advance
- D. Encasing it unloaded in a locked container**

The correct answer is indeed that to transport a handgun in Maryland, it must be encased and unloaded in a locked container. This requirement is part of Maryland's commitment to firearm safety and helps ensure that handguns are not readily accessible while being transported, reducing the risk of accidental discharges or unauthorized access. In Maryland, individuals transporting a handgun must adhere to strict regulations that prioritize public safety. By requiring the handgun to be unloaded and stored in a locked container, the law seeks to prevent potential misuse while in transit. This approach aligns with broader laws concerning the safe handling and transportation of firearms across various jurisdictions. The other options do not satisfy the legal requirements set forth by Maryland law. Keeping a handgun visible could increase the risk of theft or unauthorized access. Placing it in the glove compartment does not meet the requirements of being locked and could lead to similar safety issues. Lastly, while notifying local police could be advisable in certain situations, it is not a legal requirement for transporting a handgun in Maryland. Understanding and adhering to these regulations is critical for responsible firearm ownership.