

6

Renewing a firearms licence

Note: This information sheet does not constitute legal advice and is for general information purposes only. Applicants and licensees are required to understand and comply with the *Firearms Act 1996* ("the Act") and associated Regulations, which are available on the Tasmanian legislation website – www.legislation.tas.gov.au. This document was prepared in June 2024 based on the relevant legislation at that time.

This information sheet provides information about how to renew a firearms licence.

When can a licence holder apply to renew their firearms licence?

BEFORE THE FIREARMS LICENCE EXPIRES OR WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER IT EXPIRES.

There are several reasons why it is important to renew a licence within time. If a licence holder does not apply to renew their licence within time:

- Firearms Services cannot process an **application to renew** under the *Firearms Act 1996*, Part 2, Division 5A.
- The licence will expire, and the licence holder will no longer be authorised to possess or use firearms.

- They will have to complete a **new licence application**. If they have never completed an Approved Firearms Safety Course, then it is likely they will also have to complete a course before they can become relicensed.

If a licence holder is in possession of firearms when their licence expires and the licence is not renewed, they must dispose of their firearms, firearm parts and ammunition to a dealer or to police.

How does a licence holder apply to renew their firearms licence?

Renewal forms are posted to licence holders two months before their licence expires. A licence holder can lodge their renewal form at Service Tasmania by providing 100 points of identification, paying the prescribed fee and lodging documents to prove that their genuine reason is still applicable. A new licence photograph will be taken.

When Firearms Services receive the licence renewal form, there are four things which can happen:

- the licence is renewed exactly as it was before.
- the licence is renewed but with varied or additional conditions.
- the person can be asked to provide additional information, or
- the application may be refused.



What happens if a person successfully applies to renew their licence but their current licence card expires before the new one arrives?

As long as the person lodged their application to renew their firearms licence at Service Tasmania before the expiry date printed on the licence card, or within 14 days after the expiry date printed on the card, **they remain licensed**.

Can a person challenge a decision not to renew a licence, or to alter/vary the conditions on a licence?

Provided the person is not the subject of a Prohibition Order, they can apply to a Magistrate for a review of either decision.

The contact details for the Magistrates Court are:

Hobart	(03) 6165 7136 registry.hobart@justice.tas.gov.au
Launceston	(03) 6777 2945 registry.launceston@justice.tas.gov.au
Devonport	(03) 6478 4353 registry.devonport@justice.tas.gov.au
Burnie	(03) 6477 7140 registry.burnie@justice.tas.gov.au

