



HUNTER EDUCATION

Frequently Asked Questions

Getting Started as a New Hunter in Nova Scotia

Whether you're hunting for the first time or are new to Nova Scotia, this guide will help you understand the hunter education and certification requirements needed before purchasing a hunting license or applying for hunting draws.

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New to Hunting? Start Here

Getting Started as a New Hunter in Nova Scotia

Whether you're hunting for the first time or are new to Nova Scotia, this guide will help you understand the hunter education and certification requirements needed before purchasing a hunting license or applying for hunting draws.

This guide will also explain:

- how to transfer eligible hunting credentials from another province, territory, or country,
- and outline the licenses, certifications, and identification you are required to carry while hunting.

Step 1 – Create Your MyNS and HuntNS Profile

Before you can register for hunter education courses, transfer hunting credentials, purchase hunting licenses online, or apply for hunting draws, you must first create a [MyNS Account](#) and then a [HuntNS profile](#). HuntNS can only be accessed through a MyNS Account. Each MyNS Account must have a unique email address that is not used by any other accounts.

If you are a **new client**, creating your HuntNS profile will automatically assign you a unique 9-digit Wildlife Resources Client ID Number and issue your Wildlife Resources Card (WRC). Your Wildlife Resources Card will initially display your Client ID Number only. Hunter education certifications will be added after they have been reviewed and verified by Natural Resources.

If you are a **returning client and previously held a Wildlife Resources Card** through the former Wildlife Resources System (WRS), you will be prompted to enter your existing 9-digit Wildlife Resources Client ID Number to migrate your profile to HuntNS. During the migration process, you will have an opportunity to review and update your contact information.

Once your account and profile have been created or migrated, you can continue with the remaining steps outlined in this guide.

Step 2 – Determine the Training You Need

Before applying to hunting draws or purchasing online hunting licenses, you must have the appropriate hunter education training and certification(s) recorded on your Wildlife Resources Card and online HuntNS profile.

The training you need depends on how you plan to hunt.

If you plan to hunt with...	Hunter education certification	
Firearms *Requires completion of two courses. See note below.	(HT)	Hunter Trained
Bow Bowhunter Education Course	(B)	Bow Trained
Crossbow **Crossbow Education Course	(CT)	Crossbow Trained
Trapping Furharvester Education Course	(FT)	Furharvester Trained

*Completion of **both** the Federal Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSF) and the Hunter Education Course are required to obtain the single (HT) Hunter Trained certification.

**Only available to persons who already hold Hunter Trained (HT) or Bow Hunting (B) certification(s) on their profile as prerequisites.

Step 3 – Complete Your Training and Certification Process

Successfully completing a hunter education course does **not** automatically add a certification to your HuntNS profile. Depending on the course you completed, your instructor, HunterCourse.com, and/or you may need to submit information to Natural Resources for review.

Natural Resources staff will verify that all course requirements have been met before adding your certification(s) to your HuntNS profile and Wildlife Resources Card (WRC).

Important Note:

Please allow 10–15 business days for Natural Resources staff to review and verify your course results and supporting documentation after all required information has been received.

If additional information is required or your certification cannot be verified (for example, if required documentation is missing or prerequisite certification(s) have not been met), you will receive a notification through HuntNS outlining the action required before your certification can be issued.

Once your certification has been verified, it will be added to your HuntNS profile and Wildlife Resources Card (WRC).

Hunter Trained (HT) Certification

To obtain your Hunter Trained (HT) certification, you must successfully complete **two** education courses:

- A. The Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC); and
- B. The Hunter Education Course

Both requirements must be verified by Natural Resources before your Hunter Trained (HT) certification can be issued.

A) Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC)

Course delivery: In-Person **Only**

Course fee: \$90 + HST

Course registration: <https://www.safetyservicesns.ca/firearms>

After You Complete the Canadian Firearms Safety Course

Because the Canadian Firearms Safety Course is administered Federally, you must upload one of the following to your HuntNS profile:

- Your signed Canadian Firearms Safety Course Long Form;
- Clear photos of the front and back of a **valid** or **expired** Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL)

An expired PAL is accepted only as proof that you have previously completed the Canadian Firearms Safety Course.

Important:

If you intend to hunt with a firearm, you must comply with all applicable federal firearms legislation. Although an expired PAL is accepted as proof of completing the Canadian Firearms Safety Course for the Hunter Trained (HT) certification, you must hold any licenses required under federal law to possess or use a firearm while hunting.

B) Hunter Education Course

Course delivery: Online **Only**

Course fee: \$60 + HST

Course registration: Register through <http://huntns.ca> to access the online Hunter Education Course provided by HunterCourse.com.

