

How to Apply for a Handgun Qualification License

As of October 1, 2013, the process of purchasing a regulated firearm in the state of Maryland has changed. Purchasers must possess a valid **Handgun Qualification License (HQL)**, or qualify for an exemption.

Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Go to <https://emdsp.mdsp.org/egov/Login.aspx>.
2. If you have not done so already, **create an account**.
3. **Log in** using your new account.
4. Select the '**Initial Application**' link in the middle of the page.
5. Select '**Firearms Services**' as the Program.
6. Under License Type, select the appropriate dropdown:
 - a. **HQL Permit Exempt** – This option requires you to have a valid handgun carry permit issued by the state of Maryland.
 - b. **HQL Standard** – This option is for everyone who has not purchased a regulated firearm prior to October 1, 2013, AND requires you to complete a 4 hour training course. (If this is you, you can sign up for an upcoming training course at FreeState if you have not done so already.)
 - c. **HQL Training Exempt** – This option is for everyone who has purchased a regulated firearm prior to October 1, 2013.
7. Select '**Application**' as the Application Method.
8. Select '**Start Application**' and proceed through each page until you complete the application. The final screen will allow you to 'Finish' the application, review your information and submit payment for the license.