

# INFORMATION SHEET

## FIREARM AUTHORITY HEALTH STANDARDS

OFFICIAL



## Firearm Authority Health Standards

### Who needs to complete a firearm authority health examination?

- New firearm authority applicants, including those applying to become an authorised person under a licence.
- Existing firearm authority holders will be subject to health examinations incrementally over a 5-year transitional period. Those aged 80 years and above will be required to undergo the firearm authority health examination in the first 12 months, as directed by the regulator.

### Frequency

Firearm authority holders will be required to undergo subsequent health examinations every 5 years on the anniversary of the first one.

Authority holders or new applicants aged 80 years or older are required to undergo a firearm authority health examination annually.

### How does the firearm authority health examination work?

It comprises of two parts:

- A.** A self-assessment completed by the applicant/authority holder.
- B.** A medical assessment completed by a medical practitioner (general practitioner).

The applicant is required to complete a self-assessment form and take the completed form to their medical appointment. The doctor will review the self-assessment form and then conduct a medical assessment of the applicant/authority holder. At the conclusion of the medical appointment the doctor will provide the result of the firearm authority health examination to police.

WA Police do not receive any medical information, only whether the applicant / authority holder meets or does not meet the firearm authority health standards or meets the firearm authority health standards subject to conditions.

### Firearm authority health standards (*r.221 Firearms Regulations 2024*)

The health standards a person must meet to be considered a fit and proper person to hold a firearm authority are, that the person must be physically and mentally capable of:

- Continuously, safely and responsibly possessing and using a firearm; **and**
- Continuously complying with the conditions of the firearm authority; **and**

- Continuously complying with the other requirements imposed on the person under the Firearms Act in relation to the firearm authority, including the requirements relating to security and storage of a firearm or related thing.

### **How much does the firearm authority health examination cost?**

#### **(s.148(2)(b) Firearms Act 2024)**

The cost will be determined by the medical centre that you attend. The cost must be paid by the applicant/authority holder.

### **What happens if I live remotely and can't make it to a doctor's appointment in person?**

The legislation does not specify that you must attend the health examinations in person. If your doctor conducts telehealth consultations, they will be accepted by the regulator.

### **What happens if I don't meet the firearm authority health standards?**

#### **(s.153 Firearms Act 2024)**

The information the regulator receives will form part of the overall fit and proper assessment in determining if the applicant/authority holder is suitable to obtain/retain a firearm authority to possess and/or use firearms in Western Australia.

### **What if I refuse to undergo the health examination? (s.148(5) Firearms Act 2024)**

A failure to comply with the requirements is sufficient grounds for the regulator to be satisfied that the person does not meet firearm authority health standards and for that reason is not a fit and proper person.