



News release

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Media contact: Lee Colony 262.564.2512

262.359.0798 (cell)

**Gateway to begin offering
concealed carry weapons permit course**

Gateway Technical College in February will begin offering a training course for those wishing to obtain a concealed carry weapon permit in the state of Wisconsin.

The training meets the requirements of the state's new concealed carry law.

Gateway law enforcement academy instructors and local law enforcement training officers will provide quality, hands-on Wisconsin Department of Justice-certified training. The course is eight hours, which exceed the DOJ's recommended number of hours to receive a concealed carry license. It gives attendees time to familiarize themselves with handguns and shoot one on a live range as well as in computer simulated settings or the use of air soft weapon scenarios used to train police officers.

Students will be trained to take a DOJ conceal/carry test, which they must pass in order to receive a completion of training certificate from the college.

Course instructor Ray Merlin said the added components to this course compared to the four-hour version taught elsewhere is the in-depth look at the law and familiarization of handguns for attendees.

“The extended, more in-depth course brings with it a peace of mind,” said Merlin. “We believe this is something we need to offer, that the community wants us to do and we are working hard to make sure it is of the highest quality. The instructors are professionals in their field and will deliver the course in a professional manner.”

Merlin said while the course won’t teach attendees how to shoot proficiently, it does allow them to handle and shoot a weapon to gain some familiarity with one if they have to use it once they obtain a permit.

“We don’t want people to experience the recoil of a weapon for the first time when they are defending themselves,” he said. “It’s a self-defense mechanism, and we want them to be prepared for when they use it.”

Merlin says students will be able to see and handle a number of different weapons, including pistols, knives, pepper spray and electronic stun devices.

Courses will be held at the following locations:

Kenosha Campus, 3520-30th Ave., Room T113 in Technical Building (two sets of courses):

- Feb. 14 and Feb. 16, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Course number 504-465-3K1A
- Feb. 25, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Course number 504-465-3K1B

Walworth County Range, N6637 Hodges Road, Elkhorn:

- Feb. 19, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Course number 504-465-3Z1c

The college plans to hold more courses in the future, to be announced in the future.

Cost is \$125. Sign up at on WebAdvisor at www.gtc.edu/webadvisor, or a Student Services office at one of the following Gateway campuses:

- Kenosha: 3520-30th Ave.
- Elkhorn: 400 County Road H
- Racine: 1001 S. Main St.

For more information, call Ray Merlin or Molly Meagher at (262) 564-3180.

Gateway Technical College collaborates with communities in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties to ensure economic growth and viability by providing education, training, leadership and technological resources to meet the changing needs of students, employers and communities.

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