



MARYLAND STATE POLICE



Maryland Department of State Police / Licensing Division
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The Licensing Division, within the Department of State Police (DSP), administers provisions of State law and regulations related to the licensing and registration of firearms, handgun permits, security guards, and other licensing functions. The Public Safety Article establishes various requirements related to how quickly the division must turn around applications. The committees request that information on applications received and processing days needed for an application to receive a final disposition be submitted once per quarter on the following dates: July 1, 2024; October 1, 2024; January 1, 2025; and April 1, 2025.

Time period covered: 01/01/2025 – 03/31/2025
Accurate as of: 03/31/2025
Next update: 07/01/2025

Firearms Registration Unit

- Total Applications received – 27,122
- Machine Gun Registrations received – 45

7-day legislative mandate for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.

Handgun Qualification License Unit

- HQL new applications received – 9,707
- HQL “New Resident” applications received – 259

30-day legislative mandate for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.

Handgun Permit Unit

- HPU new original applications – 11,621
- HPU renewal applications – 20,460
- HPU modification applications – 106
- HPU replacement applications – 246

90-day legislative mandate for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.

Security Guard

- initial/original applications – 2,663
- renewal applications – 1,534

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-013 imposes a 90-calendar day deadline from date the application is accepted.

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Security Guard Agency

- initial/original applications – 15
- renewal applications – 5

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-014 imposes a 90-calendar day deadline from date the application is accepted.

Private Detective

- initial/original applications – 79
- renewal applications – 69

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-012 imposes a 90-calendar day deadline from date the application is accepted.

Private Detective Agency

- initial/original applications – 4
- renewal applications – 12

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-014 imposes a 90-calendar day deadline from date the application is accepted.

Private Detective & Security Guard Dual Agency

- initial/original applications – 23
- renewal applications – 23

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-014 imposes a 90-calendar day deadline from date the application is accepted.

Security System Agency

- initial/original applications – 30
- renewal applications – 52

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-006 imposes the following processing time frames:

- For Initial Applications: 90 business days for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.
- For Renewal Applications: 60 business days for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.

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Security System Technician

- new applications received – 346
- renewal applications received – 208

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-006 imposes the following processing time frames:

- For Initial Applications: 90 business days for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.
- For Renewal Applications: 60 business days for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.

Special Police

- new applications received – 153
- renewal applications received – 87

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-007 imposes the following processing time frames:

- For Initial Applications: 90 business days for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.
- For Renewal Applications: 60 business days for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.

Special Police processing time frames do not include applications awaiting action from the Maryland Secretary of State's office.

Railroad Police

- new applications received – 0

No legislative processing mandate. MDSP Standard Operating Procedure 29-19-008 imposes the following processing time frames:

- For Initial Applications: 90 business days for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.
- For Renewal Applications: 60 business days for a completed & accepted application to receive a final disposition.

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