

# *A Guide to Obtaining the Maryland Handgun Qualification License*

*(information provided by 1A Fingerprinting)*

A person may not purchase a handgun unless they possess a valid Handgun Qualification License (HQL) issued by the Maryland State Police or qualify for exemption status (see below).

The steps to get your HQL are:

- Complete a 4-hour in-person training course
- Livescan Fingerprints
- Online Application to Maryland State Police

## *Who Should Apply?*

### **Exceptions to possession of the HQL License:**

1. Active or retired member of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard and possesses a valid military identification card (20 years of service – Must have Blue retirement ID card).
2. Active or retired law enforcement officer

### **Required to have the HQL, but exempt from the training component:**

1. Has completed a Hunter Safety Course from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), to obtain information about the hunter safety course please visit, [www.hunter-ed.com/maryland/](http://www.hunter-ed.com/maryland/).
2. Is an honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States or National Guard.
3. Lawfully owns a regulated firearm.

## *How to Apply?*

The Handgun Qualification License is accessible online the Maryland State Police portal. For access please use the following website <https://emdsp.mdsp.org/egov/Login.aspx>. For assistance with the online portal please contact the Maryland State Police at 410-653-4500.

To apply for an HQL the law requires a fingerprint-based background, you cannot submit your application until this is completed. To receive your live scan fingerprints please visit **1A FINGERPRINTING** located at **4367 Hollins Ferry Road, Ste 3A Halethorpe, MD 21227** or call **443-297-0351** for more information. You may also visit our website at [www.1afingerprinting.com](http://www.1afingerprinting.com)

**ONLINE YOU WILL USE THE TRACKING NUMBER LISTED ON YOUR LIVESCAN FINGERPRINTING RECEIPT, THIS NUMBER STARTS WITH 206823\*\*\*\*\***

**FINGERPRINTS ARE ONLY GOOD FOR 30 DAYS; YOU MUST COMPLETE YOUR ONLINE REGISTRATION WITH THE MARYLAND STATE POLICE BEFORE THEY EXPIRE.**