

Hunter Education

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: **1-888-248-6866**

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. 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 19).

Online Hunter Education Course: Hunters 10 years or older can obtain a New Mexico hunter education number by completing an online hunter education course. Online course options can be found at: **www.wildlife.state.nm.us/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 NMDGF instructor-led hunter education course. NMDGF 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 over. 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 NMDGF 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 NMDGF at: **www.wildlife.state.nm.us/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 NMDGF 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**. Bowhunter education is not mandatory for bowhunters in New Mexico, but is highly recommended.

Become A Volunteer Instructor

The Hunter Education Program is looking for volunteer instructors. If you are interested in contributing to and preserving our hunting heritage, please contact the New Mexico Hunter Education Program at: **505-222-4731** or: **wildlife.state.nm.us/education/hunter-education/hunter-education-instructor/**.

Fort Bliss

All hunters, regardless of age, on Fort Bliss – including all of Unit 28 and portions of Unit 19 and Unit 34 – are required to have proof of passing a state-certified hunter education course. Mentor-youth hunters are not eligible.

Mentor-Youth Hunter

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Mentor-Youth Hunter Program

First-time hunters 8–17 years of age who do not have a hunter education number may pass an online quiz and receive a mentor-youth number. This number enables a youth to hunt under the supervision of an adult mentor, and allows purchase of a game-hunting or game-hunting & fishing license. Mentor-youth hunters 8–9 years of age may hunt small game only. Mentor-youth hunters 10–17 years of age may apply for or purchase hunting licenses for deer, pronghorn, turkey, javelina, and small game.

Youth participation in this program is a one-time opportunity and good for two consecutive license years, beginning when a game-hunting license is initially purchased. When the mentor-youth hunter has completed the program and successfully passed a hunter education course, he or she can hunt any legal species independently with no age restriction.

Mentors must: be either a parent, guardian or an adult with parental consent; be 18 years of age or older; possess a valid game hunting license; and possess an NMDGF-issued mentor certification number or an NMDGF-approved hunter education certification number. Courses are available on the NMDGF's website. The mentor-youth hunter and mentor must be in unaided sight and audible distance from one another at all times while hunting.

For more information about the mentor-youth hunter program visit:

www.wildlife.state.nm.us/education/hunter-education/mentored-youth-hunter or call: 505-222-4731.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers play an important role helping NMDGF provide programs and services across the state. From hunter and angler education to off-road vehicle safety and wildlife conservation, volunteers share time and talent to support initiatives that otherwise would not be possible.

If you enjoy hunting, angling and New Mexico's great outdoors, consider giving back to your community by becoming a volunteer with the NMDGF. For information about the variety of volunteer opportunities available, call: 505 222-4704.



Hunter-education videos are available on the NMDGF's YouTube channel at:

www.youtube.com/user/NMGameandFish/videos