



WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

Office of Housing & Residence Life
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Campus Self Defense Act Information

Effective July 1, 2024, the state of WV will enact the Campus Self Defense Act on university campuses throughout the state. West Liberty University has spent the last academic year preparing for the changes this law will bring to campus to work to ensure the safety of our campus community. For more information go to westliberty.edu/emergencies/campuscarry. If you have questions email campuscarry@westliberty.edu.

The Basics of the Law

The Campus Self Defense Act will allow for an individual who possesses a WV Concealed Handgun License (CHL) or provisional license to carry a concealed handgun on campus, or a permit from a state with reciprocity for concealed carry in WV. Specific areas will be designated as gun free zones or gun restricted zones. You will find both listed below:

Gun Free Zones
Events at the ASRC Arena and West Family Stadium (where the capacity for attendance exceeds 1000 individuals)
Campus Police Office
Medical/Health Clinic locations: Student Health Services, Counseling Services, Dental Hygiene Clinic, Speech Pathology & Audiology Clinic, Behavioral Science Clinic
Classrooms or locations storing hazardous material (multiple locations in Main Hall, Arnett Hall and Campbell Hall)
Residence Hall rooms
Sole occupancy offices
Leased properties (including leased apartments and vehicles)
Any other area where possession is prohibited by state or federal law, such as the College Union Office/Mailroom

Gun Restricted Zones
Locations where a disciplinary proceeding is being held for a student or employee at the time of the proceeding(s).
Locations where primary or secondary education school-sponsored functions are being held.
Locations where private functions are being held on campus, including summer camps/conferences and private parties.
** Gun Free Zones will be designated with permanent signs. Gun Restricted Zones will be designated with temporary signs during the time of the restriction.

Safety and Support Resources

WLU has created employee and student policies to provide safety measures for the campus community regarding the Campus Self Defense Act. This includes secured storage locations in Shaw Hall, Student Union and Krise Hall, with limited access and camera coverage. Educational sessions will be held for all students and employees early in the fall semester in addition to several related safety training sessions throughout the fall semester. Additionally, the University will offer mental health support resources through our Office of Counseling Services, BetterMynd online resources, and the Behavioral Health Clinic. WLU Police are available 24/7 to respond to any concerns from students or employees. Anyone with any safety concerns should contact Campus Police at (304)336-8021 or by calling 911 for immediate concerns.