

Hunter Education

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: **1-888-248-6866**

Hunter Education Program

Before purchasing a game-hunting license, all hunters 17 years of age and younger must obtain a hunter education number issued by New Mexico or another state or possess a New Mexico mentor-youth number. The hunter education number is valid for hunting all game species. The mentor-youth number is valid only for deer, turkey, javelina and small-game hunting licenses (page 19).

Online Hunter Education Course (N.M. residents only): Youth hunters 11 years or older can obtain a New Mexico hunter education number by completing an online hunter education course. Online course options can be found at:

www.wildlife.state.nm.us/education/hunter-education. A service fee may apply.

Instructor-Led Hunter Education Courses: New Mexico hunter education numbers can also be obtained by completing a NMDGF instructor-led hunter education course. Students of all ages may attend a traditional instructor-led hunter education course, however, students 10 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult. The minimum age requirement to enroll in an instructor-led field day course is 10 years of age. Before the first class session for either instructor-led course, students are required to complete a homework assignment. Homework may be completed online through a downloadable PDF file or with a hardcopy manual. Manuals are available at local NMDGF locations, after registration. Students must attend all class sessions and pass both a written exam and a firearm proficiency evaluation to be issued a hunter education number. Courses are offered year-round and statewide. Early registration is encouraged to avoid missing a deadline to apply for a hunt. For complete information on course dates, locations and requirements, as well as course content and homework, visit NMDGF at: www.wildlife.state.nm.us/education.

Registration for Hunter and/or Bowhunter Education Courses

All students wishing to register for a hunter and/or bowhunter education course must have a personal NMDGF account with a customer identification number (CIN). If you require assistance obtaining class information or a hunter education number please contact the New Mexico hunter education program: (505) 222-4731 or dgf-he@state.nm.us.

Bowhunter education is not mandatory for bowhunters in New Mexico, however it is recommended by NMDGF.

Become A Volunteer Instructor

The hunter education program is looking for volunteer instructors. If you are interested in contributing to and preserving our hunting heritage, please contact the New Mexico hunter education program at: (505) 222-4731 or online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us/education.

Fort Bliss

All hunters, regardless of age, on Fort Bliss, including McGregor Range, are required to have proof of passing a state-certified hunter education course. Mentor-youth hunters are not eligible.

Mentor-Youth Hunter

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: www.wildlife.state.nm.us

Mentor-Youth Hunter Program

First-time hunters 10–17 years of age must pass an online quiz and receive a mentor-youth hunter number. This number enables a mentor-youth hunter to hunt under the supervision of an adult mentor, purchase a game-hunting license or game-hunting & fishing license, and apply for or purchase hunting licenses **for the following species: deer, turkey, javelina and small game.**

Mentors can be either a parent, guardian or an adult with parental consent, must be 18 years of age or older and must possess a valid game hunting license. The mentor-youth hunter and mentor must be in unaided sight and audible distance from one another at all times while hunting.

Participation is a one-time opportunity and good for two consecutive license years, beginning when a game-hunting license is purchased. When the mentor-youth hunter has completed the program and successfully passed a hunter education course, he or she can hunt any legal species independently with no age restriction.

For more information about the mentor-youth hunter program visit:

www.wildlife.state.nm.us/education/hunter-education or telephone: 1-888-248-6866.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers play an important role helping NMDGF provide programs and services across the state. From hunter and angler education to off-road vehicle safety and wildlife conservation, volunteers share time and talent to support initiatives that otherwise would not be possible.

If you enjoy hunting, angling and New Mexico's great outdoors, consider giving back to your community by becoming a volunteer with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

For information about the variety of volunteer opportunities available, telephone: (505) 222-4704.

