

MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

**HEALTH AND SAFETY
Section 803**

SUBJECT: FIREARMS

PURPOSE: To regulate the possession on MCCA property

A. Rationale

The Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of law enforcement that ready access to firearms by a person in distress contributes significantly to the likelihood of violence. The trustees also recognize the dangers posed by the accidental or careless discharge of a firearm on property owned, operated or occupied by the MCCA. This policy shall be enforced in good faith for the purpose of furthering safety on each campus.

B. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following terms have the following meanings:

1. “Firearm” means any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive and includes any such weapon commonly referred to as a pistol, revolver, rifle, gun, semi-automatic gun, machine gun, shotgun or any other weapon that can be made into a firearm by inserting a firing pin, or other similar thing, or by repair;
2. “Possession” means ownership, care, custody or control whether concealed or in plain view; and
3. “Property” means all colleges, campuses, off-campus centers, buildings, parking lots and all other grounds owned, operated or occupied by an entity of the MCCA.

C. Regulation

Pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §10009, no person other than those specified below may possess a firearm on property owned, operated or occupied by a college and/or the System. This prohibition includes residence halls and motor vehicles parked on such property. This prohibition also includes any concealed weapon because a concealed carry permit does not authorize firearm possession in a location where, as under §10009, possession has been lawfully prohibited pursuant to express statutory authority. Persons who violate this policy may be subject to removal, discipline and/or other lawful remedies.

This regulation shall not apply to:

1. Law enforcement officials; and
2. Supervised educational program personnel expressly approved in advance by a college president.

D. Use of Storage at Local Police Stations

A college or other MCCS location may not store firearms other than as a temporary or interim safety precaution. Each college should determine whether firearm storage for persons attending or visiting an MCCS property is available at a local police station and/or place of business, and advise accordingly those persons who seek such storage.

E. Notice

Each MCCS location shall provide at each location notice of this policy by publications, website and/or signage.

REFERENCES: §12706 (1) and (13); 20-A M.R.S.A. §10009 (superceding P.L. 2007, ch. 67 which amended 20-A M.R.S.A. §6552); 17-A M.R.S.A. §2 (12-A)

DATE ADOPTED: June 24, 2009

DATE(S) AMENDED: May 3, 2013