



**Introduction**

This fact sheet has been produced by SIFA to summarise the regulatory requirements for the commercial transportation of firearms in Australia.

The commercial transportation of firearms is regulated via the State and Territory Acts referenced in this document.

It is important to not confuse the transport requirements for licensed shooters and dealers with those applicable to commercial carriers.

**In summary.**

A carrier must be approved to transport firearms in WA. There is no such requirement in other States and Territories.

There is no requirement for the driver to be licensed (with respect to firearms) in any State or Territory.

There are safe carriage and safe storage requirements which are in line with current anti-theft practices employed by most carriers.

Transporting a firearm out of sight (e.g., boxed) inside a locked vehicle is considered adequate in all jurisdictions.

Jurisdiction	Requirement(s)	Section(s) of Act/Regs	Notes
ACT	No licence or permit required	Section 233 and 234 of the ACT Firearms Act 1996  Section 52A of the ACT Firearms Regulation 2008.	<p><b>233 Transport of firearms and ammunition</b> A person who is engaged in the business of transporting goods must not, without reasonable excuse, transport any cargo that contains both a firearm and ammunition.</p> <p><b>234 Transporting prohibited firearms or pistols</b> A person must not convey (whether or not in the course of a business) a prohibited firearm or pistol except in accordance with the prescribed safety requirements.</p> <p><b>52A Transportation of firearms, reasonable steps in storing—</b> (1) A person who transports a firearm takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the firearm is stored safely while the firearm is being transported if the firearm is stored in accordance with this section. (2) A firearm must— (a) not be loaded with, and must be kept separate from, any ammunition; and (b) if the firearm is being transported using a vehicle other than a motorcycle— (i) be rendered temporarily incapable of being fired; or Examples 1 by removing the bolt or the firing mechanism 2 by using a restraining device such as a trigger lock. (ii) be stored in—</p>

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			<p>(A) a securely locked container that is securely attached to the vehicle; or</p> <p>(B) a securely locked compartment within the vehicle; and</p> <p>(c) if the firearm is being transported using a motorcycle— be stored in a lockable hard-case pannier, luggage box or other container appropriate for transporting the firearm; and</p> <p>(d) not be able to be seen by a person who is not responsible for transporting the firearm</p>
QLD	Exempt from the Act	Section 2(1)(l) of the Weapons Act 1990 (QLD)	<p><b>2. Application of Act (1) This Act does not apply to a person—</b></p> <p>(a) who is—</p> <p>(l) who is actually engaged in the warehousing or transport under consignment of merchandise for or on behalf of—</p> <p>(i) a licensed dealer; or</p> <p>(ii) the armed forces of the Commonwealth; or</p> <p>(iii) any authority of the Commonwealth or State; in respect of possession of merchandise consigned thereto or therefrom</p>
TAS	No licence or permit required	Section 102 and Section 103 of the Firearms Act 1996 (TAS)	<p><b>102. Delivery of firearms</b></p> <p>(1) A person may only deliver possession of any firearm, firearm part or ammunition to another person</p> <p>(a) in person; or</p> <p>(b) by means of a person who appears able to ensure the security of the firearm, firearm part or ammunition during the course of delivery.</p> <p>(2) A person who possesses a firearm, firearm part or ammunition for the purpose of delivering it to another person does not commit an offence under section 9 in relation to that possession.</p> <p><b>103. Transport of firearms and ammunition</b></p> <p>Any person who is engaged in the business of transporting goods must not knowingly transport any package that contains both a firearm or firearm part and ammunition.</p>
VIC	No licence or permit required	Item No. 7, Schedule 3 of the Firearms Act 1996 (VIC)	<p><b>SCHEDULE 3 NON-PROHIBITED PERSONS WHO ARE EXEMPT FROM REQUIREMENT TO HOLD A LICENCE UNDER PART 2</b></p> <p>7. Any commercial carrier or warehouseman. When possessing for the purposes of storage or carrying a firearm in the ordinary course of his or her business as a carrier or warehouseman.</p>

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NSW	Safety requirements for transport but no licence or permit required	Section 56 of the Firearms Act 1996 (NSW) Section 147 of the Firearms Regulations 2017 (NSW)	<p><b>147. Commercial transportation of firearms—prescribed safety requirements</b></p> <p>For the purposes of section 56 of the Act, the following safety requirements are prescribed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the firearm must be stored in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a secured locked container secured to the vehicle, or</li> <li>(ii) a locked compartment within the vehicle, and must not be able to be seen while it is being conveyed,</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) all reasonable precautions must be taken to ensure that the firearm is not lost or stolen while it is being conveyed.</li> </ul>
SA	Safety requirements for transport but no licence or permit required	Section 8(2)(j), Section 35(1) and Section 35(2) of the Firearms Act 2015 (SA)  Section 26(4), Section 28(1), Section 29(1), and Schedule 1; Part 25(1), Part 26(1), Part 26(4) and Part 26(6) of the Firearms Regulations 2017 (SA)	<p><b>8. Application of Act</b></p> <p>(2) Subject to subsection (3), this Act does not apply to—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(j) (transport and storage businesses) a person's possession of a firearm (other than a prescribed firearm), in the ordinary course of the business of transporting or storing goods (other than as a dealer), except that the person carrying on the business must comply with the requirements of this Act relating to the transport or storage of firearms, firearm parts or ammunition;</li> </ul> <p><b>35. Code of practice</b></p> <p>(1) The regulations may set out a code of practice for the purposes of this Part.</p> <p>(2) A code of practice may (without limiting section 78)—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) specify requirements in relation to the security and storage of firearms, ammunition, firearm parts, sound moderators and restricted firearm mechanisms; and</li> <li>(b) specify requirements in relation to the transport of firearms, ammunition, firearm parts, sound moderators and restricted firearm mechanisms;</li> </ul> <p><b>Regulations</b></p> <p><b>26. Security of firearms and ammunition while being transported</b></p> <p>(4) A person who is transporting a firearm or ammunition in a vehicle, vessel or aircraft (including a person who transports a firearm or ammunition in the ordinary course of carrying on the business of transporting goods) must, so far as is reasonably practicable, ensure that the firearm or ammunition is covered, concealed or otherwise placed so that it is out of sight while it is in the vehicle, vessel or aircraft.</p>

