

FAQs

GENERAL

Q1) May I know if this item is controlled / requires a licence?

A1) Please refer to our PLUS website at <https://www.police.gov.sg/licence> for the list of items which are regulated by SPF. The link can be found under **FAQ and FORMS**.

Q2) Do I need a licence?

A2) Arms, explosives or explosives precursors are regulated under the Arms and Explosives Act, Chapter 13.

"arms" means —

- (a) firearms, air-guns, air-pistols, stun guns, electronic dart guns, automatic guns, automatic pistols, guns or any other kind of gun from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged or noxious fumes or noxious substance can be emitted, and any component part of any such arms;
- (b) bayonets, swords, daggers, spears and spearheads; and
- (c) such weapon, accessory, or other article or thing, as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, specify to be arms for the purposes of this Act or any part thereof;

"explosive" means —

- (a) means gunpowder, nitro-glycerine, dynamite, gun-cotton, blasting powder, fulminate of mercury or of other metals, coloured fires and every other substance, whether similar to those abovementioned or not, used or manufactured with a view to producing a practical effect by explosion or a pyrotechnic effect;
- (b) includes fog signals, fireworks, fuses, rockets, percussion-caps, detonators, cartridges and ammunition of all descriptions, and every adaptation or preparation of an explosive as above defined; and
- (c) includes sand crackers, and any substance declared to be deemed an explosive by notification under section 10 (1) (a);

"explosive precursor" means any substance specified in the Second Schedule of the Arms & Explosives Act;

Q3) How do I apply for a licence?

A3) Please refer to our website at <https://www.police.gov.sg/licence> for instructions on how to apply for a licence.

For import / export / transshipment of trade consignments, applications have to be submitted via Singapore Custom's TRADENET Portal. Please refer to Singapore Customs' Tradenet website for more information: <https://authority.tradenet.gov.sg/intradenet/default.portal>

Q4) What are the type of licences under the Arms & Explosives Act?

A4) PLRD issues 2 types of licences – Base licence (long term) of up to 2 years' validity and Ad-hoc (short term) of up to 14 days validity:

Long Term Licences with validity of up to 2 years

- (a) Licence to possess firearms/explosive precursors
- (b) Licence to deal in arms/explosives/explosive precursors
- (c) Licence to manufacture arms/explosives/explosive precursors
- (d) Licence to store explosives/explosive precursors
- (e) Licence to Conduct Blasting
- (f) Licence to Dispose Explosives
- (g) Licence to repair arms

Short Term Licences with validity of 14 days

- (a) Licence to import arms/explosives/explosives precursors
- (b) Licence to export arms/explosives/explosive precursors
- (c) Licence to purchase arms/explosives
- (d) Licence to remove explosives

Q5) How long does it take to process my online application?

A5) Base (Long Term) Licences – The normal processing time is about 14 working days from the receipt of the application and the complete set of supporting documents.

Ad-Hoc (Short Term) Licences – The normal processing time is about 7 working days from the receipt of the application and the complete set of supporting documents.

Please refer to our website at <https://www.police.gov.sg/licence> for the support documents required for the various types of licences.

TRADENET DECLARATION

Q6) How long does it take to process my application submitted via TRADENET?

A6) The average processing time is about 5 working days from the date of receipt of the declaration (permit application) and the complete set of supporting documents.

Q7) I need to declare a permit in TradeNet, what are the requirements?

A7) When submitting for the TradeNet Permit, the declarant is required to upload the supporting documents via the TradeNet portal to PLRD including the following documents:

- i. For Import – Bill of Lading/Air Waybill, Invoice
- ii. For Export – Bill of Lading/Air Waybill, Invoice, End User Certificate and Import Licence issued by the authorities of the country of final destination
- iii. For Transshipment - Bill of Lading/Air Waybill, Invoice, End User Certificate Import Licence issued by the authorities of the country of final destination
- iv. Valid Dealer licence in arms, explosives or explosives precursors issued by PLRD

Kindly note that PLRD no longer accepts submission of supporting documents via fax or email. All application for permits in TradeNet without the complete set of supporting documents will be rejected. Applicant may need to re-apply.

Q8) I have submitted a declaration in TRADENET, have you received?

