

WDFW Help

If I'm under age 18, can I possess and use a rifle, shotgun, or muzzleloader?

- Yes, but only under the following circumstances ([RCW 9.41.042](#)):
 - You are attending a certified [hunter education course](#) or a firearms safety course;
 - You are shooting or target practicing at an established range where shooting is allowed, or in other areas where it is legal to shoot firearms;
 - You are engaged in an organized shooting competition or practicing with an organized group where shooting is part of the program;
 - You are hunting or trapping under a valid license issued to you;
 - You are in an area where it is legal to shoot a firearm; you are not trespassing; you are at least 14 years old; you already have a hunter education certificate; and you are using any legal firearm except a pistol;
 - You are in an area where it is legal to shoot a firearm; you are not trespassing; and you are under the supervision of a parent, guardian, or other adult approved for the purpose of supervising you while you carry and use the gun; You are traveling with an unloaded firearm in your possession, to or from any of the above activities;
 - You are on real property that is under the control of your parents, other relatives, or a legal guardian, and you have the permission of your parents, relatives, or legal guardian to possess the firearm;
 - You are at your residence, and you have the permission of your parent or legal guardian to possess and use the firearm for self-protection; Or
 - You are a member and are on duty with the U.S. Armed Forces, the National Guard, or organized reserves.

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/help/questions/120/>