

Draw Hunts & Hunter Education

Introduction

To obtain a public land license for deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, javelina, ibex, Barbary sheep, bighorn sheep and oryx; hunters must first purchase a **Game-hunting License** or combination **Game-hunting and Fishing License**. Hunters may then apply for a draw license or draw permit online. **Alternatively, hunters may apply via the phone at (888) 248-6866 from Feb. 2 - March 20, 12 noon - 8 PM, Mountain Standard Time.** Turkey and bear draw permit applications are available only online.

Draw Hunt System

All draw applications are entered into a random computerized system that determines which applicants are successful. Applications are drawn one at a time.

The system attempts to award an applicant's first choice, then second choice, then third choice until one of the applicant's choices is filled. If all of the applicant's hunt choices are filled by a previous applicants, the computer advances to the next application. New Mexico does not grant preference to unsuccessful applicants.

If an applicant listed a fourth choice deer or elk hunt, they are placed in a pool from which some hunts may be awarded by random drawing of unfilled and available hunts. If an applicant is awarded a fourth choice hunt, they will be charged the corresponding hunt fee.

Successful draw applicants will be mailed licenses. Please allow one month after drawing results are posted on the Department's website to receive licenses.

Drawing Quotas

New Mexico's hunt drawing is based on a quota to allocate hunting opportunities on public lands.

Residents receive 84% of the available draw licenses or permits. Residents and nonresidents who choose to use registered New Mexico outfitters will receive up to 10% of the available draw licenses or permits. Nonresidents who apply to hunt without outfitters will receive up to 6% of the available draw licenses or permits.

Hunts Affected By The Quota Include:
Draw licenses for deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, Barbary sheep and javelina; and draw permits for bear and turkey.

Hunts Not Affected By The Quota Include:
Over-the-counter licenses for elk, bear, turkey, cougar, Barbary sheep and off Florida Mountain hunt for ibex (IBX-1-528; elk and pronghorn antelope licenses obtained via private land authorizations; private land deer licenses; private land deer draw licenses in Units 2A, 2B, 2C, 4 and 5A; draw licenses for oryx, ibex and bighorn sheep; and population management hunts.

Refunds and Transfers

No hunt, including fourth choice deer or elk hunts, can be exchanged for another hunt or refunded. The Director may grant the refund or transfer of a hunting license or permit if the licensee has died, sustained a severe injury or life-threatening illness that prevents them from participating in their hunt or if the hunter has been deployed by the United States military prior to the start of the hunt, prohibiting the licensee from hunting. The Director may grant the transfer of a license or permit to a person who has been qualified through a nonprofit wish-granting organization. For more information, call the Special Hunts Office at (505) 476-8087.

Hunter Education

All youth hunters, younger than 18, must have a hunter education number from New Mexico or another state, prior to purchasing their **Game-hunting License** or combination **Game-hunting and Fishing License**. A hunter education number is required even if they only will be applying for an Archery Draw Hunt.

While hunting in New Mexico, youth hunters must carry their current Customer Identification Number (CIN) card reflecting a hunter education number or other proof of having passed a state certified hunter education course.

All hunters on Fort Bliss, including McGregor Range, are required to have proof of passing a state hunter education course prior to hunting.

There is no minimum age to sign up for a course. However, an adult must accompany students younger than 11 years of age. Students must complete a homework packet before the first class session. Homework can be completed online or by obtaining a hardcopy manual. Students must attend all class sessions and pass both a written exam and a firearm proficiency evaluation before becoming certified and issued a hunter education number.

Courses are offered year round and statewide. Don't wait until the last minute to register or you may miss the deadline to apply for a hunt. Visit the Department's website at www.wildlife.state.nm.us/education/hunter_ed/index.htm for complete information on course dates and locations, course homework, course requirements and course content.

All students wishing to register for a hunter/ bowhunter education course must obtain and use their Customer Identification Number (CIN), available online on the Department's website.

To obtain a copy of your New Mexico hunter education number, log into your CIN account at <https://onlinesales.wildlife.state.nm.us/login> and print your CIN card. Hunter education numbers are reflected on a student's CIN card once they have successfully passed a New Mexico hunter education course.

Please contact the New Mexico Hunter Education Program at (505) 222-4731 if you need assistance with obtaining class information or a hunter education number.

Bowhunter education is not mandatory for archers in New Mexico, but the Department highly recommends it. Other states may have different requirements. Be certain to check their requirements.

Please Become A Volunteer Instructor

The Hunter Education Program is always looking for volunteer instructors. If you are interested in contributing to and preserving our hunting heritage, please call the Hunter Education Office in Albuquerque at (505) 222-4731.