House Bill 280
Changes to OCGA 16-11-127.1
Background

- House Bill 280, commonly referred to as “campus carry” legislation was signed by Governor Nathan Deal on May 4, 2017.

- Legislation changes OCGA 16-11-127.1 and it goes into effect on July 1, 2017.

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*Read more about these restrictions here: [http://georgiadnr.gov/content/weapons-carry-guidelines](http://georgiadnr.gov/content/weapons-carry-guidelines)*
Overview of Changes

Changes only apply to:

1. Weapons carry license-holders*;
2. And carrying of handguns – changes do not apply to long guns.
3. And carrying in a “concealed” manner – defined as;

“Carried in such a fashion that does not actively solicit the attention of others, and is not prominently, openly, and intentionally displayed except for purposes of defense of self or others.”
### Reciprocity Laws

* Includes license-holders from:

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Where are License-Holders Allowed to Carry On Campus?

Weapons carry license-holders are allowed to carry concealed handguns in any building or on real property owned by or leased to USG institutions (with some exceptions).

**NOTE:** OCGA 16-11-127.1 (20) is not applicable to properties that are NOT owned or leased by the institution, even if the property is within the officer’s 500-yard jurisdiction.
Prohibited Areas on Campus

There are locations on campus where weapons license-holders are NOT allowed to carry concealed handguns on campus property owned or leased by the institution.

NOTE: Changes to OCGA 16-11-127.1 do not change the exemption status for individuals authorized under OCGA 16-11-130. This includes:

- Police Officers
- Active Military
- Judges
- Etc.
Weapons carry license-holders are NOT allowed to carry in:

- Buildings or property **used for athletic sporting events**.
- Specifically stadiums, gymnasiums, and similar facilities in which **intercollegiate games are conducted**.

**NOTE:** This exemption applies to these facilities at all times, not only when athletic events are being conducted.
It does not prohibit carry in:

- “Tailgating” areas where fans may congregate outside the sports facility.
- Student recreation centers and similar facilities that are NOT used for intercollegiate games.
Intercollegiate Athletic Sporting Facilities

Weapons carry license-holders are NOT allowed to carry in:

- Homer Rice Center for Sports Performance
- Howard Candler Jr. Football Center
- Bobby Dodd Stadium Complex
  - Arthur B. Edge Building
  - Student Success Center
  - Wardlaw Building
- McCamish Pavilion including
  - Zelnak Basketball Center
  - Luck Building
  - Coliseum Annex Building
- John and Mary Brock Football Facility
- Rose Bowl Field
- Ken Byers Tennis Complex
  - Bill Moore Indoor Tennis Center
- George C. Griffin Track & Field Facility
- Shirley Clements Mewborn Field
- Russ Chandler Stadium
- O’Keefe Gymnasium
- Campus Recreation Center
Residence Halls, Fraternity and Sorority Houses

Weapons license holders are NOT allowed to carry in:

- Student housing facilities, including residence halls or fraternity and sorority houses, on property owned or leased by the institution.

It does **not** include:

- Fraternity and sorority houses, or property that is privately owned, not on the property of the institution even if they fall within the 500-yard jurisdiction of the campus police.
Weapons license-holders are NOT allowed to carry in preschool or childcare spaces, including any enclosed outdoor facilities which are separated by:

- Electronic mechanism such as card access;
- or, human-staffed point of controlled access.
It does not include:

- Hallways, common lobby areas, or spaces adjacent to preschool or childcare spaces that are outside the controlled access point.
- Outside spaces that are NOT enclosed.
Preschool or Childcare Spaces

The Children’s Campus @ Georgia Tech (251 10th Street – Building F of Graduate Student Housing)
Classes Where High School Students are Enrolled

Weapons license-holders are NOT allowed to carry in:

- Classes where high school students are enrolled through dual enrollment programs, including but not limited to “Move on When Ready” students.

It does **not** include:

- Classrooms where there are no high school students enrolled.
Classes Where High School Students are Enrolled

Weapons-carry holders need to visit the Office of the Registrar to determine if a class has enrolled high school students.

It is the responsibility of the license-holder to determine if they are legally able to carry to class.
Offices: Faculty, Staff or Administrative

Weapons license-holders are NOT allowed to carry in:

• Offices for faculty, staff, or administrative offices, to include office suites.

It does not include:

• Hallways, or common areas adjacent to an office that are not a part of the office or suite.
Weapons license-holders are NOT allowed to carry in:

- Offices or rooms **WHEN** disciplinary proceedings are being conducted.
Handling Calls Received

Dispatchers or officers must gain additional information when receiving calls about an individual with a handgun that are consistent with existing procedures.

- What type of weapon does the individual have?
- Is the individual displaying the weapon, or do they have it drawn?
- What is the individual doing at this time?

This information should be relayed to officers in the field.
Responding To Calls Received

- Officers should carefully evaluate calls received regarding an individual with a concealed handgun.
- Based on officers’ observations, additional action may not be required if the individual does not appear to be violating the law.
- Officers need to be aware that OCGA 16-11-137 provides that “A person carrying a weapon shall not be subject to detention for the sole purpose of investigating whether such person has a weapons carry license.”
- Officers need to exercise diligence in the application of the law. Contact supervisors with any questions.
Conclusion

Questions regarding policies, not legal questions, should be submitted for review through the GTPD website:

http://www.police.gatech.edu/campus-carry-questions