

Regulations for Hunting/Trapping Licenses and Stamps

- A resident license/stamp may be obtained by persons who have been a resident of Illinois 30 days prior to purchase (see Resident definition on p. 9).
- Federal stamps must be signed in ink across the face of the stamp. Lifetime License holders who are required to purchase state stamps must sign the stamps and have them in their possession while hunting.
- All hunting licenses and State stamps are effective January 1 of the issuing year through March 31 of the following year. Every person holding a hunting or trapping license shall have it, including all appropriate stamps, in his/her possession for immediate presentation for inspection to any authorized law enforcement officer.
- This information is based on laws in effect as of April 1, 2011 and is subject to change.

RESIDENTS NEED: All deer and turkey hunters must have a valid deer or turkey permit, regardless of other license exemptions

License/Stamp Type	(2) Hunting License	(12) Resident Apprentice Hunting	(13) Senior Hunting License	(2) Sportmen's Combination Hunting & Sport Fishing License	(13) Senior Sportsmen's Combination Hunting & Sport Fishing License	(3) (4) Trapping License	(5) Federal Waterfowl Stamp	(5) State Waterfowl Stamp	(6) State Habitat Stamp	(7) Harvest Information Program (HIP)
Under 16	X	X				X				X
16 – 64	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
65 and Over		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Disabled (8)						X	X		X	
Disabled Veteran (9)						X	X			
Former POW	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X
Armed Forces (10)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Armed Forces (10a)						X	X		X	
Landowner		X					X		X	

NON-RESIDENTS NEED: All deer and turkey hunters must have a valid deer or turkey permit, regardless of other license exemptions

License/Stamp Type	(1) (2) Hunting License	(1) (12) Non-Resident Apprentice Hunting	(3) (4) Trapping License	(5) Federal Waterfowl Stamp	(5) State Waterfowl Stamp	(6) State Habitat Stamp	(7) Harvest Information Program (HIP)
Under 16	X	X	X				X
16 – 64	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
65 and Over	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Disabled (8)	X		X	X	X	X	X
Disabled Veteran (9)			X	X			
Former POW	X		X	X	X		X
Landowner	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

(1) Non-residents hunting deer or turkey need a non-resident hunting license and State Habitat Stamp in addition to their valid deer or turkey permits.

(2) Hunters born on or after January 1, 1980 must show proof that they have successfully completed a Hunter Education Course provided by Illinois DNR or their resident state or must show a previous year's hunting license.

(3) Trappers under 18 years of age must show proof that they have successfully completed a Trapper Education Course provided by Illinois DNR or their resident state or must show a previous year's trapping license.

(4) Trappers under 16 years of age must have their parent's written permission prior to obtaining a license.

(5) Required to hunt waterfowl (including teal) and coots except toe-clipped, hand-reared mallards on licensed Game Breeding and Hunting Preserve Areas.

(6) Required to hunt or trap any species of wildlife protected by the Wildlife Code. Habitat Stamps are not required to hunt migratory waterfowl, coots and hand-reared toe-clipped mallards and hand-reared game birds on licensed game breeding and hunting preserve areas as well as hand-reared pheasants on Department-controlled pheasant hunting areas. Hunters who purchased a lifetime hunting license prior to 1993 are exempt.

(7) All licensed hunters must register with HIP (National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program) if they intend to hunt migratory birds (doves, ducks, geese, snipe, woodcock, coots or rails). If you decide to hunt migratory game birds after you buy your hunting license you can register with HIP via DNR DIRECT or by calling 1-888-6PERMIT. Hunters with a lifetime license are exempt. (see page 22)

(8) In order for disabled persons who are Illinois residents to hunt without a license, the person must be able to show (available from the Secretary of State through the drivers license examining station). Appropriate disability classifications are P2, P2A, H2, H2A.

(9) In order for disabled veterans (residents or non-residents) to hunt without a license, the veterans must be able to show proof of disability with a veterans' disability card (at least 10% service related) available from local Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Offices. Disabled veterans are exempt from purchasing a Habitat Stamp regardless of the percentage of disability.

(10) Persons on active duty in the Armed Forces are considered residents.

(10a) A person on active duty in the Armed Forces, who entered the service from Illinois and is an Illinois resident, may, while on ordinary or emergency leave, hunt without a license; however, a Federal Waterfowl Stamp and state Habitat Stamp are required.

(11) Resident landowners or resident tenants and their children, parents, brothers and sisters permanently residing on their Illinois land may hunt or trap on their farmlands, where they reside, without a license (you still need a Habitat and/or Federal Waterfowl Stamp depending on which species you are hunting).

(12) The Apprentice Hunter License is a one-time, non-renewable license for residents and non-residents. It allows persons aged 17 and under to go hunting with a parent, grandparent or guardian who has a valid Illinois resident or non-resident hunting license. Those 18 and older will be able to go hunting with any family member or friend who is a validly licensed Illinois resident or non-resident hunter who is 21 years of age or older. A hunter safety course is not required to purchase this license.

(13) Age 65 and older.