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			<p><b>28. Firearms not to be left unattended in vehicle etc</b></p> <p>(1) A person transporting a firearm in a vehicle, vessel or aircraft (including in the ordinary course of the person carrying on the business of transporting goods) must not leave the vehicle, vessel or aircraft unattended unless—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the person has a reasonable excuse in the circumstances to leave the vehicle, vessel or aircraft unattended; and</li> <li>(b) the vehicle, vessel or aircraft is securely locked; and</li> <li>(c) the vehicle, vessel or aircraft is left unattended for no longer than is reasonably necessary in the circumstances.</li> </ul> <p><b>29. Commercial transport of firearms and ammunition</b></p> <p>(1) A person who carries on the business of transporting goods must not, in the course of carrying on that business, transport a firearm and ammunition, or cause a firearm and ammunition to be transported (whether the ammunition is suitable for use in the firearm or not), by the same vehicle, vessel or aircraft unless—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the vehicle, vessel or aircraft is also transporting the owner of the firearm and the owner of the ammunition; or</li> <li>(b) the firearm and ammunition are locked in separate containers or compartments; or</li> <li>(c) the person has obtained the approval of the Registrar.</li> </ul> <p><b>Schedule 1 of the Regulations</b></p> <p><b>25. General duty to prevent loss or theft of firearm or ammunition while being transported</b></p> <p>(1) A person who is transporting a firearm or ammunition in a vehicle, vessel or aircraft (including a person who transports a firearm or ammunition in the ordinary course of carrying on the business of transporting goods) must take all reasonable precautions to prevent the firearm or ammunition from being lost or stolen or coming into the possession of an unauthorised person while being transported.</p> <p><b>26. Security of firearms and ammunition while being transported</b></p> <p>(1) If a vehicle, vessel or aircraft in which a firearm or ammunition is being transported has—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a boot, glove box, cupboard or other compartment in which the firearm or ammunition may be locked; or</li> <li>(b) a container fixed securely to the vehicle, vessel or aircraft (either internally or externally) in which the firearm or ammunition may be locked, the person transporting the firearm or ammunition must—</li> <li>(c) ensure that the firearm or ammunition is securely locked in the boot, glove box, cupboard or other compartment or container; and</li> <li>(d) if both a firearm and ammunition are being transported in the vehicle, vessel or aircraft at the same time and the vehicle, vessel or aircraft has more than 1 such compartment or container—ensure that the firearm and ammunition are secured separately unless—</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) it is not reasonably practicably for the person to do so in the circumstances; or</li> <li>(j) the firearm or ammunition would not then be secured by using the best means reasonably available to the person.</li> </ul> <p>(4) A person who is transporting a firearm or ammunition in a vehicle, vessel or aircraft (including a person who transports a firearm or ammunition in the ordinary course of carrying on the business of transporting goods) must, so far as is reasonably practicable, ensure that the firearm or ammunition is covered, concealed or otherwise placed so that it is out of sight while it is in the vehicle, vessel or aircraft.</p> <p>(6) Unless it is not reasonably practicable in the circumstances, and subject to any other Act or law, a person who transports a firearm or ammunition (including a person who transports a firearm or ammunition in the ordinary course of carrying on the business of transporting goods) must not transport the firearm or ammunition in a compartment or container that is marked in any way, or has anything on or attached to it, indicating that it contains a firearm or ammunition.</p>
WA	No licence or permit required but must be an "approved" commercial carrier	Section 4 and Section 8(1) of the Firearms Act 1973 (WA)	<p><b>8. Exemptions from licensing requirements</b></p> <p>(1) No licence under this Act is required —</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(g) by a person who is an approved commercial carrier or approved warehouseman, or by the servant of any such person, who in the ordinary course of his trade or business as an approved commercial carrier or approved warehouseman — <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) carries, and not by means of a bicycle or motor cycle, unless otherwise approved; or</li> <li>(ii) stores, a firearm or ammunition for another person;</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>4. Terms Used</b></p> <p><i>approved</i> means approved by the Commissioner;</p>
NT	Safety requirements for transport but no licence or permit required	Section 66 of the Firearms Act (NT)  Section 32 of the Firearms Regulations (NT)	<p><b>66. Transporting firearms</b></p> <p>A person who conveys (whether or not in the course of a business) a prohibited firearm or a category A firearm, category B firearm, category C firearm, category D firearm or category H firearm must comply with the prescribed safety requirements.</p> <p><b>32. Transporting firearms</b></p> <p>(1) For the purposes of section 66 of the Act, a prohibited firearm or a category A, B, C, D or H firearm may be conveyed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) by registered post;</li> <li>(b) by a commercial freight carrier or a common carrier;</li> </ul>