

Firearms and Other Dangerous Weapons Policy

I. SCOPE

This policy applies to all employees, students, contractors and visitors to the campus.

II. STATEMENT OF POLICY

No weapons (as defined below) are allowed on Goucher College premises, including in vehicles parked on campus, except for the exceptions listed. This prohibition applies to those who have a valid permit to carry a concealed weapon. The term weapon includes any potentially dangerous object or substance that is designed to or traditionally used to inflict harm, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. firearms (including any weapon or instrument from which a shot, projectile, or other object may be discharged by force, whether operable or inoperable, loaded or unloaded);
2. any BB gun, pellet gun, air rifle, or paint ball gun;
3. any replica firearm or sword (including decorative);
4. martial arts weapons;
5. any bomb (or other explosive material);
6. knives (other than an ordinary pocketknife carried in a closed position, with a blade of three inches or less; or knives designed for cooking and eating).
7. switchblades;
8. any billy club, nunchaku, blackjack, bludgeon, metal knuckles, slingshot, razor, or ice pick;
9. illegal or potentially dangerous chemicals, fireworks; or
10. any instrument, which by its nature or circumstances may be reasonably construed as a weapon.

III. EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY

- A. Sworn peace officers employed by public agencies who are authorized to wear, carry or transport a weapon as part of their official equipment are authorized to carry their authorized weapon on campus, but are encouraged to report their presence to the Goucher College Office of Public Safety.
- B. Individuals may carry OC (oleoresin capsicum) spray for self-defense purposes.
- C. Hazardous chemicals used for legitimate college purposes, including in the science laboratories and the Facilities Maintenance Services department.
- D. Groups using prop weapons in theatrical productions should report that information to the Goucher College Office of Public Safety.

- E. The use of weapons in programs sanctioned or sponsored by student clubs (e.g., fencing club), is permitted, where such items are maintained, stored, and monitored by a college staff member, and are used in a controlled, monitored environment, are permitted.
- F. The use of properly marked toy guns during authorized games, such as Humans vs. Zombies, is permitted.

IV. POLICY VIOLATIONS

Violations of this policy by employees will result in discipline, up to and including termination of employment. Violations by students will be referred for adjudication under the Student Code of Conduct.

V. CONTACT

Questions about this policy can be directed to the [Office of Campus Safety](#), 410-337-6111.

VI. HISTORY

Last updated September 2019