



FAQs Regarding NRA Basic Pistol Shooting

Do I need to be a member of the NRA to become certified in the classes taught by CFT?

There is no requirement to belong to the NRA to attain certification in classes we teach. Union veterans Col. William C. Church and Gen. George Wingate formed the National Rifle Association in 1871. The primary goal of the association was to “promote and encourage (rifle) shooting on a scientific basis”. Since then, the NRA has been the premier firearms education organization in the world. CFT believes that NRA course are simply the best, and that’s why we teach them.

Where are CFT classes taught?

We are a concierge training organization for a reason. Our classes are built around the student, including the venue for training. The didactic portion can be taught in your home, community meeting room, place of worship or your workplace. The only requirements are that it is suitable for a PowerPoint presentation and unloaded handguns can lawfully be present. The practical (shooting) portion of the class will be held at Shoot Straight, 2335 University Parkway, Sarasota, Florida. Other indoor/outdoor venues are available depending upon student preferences.

Is the goal of CFT training to obtain a Florida CCW permit?

No, it is not. The quickest way to train for a permit is to attend a two-hour training session at a range or gun show. But quickest is not always the best. A person new to firearms would not be expected to be a competent shooter as a result of a quickie CCW course. In fact, a little knowledge might prove to be dangerous. However, should a person wish to apply for a CCW permit, the certificate of NRA course completion issued by CFT will serve as proof of training.

Do I need to own a firearm to take CFT classes?

No. If you already own a serviceable, properly-maintained pistol or revolver and would prefer to train with that, we are good to go. You supply the ammunition. If not, we will supply the firearm and ammunition necessary to qualify for the shooting portion of the course. If you want to learn about rifles, that can be arranged as well. We do not offer NRA Basic Rifle Shooting certification.

What is included in course fees?

The course itself, class-specific NRA textbooks, certificate of completion, range fees, firearms and ammunition. The student is responsible for eye and hearing protection. If you do not have suitable protection, loaner equipment can be provided. Your own prescription eyewear (not sunglasses) may be used for shooting drills and qualification.

Can I bring my gun to class?

Absolutely, if you own a pistol or revolver, you are welcome to bring it to class. However, the firearm must be cleared (and that will be checked before class begins) and the NRA has a strict policy of **NO LIVE AMMUNITION IN THE CLASSROOM**. We suggest that if you plan to use your own firearm for shooting qualification, lock your ammunition in the trunk of your vehicle. *Make sure your cleared firearm is properly cased before bringing it to class.*

Are CFT classes open to the public?

No, all of our courses are private. We offer concierge classes confined to 1-3 students. One-on-one training is our specialty, and we are happy to train couples and one other person. You are the boss; take the class by yourself or invite up to two other people.

What are class hours and dates?

CFT has no fixed schedule. You tell us when and where you want to train. The NRA insists that all course material be covered, and shooting drills and qualification can take a couple of hours.

Are there tests and qualifications?

Yes, both NRA Basic Pistol and NRA CCW courses have written tests (80% is a passing grade). These are open book tests, and will be completed before going on to shooting drills and shooting qualification.

Do the didactic and shooting portions of the course have to be done contiguously?

No, our concierge concept is that the student sets the date and time for both portions of the course. However, you cannot receive your certificate of completion until both activities are successfully completed.

How do I dress for the course?

You can wear anything you want for the didactic portion. Upon enrollment, you will receive your course guide and specifics on appropriate range attire.

Why is a questionnaire necessary for course enrollment?

CFT is an exclusive company. We only train people who are legally *able to purchase firearms*. You may already own firearms, or may choose to purchase firearms subsequent to the course. Many of the questions are those from the *Firearms Transaction Record* (Form 4473). This is a form promulgated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in the United States Department of Justice. Some of the other questions are necessary for us to report your training to the NRA.

Does CFT keep a record of my training?

Yes. A digital record of your training, including your written test score, shooting qualification score and certificate of completion are kept in perpetuity and are available should you need them.

Will I need to sign a liability waiver?

Yes. The waiver is on the password-protected portion of the website. You will need to print it, sign it and present it in class before training begins.

How do I pay for training with CFT?

A deposit of 50% is required when a class is booked, and the remainder is payable at the beginning of the class. Personal check or PayPal is acceptable. We don't take credit or debit cards.

Can guests attend class with me?

No. Our concierge paradigm requires that the instructor give student(s) his/her full attention, and guests are not conducive to that principle.

Why does CFT charge more than other non-NRA sanctioned training classes?

CFT was designed to fill a niche in firearms training. As our client, *you* will determine (within reason) the class schedule and location. *You* will have one-on-one (maximum class size 3 students) training by an NRA Certified instructor. *You* will train alone, or with people you know. *You* will have the benefit of a firearms instructor/licensed physician who can address questions regarding ballistics, trauma, lead exposure and hearing protection.

Is it worth it? *You* decide. For example, you can take a gun show CCW course which takes 2 hours, and shoot twice into a bucket of sand. Having taken such a course, would you feel comfortable carrying a concealed firearm? If you would, you are not a good fit for CFT.

Do we train with “blue” plastic guns?

No, we do not. Our philosophy is that you **MUST** feel comfortable handling actual firearms for *NRA CCW*. Supervised dry fire in the classroom is part of your training. By the time you go to the range, you will be comfortable handling a firearm for drills and qualification.