

# Hunter Education

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: [wildlife.dgf.nm.gov](https://wildlife.dgf.nm.gov)

## Hunter Education Program

Before purchasing a Game-Hunting License, all hunters 17 years of age and younger must obtain a Hunter Education number issued by New Mexico or another state or possess a New Mexico mentor-youth number. Hunter Education numbers issued by other states are no longer valid for hunters younger than 9 years of age. The Hunter Education number is valid for hunting all game species. The mentor-youth number is valid only for deer, pronghorn, turkey, javelina and small-game hunting (page 24).

**Online Hunter Education Course:** Hunters 9 years of age or older can obtain a Hunter Education number by completing an online Hunter Education course. Online course options can be found at: <https://wildlife.dgf.nm.gov/education/hunter-education/>. A service fee may apply.

**Instructor-Led Hunter Education Courses:** New Mexico Hunter Education numbers can also be obtained by completing a NMDOW, instructor-led Hunter Education course. NMDOW offers two types of in-person courses, a traditional course for students of all ages or a field-day course for students 10 years of age and older. Please note that students 10 years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult to attend an in-person course. Before the first class session for all instructor-led courses, students are required to complete a homework assignment. Homework may be completed online through a downloadable PDF file or a hardcopy manual. Hardcopy manuals are available at local NMDOW locations, after registration. Students must attend all class sessions and pass both a written exam and a firearm proficiency evaluation to be issued a New Mexico Hunter Education number. Courses are offered year-round and statewide. Early registration is encouraged to avoid missing a deadline to apply for a hunt. For complete information on course types, dates, locations, and requirements, as well as course content and homework, visit NMDOW at: <https://wildlife.dgf.nm.gov/education/hunter-education>.

## Registration for Hunter and/or Bowhunter Education Courses

All students wishing to register for a Hunter and/or Bowhunter Education course must have their own NMDOW account with a customer identification number (CIN). If you require assistance obtaining class information or a Hunter Education number please contact the New Mexico Hunter Education Program: **505-222-4731** or [dgf-he@dgf.nm.gov](mailto:dgf-he@dgf.nm.gov). Bowhunter Education is not mandatory for bowhunters in New Mexico, but is highly recommended.

## White Sands Missile Range and Fort Bliss

All hunters, regardless of age, on White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) and Fort Bliss – including all of GMUs 19 and 28 and portions of GMU 34 – are required to have proof of passing a state-certified Hunter Education course. Mentor-youth hunters are not eligible (Page 24).