After You Complete the Hunter Education Course

Your course results will automatically be sent to Natural Resources for review. You do **not** need to upload proof of course completion.

Natural Resources staff will verify that all Hunter Trained (HT) certification requirements have been met before issuing your certification. This includes successful completion of **both** the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) and the Hunter Education Course, along with any required supporting documentation.

Important:

Always access the Hunter Education Course through your HuntNS profile. This ensures your course results are automatically linked to your HuntNS profile after you successfully complete the course.

Bow Trained (B) Certification

To obtain your Bow Trained (B) certification, you must successfully complete the International Bowhunter Education Program (IBEP).

Course delivery: In-Person **Only**

Course fee: \$65 + HST

Course registration: <http://huntns.ca>

After registering through HuntNS, you may not immediately see available course dates. Bowhunter Education courses are scheduled based on demand and the locations of interested participants. Once you register, an instructor will review registrations in your area and contact you directly to confirm the date, time, and location when a course becomes available.

After You Complete the Bowhunter Education Course

Your instructor will submit your passing course results directly to Natural Resources. You do **not** need to upload any documents.

Crossbow Trained (CT) Certification

To obtain your Crossbow Trained (CT) certification, you must:

- Hold either of the mandatory prerequisite certifications: Hunter Trained (HT) certification or Bow Trained (B) certification; and
- Successfully complete the Crossbow Education Course.

Course delivery: Online **Only**

Course fee: \$60 + HST

Course registration: Register through <http://huntns.ca> to access the online Crossbow Education Course provided by HunterCourse.com.

After You Complete the Crossbow Education Course

Your course results will automatically be sent to Natural Resources for review. You do **not** need to upload proof of course completion.

Natural Resources staff will verify that all Crossbow Trained (CT) certification requirements have been met before issuing your certification. This includes verifying that you hold either Hunter Trained (HT) or Bow Trained (B) certification.

Important:

Always access the Crossbow Education Course through your HuntNS profile. This ensures your course is linked to your HuntNS profile and that your course results are automatically associated with your account upon successful completion.

Furharvester Trained (FT)

To obtain your Furharvester Trained (FT) certification, you must successfully complete the Furharvester Education Course.

Course delivery: In-Person **Only**

Course fee: \$65 + HST

Course registration: <http://huntns.ca>

Available Furharvester Education courses are posted in HuntNS as they become available.

If no courses are currently listed, there are no upcoming courses open for registration currently. Please check back periodically, as new courses will be posted when they become available.

After You Complete the Furharvester Education Course

Your instructor will submit your passing course results directly to Natural Resources. You do **not** need to upload any documents.

Step 4 – Transfer Existing Hunter Education Certifications

If you recently became a Nova Scotia resident or previously completed hunter education or obtained hunting certifications in another province, territory, or country, you may be eligible to transfer your credentials to HuntNS.

The sections below outline the acceptable proof required for each certification type. Natural Resources staff will review your documentation to determine whether it meets Nova Scotia's certification requirements before any certifications are added to your HuntNS profile and Wildlife Resources Card (WRC).

Transfer Documentation - Bowhunter Education (B) Certification

Nova Scotia's Bowhunter Education Course is an **International Bowhunter Education Program (IBEP)** certified course. To transfer your **Bowhunter Education (B)** certification, you must provide proof that you successfully completed an **IBEP-certified** bowhunter education course.

Many jurisdictions, including Alberta, do not require or offer **IBEP-certified** training. As a result, some out-of-province bowhunter certifications do **not** meet Nova Scotia's transfer requirements and cannot be transferred.

If your previous training was not **IBEP-certified**, you will need to successfully complete Nova Scotia's Bowhunter Education Course before receiving the Bowhunter Education (B) certification.

To learn more about the International Bowhunter Education Program (IBEP), visit:
https://www.bowhunter-ed.com/national/studyGuide/The-International-Bowhunter-Education-Program-IBEP/301099_185346/

Transfer Documentation - Crossbow Education (CT) Certification

Nova Scotia does **not** transfer **stand-alone Crossbow Trained (CT)** certifications.

To be eligible for a Crossbow Trained (CT) certification transfer in Nova Scotia, you must first meet the mandatory prerequisite certification of either being eligible for, or have already transferred, either your **Hunter Trained (HT)** or **Bowhunter Education (B)** certification.

Once the prerequisite certification has been verified, you may provide one of the following:

- Proof of successful completion of a recognized crossbow education course; or
- Proof that you legally hunted with a crossbow in another jurisdiction within the last five years, such as a crossbow license or harvest report.

