

INFORMATION SHEET- TRANSITIONING Transition to Collector Licence



Transitioning to a Collector Licence

To transition to a Collector Licence (Firearms) under the *Firearms Act 2024*, you will need to:

- Ensure that you have been deemed a student of arms by Licensing Services.
- Provide evidence that you are a current member of an approved society of firearm collectors.
- Provide updated security and storage evidence (if required).
- Ensure that your licence does not relate to any firearms licensed for their heirloom value (see below for more details).
- Ensure that your licence does not relate to any handguns manufactured within the last 50 years.
- If the licence relates to handguns or Category C firearms, then they must bear an endorsement for Significant Historical Value. If this has not yet been done, then you must provide a submission detailing the historical value of the firearm so it can be evaluated (see below for more detail).

All documents should be emailed to FirearmsProject@police.wa.gov.au with the subject line **Collector Licence Documentation** and your **licence number**.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Approved Society of Firearm Collectors

If you're not currently a member of an approved society of firearm collectors, you will need to become one to remain eligible for a Collector Licence (Firearms). There are currently several approved societies of firearms collectors:

- West Australian Military Heritage Society SSAA
- The Western Australia Arms & Armour Society (Inc.)
- Historic and Antique Firearm Research Association (Inc.)
- AllGuns Historical Collectors Society Pty Ltd
- Western Australian Student of Arms Society Incorporated

Heirloom Firearms

Under the *Firearms Act 2024* there is no longer provision for licensing a firearm under a Collector Licence due to heirloom value.

If you're currently licensed to any firearm that's endorsed for heirloom value, then you must either:

- Provide information as to the firearm's Significant Commemorative, Historical, or Thematic Value; or
- Dispose of the firearm.

Significant Historical Value for handguns and Category C firearms

Section 69 of the *Firearms Act 2024* states that a Collector Licence for firearms must not authorise possession of a handgun or Category C firearm unless the Commissioner is satisfied that the firearm has Significant Historical Value.

Significant Historical Value means that the firearm has special significance due to its connection with a particular period in history.

Example 1: The relevant item is a firearm that was used in the assassination, or attempted assassination, of an important historical figure which in turn had an important impact on a period of history.

Example 2: Firearms were used in one or more significant event that occurred during a period such as military conflict, revolution or colonial settlement.

Firearm Disposal

If you need to dispose of firearms then you may elect to do this by taking part in the Voluntary Buyback Scheme, which is currently running until 14 January 2026.

Storage and Security

If your current storage and security arrangements are not eligible for grandfathering, then you may be required to provide evidence of upgraded storage and security before your licence can be issued.

If you do require upgraded storage and/or security, you will need to email your completed Storage Statement to FirearmsProject@police.wa.gov.au referencing your licence number.

Please consult the storage matrix below to determine the storage and security requirements that apply to your circumstances. It should be noted that your storage requirements are determined by the number and type of firearms on your licence, plus any other firearms registered to your storage location.

Note:

Licensing Services is aware that some people may be impacted by supply shortages with respect to new firearms cabinets.

If you are impacted by this, please contact our Transition Team on 1300 894 474 for assistance.