



Weapons on Campus Policy

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Approver(s):	Vice-President, Finance & Administration

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the possession of any kind of weapon on the OCAD University ("OCAD U" or "the University") campus.

2. Definition

A weapon is defined by the *Criminal Code of Canada* as anything used, designed to be used, or intended for use, in causing death or injury to any person, or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person, or a device designed to look like a weapon (*CCC S. 2 and 84-117*). Examples of weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, explosives (including fireworks), air guns, pellet guns, BB guns, paint guns, crossbows, long bows, swords, martial arts weapons, prohibited blades, combat knives, brass knuckles, replica or imitation firearms including toys and any other prohibited device.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all faculty, staff, students and visitors to the University.

4. Policy

In accordance with the *Criminal Code of Canada, Firearms Act, 1995* and associated regulations, no person, while on property controlled, leased or owned by OCAD U shall store, use, or carry a weapon.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University or termination of employment, depending on the circumstances. In the case of prohibited or non-registered firearms and other illegal weapons, the individual may also be subject to criminal prosecution.

5. Exceptions

Actual Weapons

There shall be no exceptions to this policy for actual weapons, as defined by the Criminal Code of Canada, except as follows:

- a) This policy exempts ceremonial knives carried or used to meet religious obligations and small folding or utility knives used solely for a lawful purpose that are not brandished or worn in such a manner as to cause alarm.
- b) This policy does not apply to Police Officers, Peace Officers or Licensed Guards carrying issue weapons in the performance of their duties.

Imitation Weapons

While committed to upholding academic freedom, artistic freedom and freedom of expression, OCAD U prioritizes public safety and requires all students, staff and invited guests to apply for and successfully gain approval for an exception to this policy for any representation, replica, reproduction or imitation of a weapon, or a toy weapon, in a process, performance or presentation, whether rendered in 3D or 2D, which might be handled, presented, or viewed by any person in any way that it may be mistaken as real or cause risk, or perceived risk to the health or safety of the public, or cause serious interference with, or serious disruption to, essential services.

The applicant will submit a written request to the relevant Dean or Vice-President, or designate, which includes the following information.

- User name, student or employee number (if applicable) and contact information
- Course name, number, and section (if applicable)
- Exact date, time, duration and location of use
- Complete written description of what the imitation is being used for and how
- Complete written description of imitation thereof

If approved, the Dean or Vice-President, or designate, will notify the Manager, Campus Security in writing at least one week in advance of said use.

Any imitation thereof to be utilized as stated above will be transported to, from, and within all University properties in an opaque container that is clearly marked as "PROP" and will be secured inside said container when not in use.

Imitations will NOT be permitted on any OCAD U property except for a demonstrated need in class assignment, public presentation or exhibition, or other expressly approved academic purpose.