The University of Mississippi

Weapons on Campus

**Summary/Purpose:** Except under the narrow circumstances outlined in this policy, the possession of firearms on campus is prohibited and constitutes a felony under Mississippi law.

**PEOPLE AFFECTED:** Faculty, staff, students, visitors and the employees of contractors.

In accordance with IHL policy and state law, it is a felony to possess a firearm, pistol, shotgun, rifle, or other deadly weapon (a “Firearm”) on the University of Mississippi campus or on any property owned by or controlled by the University (“the University Campus”) except as outlined in this policy.

Sworn law enforcement officers on the University Campus may carry a Firearm on their person or in their vehicle when authorized to do so by the University of Mississippi Chief of Police, or when authorized to do so by state or federal law.

Members of the Ole Miss Women’s Rifle Team may possess and use weapons sanctioned for their sport at the Ole Miss Rifle Center as may competing teams.

Visitors to the University Campus who have been issued an Enhanced Carry Permit according to the provisions of Mississippi Code Annotated § 97-37-7(2) may not carry a concealed Firearm in areas that have been designated as sensitive or non-public areas (“Sensitive Areas”). Sensitive Areas on the University Campus include:

- Academic buildings, including any buildings with classrooms or laboratories
- Administrative offices and buildings
- Athletics facilities, including, but not limited to, Vaught-Hemingway Stadium, Oxford/University Stadium, the Pavilion, any playing field, any practice facility, and any area where an athletics event is being held
- Any residence hall
- Fraternity and sorority houses
- Turner Recreation Center and recreation areas under the control of Campus Recreation
- The Oxford/University Airport
- Any area where a ticketed event is being held
- Any area where a University scheduled event is being held
- Any area where a class or lab is being conducted

In accordance with state law and IHL policy, students, University employees and the employees of contractors on campus may not possess firearms on campus, regardless of whether the individual possesses an Enhanced Carry Permit.
Because of the density of crowds on campus during football game days, no individual may possess a Firearm anywhere on the University Campus on a football game day, regardless of whether the individual possesses an Enhanced Carry Permit. No individual may possess a Firearm anywhere on the University Campus during commencement day, or within 500 feet of any concert, parade, or rally in progress regardless of whether the individual possesses an Enhanced Carry Permit.

No one may possess a Firearm on campus while engaged in any type of criminal activity or while consuming or under the influence of alcohol or under the influence of any drug, including illegal drugs and prescription medication, regardless of whether the individual possesses an Enhanced Carry Permit. An individual with an Enhanced Carry Permit may not brandish his or her Firearm or use it to intimidate or threaten another individual. The discharge of any Firearm on campus is strictly prohibited.

To ensure personal safety, to protect University property, and to ensure order, the University also reserves the right to prohibit the wearing of masks, personal disguises and other means of concealing one’s identity and to prohibit the possession of weapons, props, torches, open flames, items that may be used as weapons, and protective gear on the University campus and/or at University events.