

[N.J. Admin. Code § 13:54-2.4 - Application for a permit to carry a handgun](#)

(b) Each applicant shall demonstrate a thorough familiarity with the safe handling and use of handguns by indicating in the space provided therefore on the application form, and on any sworn attachments thereto, any relevant information. Thorough familiarity with the safe handling and use of handguns shall be evidenced by:

2. Submission of an applicant's most recent handgun qualification scores **utilizing the handgun(s) he or she intends to carry** as evidenced by test firings administered by a certified firearms instructor of a police academy, a certified firearms instructor of the National Rifle Association, or any other recognized certified firearms instructor; or

3. Passage of any test in this State's laws governing the use of force administered by a certified instructor of a police academy, a certified instructor of the National Rifle Association, or any other recognized certified instructor.

(c) The information in (b) above shall be accompanied and validated by certifications of the appropriate instructor(s).

Do applicants need to qualify with all handguns they intend to carry? According to 2C:58-4(g), currently they do not. N.J.A.C. 13:54-2.4 indicates that applicants need to qualify with each handgun they intend to carry, however, N.J.A.C 13:54-2.4 is in the process of being updated. It is currently outdated and does not reflect the changes to the law that took place on 12-22-22 and the subsequent training requirements that went into effect in 2023. There are instructors that still strictly follow N.J.A.C. 13:54-2.4 and qualify their applicants with each handgun they intend to carry. 2C:58-4(g), "Training Requirements" has been updated and reads:

[2C:58-4 Permits to carry handguns.](#)

g. Training requirement. (1) On or prior to the first day of the seventh month following the enactment of P.L.2022, c.131 (C.2C:58-4.2 et al.), the superintendent shall establish training requirements in the lawful and safe handling and storage of firearms, which shall consist of an online course of instruction, in-person classroom instruction, and target training administered by a certified firearm instructor on a firing range approved by the superintendent and on the list of approved ranges published on the State Police website. The training shall include, but not be limited to, **demonstration of a level of proficiency in the use of a handgun** in such manner as required by the superintendent and training, developed or approved in conjunction with the Police Training Commission, on justification in the use of deadly force under State law.