



SUMMARY OF NEW AMMUNITION SALE/TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS

- I. JANUARY 1, 2018 - Licensed Vendor Processing and Face-to-Face Transfer Requirements.¹** All ammunition transfers must be face-to-face and processed through a licensed vendor. Other than authorized law enforcement and certain firearm related businesses, **the only exceptions to these requirements include:**
- Licensed collectors of firearms who also possess a valid Certificate of Eligibility;
 - Sales/transfers at target facilities holding a business or regulatory license (provided the ammo is at all times kept within the facility); and,
 - Purchase/receipt of ammo from a spouse, domestic partner, or “immediate family member”; and,
- II. JULY 1, 2019 - Electronic DOJ Approval (Background Check) Requirement.²** All ammunition vendors must obtain electronic DOJ approval prior to transferring any ammunition.
- a. **The three methods of obtaining the required electronic DOJ approval include³:**
- Verifying the purchaser’s information matches an entry in DOJ’s Automated Firearm System but does not also match an entry in DOJ’s Prohibited Armed Persons File;
 - Verifying the purchaser has a valid Certificate of Eligibility; or,
 - Conducting a full-scale background check of the purchaser (similar to a firearm purchase background check).
- b. **Exceptions to the electronic DOJ approval requirement include⁴:**
- Licensed ammunition vendors;
 - Persons on CA’s centralized list of exempt FFLs;
 - Federally licensed gunsmiths, wholesalers, manufacturers, and importers; and,
 - Authorized law enforcement.
- III. Effect of Requirements on Non-California Residents.** In general, non-California residents are free to bring ammunition with them from out-of-state into California but cannot acquire ammunition at a California licensed vendor unless they possess a valid Certificate of Eligibility.⁵

¹ Cal. Penal Code § 30312. As a result of these restrictions, California residents are generally prohibited from importing ammunition from out of state unless first delivered to a licensed ammunition vendor for processing. See Cal. Penal Code § 30312(b).

² Cal. Penal Code § 30370.

³ Cal. Penal Code § 30370(a)(1-3). Note also that DOJ has proposed regulations that address how ammunition vendors will process transactions beginning July 1, 2019. For more information, visit the CRPA website at www.CRPA.org.

⁴ Cal. Penal Code § 30352(c).

⁵ See, e.g., Cal. Penal Code § 30314(a) (prohibiting a “resident of *this state*” from importing ammunition).

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