Natural Resources staff will review your documentation to determine whether it meets Nova Scotia's certification requirements.

Transfer Documentation - Furharvester Education (FT) Certification

Furharvester Trained (FT) certification is **not transferable** to Nova Scotia.

Only Nova Scotia residents are eligible to obtain Furharvester Trained (FT) certification and purchase a Nova Scotia Furharvester License. Individuals wishing to trap in Nova Scotia must be a resident of Nova Scotia and successfully complete the Nova Scotia Furharvester Education Course.

Transfer Documentation - Hunter Trained (HT) Certification

As mentioned above, to transfer your Hunter Trained (HT) certification, you must provide proof of **two** education courses:

A. The Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC); and

B. The Hunter Education Course

Both requirements must be verified by Natural Resources before your Hunter Trained (HT) certification can be issued.

A. The Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC)

The following documents are accepted documentation for proof of completing the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC):

- A completed **Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) Report** ("long form") that is scored, signed, and dated by the course instructor; or
- A **valid or expired Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL)** showing **Non-Restricted** firearms privileges.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police / Gendarmerie royale du Canada		Protected A once completed	
Canadian Firearms Safety Course and/or Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course Report		For Administrative Use	
A - Student/Candidate Information (to be completed by student/candidate)			
1. a) Type of Course ☐ Canadian Firearms Safety Course ☐ Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course	1. b) Gender ☐ Male ☐ Female	1. c) Date of Birth (yyyy-mm-dd)	
1. d) Preferred Language ☐ English ☐ French	1. e) Last Name	1. f) First Name	1. g) Middle Name
Mailing Address			
2. a) Street / Land location / Rural route / PO box number		2. b) Apt./Unit	2. c) City/Town
2. d) Province/State		2. e) Country	2. f) Postal/Zip Code
2. g) Day Time Telephone (include ext.)		2. h) Evening Telephone (include ext.)	2. i) E-mail Address
Identification			
3. Type _____ I hereby certify that the information in Part A is true and accurate.			
Student/Candidate's Signature _____		Date (yyyy-mm-dd) _____	
B - Course Information (to be completed by instructor)			
4. a) Start Date (yyyy-mm-dd)	4. b) End Date (yyyy-mm-dd)	4. c) Total Classroom Hours Excluding Test Time	4. d) Total Number of Students
5. a) Province/Territory	5. b) City/Town	5. c) Course Language ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Other specify: _____	
6. a) Lead Instructor ID Number	6. b) Last Name of Lead Instructor	6. c) First Name	
I hereby certify that the student identified in Part A was taught using the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and/or the Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course, the student's identification document was verified, and, the information in Part B is true and accurate.			
Instructor's Signature _____		Date (yyyy-mm-dd) _____	
C - Written Test Information (to be completed by examiner)			
7. a) Test Date (yyyy-mm-dd)	7. b) Number of Students	7. c) Score (%) ☐ English ☐ French	7. d) Test Number Used
D - Practical Test Information (to be completed by examiner)			
8. a) Test Date (yyyy-mm-dd)	8. b) Number of Students	8. c) Score (%) ☐ English ☐ French	8. d) Language of Practical Test ☐ Retest Only
E - Fees (to be completed by examiner)			
9. a) Course Fee (excluding student manual)	9. b) Test Fee	9. c) or Combined Course and Test Fee (excluding student manual)	
F - Examiner Certification			
10. a) Lead Examiner ID Number	10. b) Last Name of Lead Examiner	10. c) First Name	
11. I hereby certify that the candidate identified in Part A was tested using the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and/or the Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course tests, that the candidate's identification document was verified, and that all of the testing procedures were carried out without prejudice or favour, and further declare that the candidate: ☐ a) successfully passed the tests indicated in Parts C and D. ☐ b) failed to meet the requirements of Section 7 of the Firearms Act. Failure Reasons: ☐ i) failed written test ☐ ii) failed practical test ☐ iii) withdrew from test			
Examiner's Signature _____		Date (yyyy-mm-dd) _____	
G - Distribution			
Copy 1 - Student copy for submission with Firearms Licence application Copy 2 - Processing Site Copy 3 - Instructor Copy 4 - CFO			



B. The Hunter Education Course (or equivalent) - Samples of Hunter Education Course Cards/Certificates



Prince Edward Island



New Brunswick

Newfoundland and Labrador Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Environment and Conservation

Date Issued 2008-11-11 **Capability Code**

Name John Doe **Course Code**

D L Number S111111011 **H**

Date of Birth 1911-11-11 **F**

Hair **Eyes** **Weight** **Height**

Brown Blue 160 LBS. 5 FT. 6 IN.

