

Range Licence

Purpose of This Information Sheet

- A Range Licence is required to operate a firearm range in Western Australia. This information sheet explains:
 - who can apply for a Range Licence
 - what activities are allowed at a licensed firearm range, and
 - key terms used in relation to range licensing.
- This information is intended to help the general public understand the requirements for operating a firearm range. It does not replace the *Firearms Act 2024* or the *Firearms Regulations 2024*, which set out the legal requirements.

Range Licence Overview

- A Range Licence authorises the operation of a firearm range in Western Australia for approved shooting related activities.
- A Range Licence may be granted to an individual, body corporate or partnership, including persons or entities that operate firearm ranges or shooting galleries for sporting, training or commercial purposes.
- A Range Licence applies to the operation of one or more of the following:
 - a firearm range, being an indoor or outdoor place used for competition shooting, target shooting or firearms training;
 - a shooting gallery, being a movable firearm range operated at approved locations or events; and
 - one or more range firearms, being firearms covered by the Range Licence and authorised for use at the licensed firearm range.
- The activities that may be conducted, the locations where a range or shooting gallery may operate, and whether the licence applies to any firearms are determined by the conditions of the Range Licence and the regulations.

Key Terms

- Firearm Range
 - An indoor or outdoor place where firearms are used for competition shooting, target shooting or firearms training.
- Range Firearm
 - A firearm that is licensed under a Range Licence and may be used at the licensed firearm range.
- Shooting Gallery
 - A movable firearm range that operates at approved locations or events.

Authority Conferred by a Range Licence

- A Range Licence authorises the following activities at a licensed firearm range:
 - The licensee may possess a range firearm for use in accordance with the licence.

- An authorised person for the licence may use a range firearm at the licensed firearm range for:
 - competition shooting
 - target shooting, or
 - firearms training.
- Any person (other than a disqualified person or prohibited person) may use a range firearm at the licensed firearm range for competition shooting, target shooting or firearms training if they are under the immediate supervision of an authorised person for the Range Licence.
- Firearms training may only be provided by an authorised person who is an approved firearms trainer.

Authority to Manufacture and Sale of Ammunition

- A Range Licence authorises an authorised person for the licence to:
 - manufacture ammunition for a range firearm for use at the licensed firearm range, and
 - supply ammunition in a range firearm to a person only for use at the licensed firearm range.
- Ammunition manufactured or supplied under a Range Licence must only be used in accordance with the licence.

Suitability of a Range for a Range Licence

- A Range Licence can only be granted if the regulator is satisfied that:
 - the location of the firearm range is suitable for use as a licensed firearm range
 - the firearm range meets construction standards set by the regulator to ensure it can be operated safely at that location, and
 - using the land as a firearm range is a lawful use of the land.
- Evidence of lawful land use may include confirmation from the relevant local government authority.

Range Licence for a Shooting Gallery

- A Range Licence issued for a shooting gallery is subject to the following restrictions:
 - The shooting gallery is only a licensed firearm range while it is being operated in accordance with the licence and the regulations.
 - The shooting gallery may only operate at locations, or types of locations, specified in the licence.
 - A Range Licence for a shooting gallery does not authorise firearms training.

Applying for a Range Licence (Other Than for Shooting Galleries)

- An application for a Range Licence (other than for a shooting gallery) must include the following information:
 - the location of the proposed firearm range
 - a plan for the safe operation of the shooting area (the proposed plan)
 - photographs of the shooting area
 - a map of the property where the range is located

- information about each shooting discipline the applicant intends to provide facilities or equipment for
- evidence that:
 - the applicant is the owner or lawful occupier of the land, and
 - the regulator can be satisfied that using the land as a firearm range is lawful
- a business plan.

Requirements for the Proposed Plan

- The proposed plan must:
 - Show the layout of the shooting area, including any shooting lanes and safety features; and
 - Demonstrate how the shooting area meets the standards of construction referred to in section 83(b) of the Firearms Act 2024; and
 - Demonstrate how the operation of the shooting area will be managed to ensure its safe operation.

Applying for a Range Licence for a Shooting Gallery

- An application for a Range Licence for a shooting gallery must include the following information:
 - the locations, or types of locations, where the applicant proposes to operate the shooting gallery
 - the events, or types of events, during which the applicant proposes to operate the shooting gallery
 - a plan for the safe operation of the shooting area (the proposed plan)
 - photographs of the shooting area
 - information about each shooting activity the applicant proposes to conduct, and
 - a business plan.
- The proposed plan must:
 - show the layout of the shooting area, including shooting lanes and safety features
 - demonstrate that the shooting area meets construction standards set by the regulator, and
 - explain how the shooting area will be operated and managed to ensure it can be used safely.

Firearms to which Range Licence applies

- A Range Licence may apply to firearms of category A, B, C or H, unless the licence is issued for a shooting gallery.
- A Range Licence for a shooting gallery may only apply to category A firearms.
- A Range Licence does not have to apply to any firearm.

References to Legislation:

Legislation	Relevant Provision
<i>Firearms Act 2024</i>	Sections 78-85
<i>Firearms Regulations 2024</i>	Regulations 149-165