A8) For permit applications routed to PLRD for processing, the normal processing time is about 5 working days from the receipt of the declaration. You are required to check status of approval, rejection or query of their permit application in TradeNet System.

Q9) I have submitted the declaration more than 5 working days ago and it is still not approved.

A9) Please check if there is a query message for your declaration. You will need to respond to the query message. If the declaration is rejected by PLRD, there will be a rejection message. Please check the rejection message and follow the instructions for re-declaration.

Q10) I am submitting a declaration for a product which is not controlled by SPF. However, the HS Code is under SPF. What do I do?

A10) When you are importing, exporting or transshipping non-controlled goods which are classified under PLRD's controlled HS codes, you shall declare the product code as "MISC" for these HS codes.

Q11) Where do I get the licence number for declaration?

A11) The licence number can be found in the dealer or possession licence issued by PLRD. (refer to A4 above).

Q12) I do not have a licence (for either "arms", "explosives" or "explosive precursors"), how do I submit my declaration to import or export arms, explosives and explosive precursors?

A12) You are required to have a base licence to deal in arms, explosives or explosive precursors before you can import or export the said controlled items. Please visit our PLUS website <https://www.police.gov.sg/licence> to apply for a licence.

POSSESSION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION FOR SPORTING PURPOSE

Q13) Who can own firearms / air weapons for target shooting?

A13) A person who wishes to possess arm (e.g. firearm, air weapon) for sports shooting shall submit an application to possess arm with the following supporting documents:

- a. a letter of support from the management of the shooting club, which he is a member of, for him to possess the arm; and
- b. a letter of confirmation from the managing agent (operator) of the armoury and shooting range, that he will be permitted to store and use the arm for sports shooting within the said premises e.g. Singapore Shooting Association (SSA) for National Shooting Centre.

Q14) What is the minimum age for a Licence to Possess a Firearm or Air Weapon?

A14) The minimum age for a person to possess or control a firearm or air weapon is 18 years of age, unless otherwise approved by the Licensing Officer.

Q15) How do I apply to own a firearm / air weapon after joining as a shooting club member?

The application to possess arms may be submitted via the website at: <https://www.police.gov.sg/licence>. Upon receiving your application, PLRD will process the application. If the application is approved and the licensing fee is paid, a licence to possess arm will be issued to you.

Q16) Can I share my firearm / air weapon with other members or my guest?

A16) No, any arm issued to you is strictly for your own use only. You are not permitted to share or loan your licensed arm with others, unless they are duly licensed to possess the said arm.

Q17) What will happen to my weapon if my licence to possess arm is not renewed?

A17) In the event an applicant who owns an arm but is unable to obtain a licence to possess the said arm (e.g. arm licence not renewed), PLRD will direct him to export, transfer or destroy the arm within a stipulated timeframe. If deemed necessary or the licence for said arm has expired, PLRD may direct the person to store his arm in the armoury of an Auxiliary Police Force (APF) pending the export, transfer or destruction of the arm.

Q18) How can I transfer or sell my firearm / air weapon?

A18) You may only transfer your licensed 'arms' to another person, if the person obtains a licence to possess the said arm. Thereafter, you may submit an application to terminate your arm licence if it still valid. The process for obtaining an arms licence are explained in A15 above. You are NOT allowed to sell your firearm / air weapon.

Q19) How can I purchase ammunition for my firearm at the National Shooting Centre?

A19) Ammunition will be issued by the armourer to you at the National Shooting Centre at the point of withdrawal of arms for target shooting.

You are not allowed to keep any balance ammunition. The ammunition issued to you shall be fully expended during the shooting practice, unless the shooting is cancelled or due to inclement weather. If there is any such balance ammunition left due to unforeseen circumstances, the remaining ammunition shall be re-deposited with armoury.

All ammunition for sporting purpose shall be bought by the shooting club and supplied to its members. Members are NOT allowed to purchase your own ammunition.

Q20) Can I share my ammunitions, transfer or sell to other members and guests?

A20) No, any ammunition issued to you are strictly for your own use only. You are not permitted to share, transfer or sell your ammunition to others.

Q21) My question is not listed. Who can I contact for clarification?

A21) You can contact Police Licensing and Regulatory Department at Tel No: 6835 0000 or email spf_licensing_feedback@spf.gov.sg