



MARYLAND STATE POLICE

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BULLETIN

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Discontinuing Printing of Handgun Qualification Licenses

The Maryland Department of State Police, Licensing Division (MDSPLD) is constantly reviewing policy and procedures in order to enhance the experience of our customers, allied agencies, firearms instructors and dealers, all while being as fiscally responsible to the citizens of Maryland as possible. With this in mind, beginning January 1, 2021, the MDSPLD will discontinue printing the current paper Handgun Qualification License (HQL).

All HQL applicants approved on or after January 1, 2021, will receive, via email, a notification that the application has been reviewed and approved. Attached to the email will be a pdf of the Handgun Qualification License (HQL). A printed copy of the pdf, or an electronic copy of the license, must be presented to a dealer or any other person, prior to selling, renting, or transferring a handgun, in accordance with MD Public Safety §5-117.1 and COMAR 29.03.01.06. The discontinuation of printing of the HQL license will expedite the final process of the HQL and ultimately decrease the time it takes for the applicant to receive their HQL.

Qualified Handgun Instructors (QHI) are also reminded that the individual student/applicant's HQL account must be associated with the individual student/applicant's personal email address.

For further information on the HQL, please visit our website by clicking the following link: [Handgun Qualification License](#). You may also contact us, via email, at: msh.hql@maryland.gov, and Regulated Firearms Dealers may contact us by utilizing the Livehelp feature within their Licensing Portal.

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