

# Props Department Firearms Qualifications For Permittee / Membership Status

*Please circle one*

Firearms Department members provide guidance and supervision in the handling of firearms and firearms-related props. Under direction of the Propmaster, members work directly with cast and crew and are expected to provide a positive role model of firearms safety.

## General Qualifications

In order to be successful in the Firearms Department, we suggest you possess one or more of the following qualifications. Please check off each qualification and provide details as required.

- Two years experience in a motion picture, television or theatre props department
- Two years experience in the handling of firearms in an instructional capacity
- Equivalent education, experience or special skills

**The applicant must also possess all of the following:** (Attach proof)

- Completion of a Set Etiquette course (Contact Film Training Manitoba at 989-9669 for dates)
- Current WHMIS instruction/ training (Contact Film Training Manitoba at 989-9669 for dates)
- Completion of the Canadian Firearms Safety Course
- Completion of the Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course
- Completion of Film Training Manitoba "Firearms Safety in Film Production" workshop or equivalent (Contact Film Training Manitoba at 989-9669 for dates)

**And:**

- Must be eligible to apply for a Firearms Possession and Acquisition License

## Permittee Status

To apply for permittee status in the Firearms Department, the applicant must meet the General Qualifications, plus one of the following:

- A letter of recommendation from an IATSE Local 856 Propmaster
- A letter of recommendation from an IATSE Local 856 Weapons Handler
- A letter of recommendation from an IATSE Local 856 Firearms Safety Coordinator

## Membership

In order to be considered for membership, the applicant must work a minimum of 60 days as a permittee in the Firearms Department on two or more IATSE Local 856 productions, have set orientation, WHMIS and Basic First Aid. Two letters of reference are required from two different IATSE Local 856 Propmasters or Firearms Safety Coordinators.

## Upgrades within the Firearms Department

To upgrade within the Firearms Department from Firearms Crew (supervised) to Firearms Handler, the applicant must meet the General Qualifications, plus all of the following:

- 60 days experience as a Firearms Crew (supervised)
- A valid firearms Possession and Acquisition License for restricted firearms
- A letter of recommendation from the supervising IATSE 856 Firearms Safety Coordinator
- A letter of recommendation from an IATSE 856 Propmaster
- Proof of assisting on one Film Training Manitoba "Firearms Safety in Film Production" workshop or equivalent

**To upgrade** within the Firearms Department from Firearms Handler to Firearms Safety Coordinator, the applicant must meet the required qualifications, plus all of the following:

- ❑ 60 days experience as a Firearms Handler
- ❑ A valid firearms Possession and Acquisition License for restricted firearms
- ❑ A letter of recommendation from an IATSE 856 Firearms Safety Coordinator
- ❑ A letter of recommendation from an IATSE 856 Propmaster
- ❑ Two years experience in handling real firearms
- ❑ Proof of teaching one Film Training Manitoba “Firearms Safety in Film Production” workshop or equivalent

## **Membership Positions**

### **Firearms Crew (supervised)**

Firearms Crew assists in the handling of firearms under the direct supervision of licensed Firearms Handlers or a Firearms Safety Coordinator. They may assist in the supervision, safety checking, and maintenance of firearms or the loading of magazines on large productions that require multiple assistants on set. In addition, they should be prepared to conduct safety briefings for actors and to assist the Props Department in the handling of replica firearms when needed.

### **Firearms Handler**

Firearms Handlers work under the direction of a Firearms Safety Coordinator. They must possess a valid Firearms License and must be able to safely handle firearms on film sets without direct supervision. They must possess a high regard for safety and the ability to make others feel comfortable. Firearms Handlers must be familiar with firearms regulations and must be prepared to comply with legal and safety requirements, even when pressured to deviate from them for production reasons.

### **Firearms Safety Coordinator**

The Firearms Safety Coordinator is in overall charge of firearms handling on and off the film set. They will directly or indirectly supervise others in the handling of firearms and will be training and briefing actors and other Firearms Department members in the safe and authentic handling of firearms. They must possess a high regard for safety and the ability to make others feel comfortable. The Firearms Safety Coordinator must be totally familiar with all firearms regulations and must be prepared to comply with all legal requirements. They must be prepared to treat safety as a priority over anything else, even at the expense of their position.