Signature

Not valid unless signed by cardholder. This card certifies that the holder has successfully completed the course(s) or met the requirements indicated on the front of this card.

Course Codes

H-Hunter Education
F-Canadian Firearms Safety Course
T-Trapper Education
G-Guide Training
B-Bowhunter Education

Capability Codes

D-Disabled DN-Disabled-No Firearm

Newfoundland and Labrador



Ontario

Card must have H1 (not on all cards)

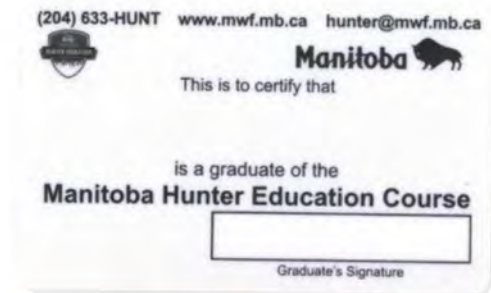


Ontario

License summary indicates "Accredited Hunter"



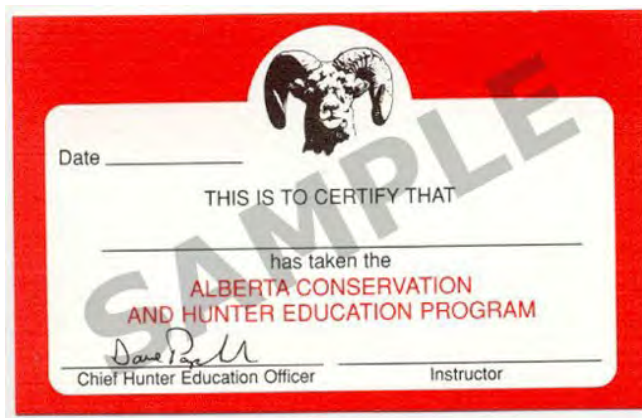
Quebec



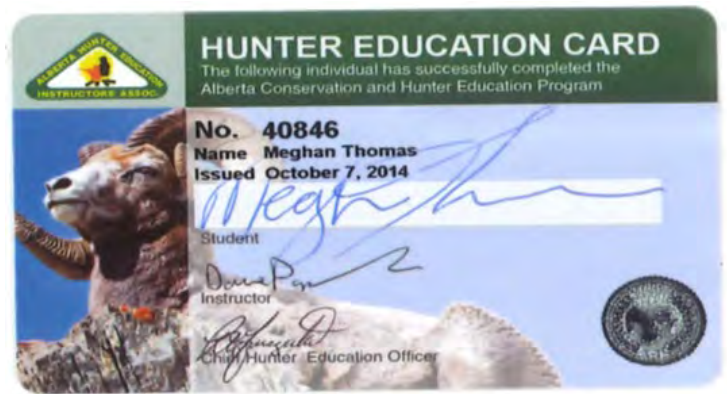
Manitoba



Saskatchewan



Alberta



Alberta



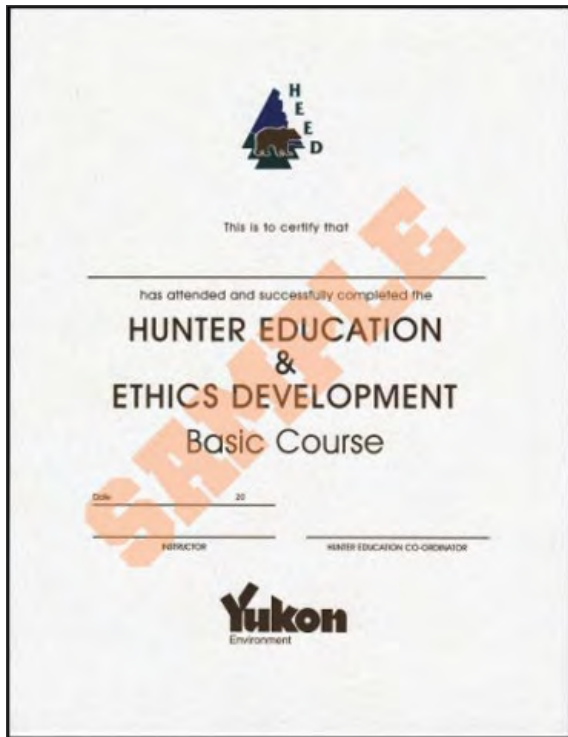
British Columbia



British Columbia



British Columbia



Yukon



N.B. Pink text is black on actual card.

Yukon