

Fishing and Hunting License

Free and Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing Licenses

To qualify for a for Free or Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing License, anglers must meet the criteria described below.

Disabled Veteran Sport Fishing and Hunting Licenses – Fee \$8.38

- Reduced-fee licenses are available for any honorably discharged veteran of the US Armed Forces with a service-connected disability rating of 50% or greater.
- To prequalify to purchase a disabled veteran license, submit a letter from the Veteran's Administration documenting that you were honorably discharged from the US military and have a service-connected disability rating of 50% or greater. After your eligibility has been verified, your customer record will be updated. Once you receive notification from the Department that your customer record has been updated, you will be able to purchase a low cost disabled veteran sport fishing license and/or hunting license anywhere licenses are sold.

Recovering Service Member Sport Fishing and Hunting Licenses - Fee \$8.38

- Reduced-fee hunting licenses are available for recovering service members. A recovering service member is a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or a Reserve, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy and is in an outpatient status while recovering from a serious injury or illness related to the member's military service.
- Submit a letter from your commanding officer or from a military medical doctor verifying your eligibility as a recovering service member. Please have your commanding officer or military medical doctor include the expected recovery date in your verification letter. The Department will enter this date into your customer profile and allow you to renew your license until this date without submitting another letter from your commanding officer or doctor.

How to Prequalify for a Disabled Veteran or Recovering Service Member License

- Send a photocopy of your identification and documentation of eligibility by:
 - **Mail** or apply in person at any CDFW license sales office 1740 N. Market Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95834
 - **Fax** at (916) 419-7585
 - Secure document upload - To upload your documentation, you must request a secure document upload. Send your request for a secure document upload to **LRB@wildlife.ca.gov**. You will receive a response with a link to upload your documentation securely. **DO NOT** send your documents via email.

Include:

- Identification -
 - Your driver's license; and
 - Your GO ID number (from your previously issued ALDS fishing or hunting license). If you do not have a GO ID number, create a customer record online to obtain a GO ID number.
- A letter documenting your eligibility
 - Disabled Veterans must submit a letter from the Veteran's Administration.
 - Recovering Service Members must submit a letter from their Commanding Officer or a military doctor.
- Telephone number
- Email address (optional, but may expedite issuance)
- For hunting licenses only - proof of hunter education (Proof is not needed if you purchased a California hunting license after 2011. CDFW will have your hunter education on file.)

Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing License for Low-Income Seniors (65 years or older) - Fee \$7.98

- Fish and Game Code, Section 7150, authorizes CDFW to issue Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing Licenses to anglers who meet specific criteria. Additional validations or cards are required for certain species and must be purchased at the regular fee. Any person 65 years of age or older who is a resident of California and whose total monthly income from all sources does not exceed the income levels below. Income Verification from your Social Security office is required annually.
 - \$943.72 for single persons, or
 - \$1,582.14 for married persons (combined income).

How to Apply for a Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing License for Low-Income Seniors

- Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing Licenses that require income verification must be renewed each year at CDFW License Sales Office (in person or by mail).
- Print Reduced-Fee Sport Fishing License Application (PDF Form)

Free Sport Fishing Licenses

Fish and Game Code, Section 7151, authorizes the CDFW to issue Free Sport Fishing Licenses to anglers who meet specific criteria. Additional validations or cards are required for certain species and areas and must be purchased at the regular fee.

Free Sport Fishing Licenses are available for anglers who meet any of these criteria:

- Any person, with central vision acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the aid of the best possible correcting glasses, or central vision acuity better than 20/200 if the widest diameter of the remaining visual field is no greater than 20 degrees. Certification of blindness by an optometrist or an ophthalmologist is required. Any person who was issued this license under

this criteria through ALDS may renew their licenses at any CDFW license agent, CDFW license sales office or online.

- Any person who is a resident of the State and who is so severely physically disabled as to be permanently unable to move from place to place without the aid of a wheelchair, walker, forearm crutches or a comparable mobility-related device. Verification by a licensed physician or a copy of the previous year's free fishing license is required. Any person who was issued this license under this criteria through ALDS may renew their licenses at any CDFW license agent, CDFW license sales office or online.
- Any developmentally disabled person. Certification by a licensed physician or the director of a State regional center is required. Any person who was issued this license under this criteria through ALDS may renew their licenses at any CDFW license agent, CDFW license sales office or online.
- Any Native American who is a resident of the State and is financially unable to pay the fee required for a resident sport fishing license. Certification of tribal enrollment, a copy of the Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood, or a copy of an official tribal membership or identification card with membership number is required.

How to Apply for a Free Sport Fishing License

Complete the appropriate application above and follow the instructions to obtain your first license. All applications will be reviewed and eligibility will be verified prior to license issuance. Allow 15 business days for review and processing of your application. After your first free sport fishing license has been issued, if you qualify for the license based on disability, you may renew your license from any CDFW license agent, CDFW license sales office or online.

Any Native American who has been issued a free low-income sport fishing license must resubmit a new application each year to renew their sport fishing license.

For further information about Fishing and Hunting License, please click, [here](#).

The information provided on this sheet is for general information only regarding Fishing and Hunting License. For further information, please contact your local [Veteran Service Office](#).

Thank you.