Utah
Hunter
Education
ProgramInstructor-Led
Course



Welcome to Hunter Education!

You Must Read All of These Instructions!!!

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First & foremost we want you to know that we want *every* student to succeed & we will do all that we can to make that happen. If you feel that you, or your child, is not succeeding, please let us know ASAP. Accommodations can be made for many situations, but we must be aware of the problem in order to make the arrangements. We can accommodate students (children or adults) that have trouble reading, but it is best (and less embarrassing) to advise us before it becomes an issue. So, if you have *any* questions about the course, please contact us. We would much rather have you contact us before class than to be unprepared the day of class, or worse, that students are unsuccessful or quit.

Instructor-Led Course Expectations

As of April 2016, the Utah Wildlife Board only requires instruction of the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) 2014 core curriculum for the Instructor-Led Hunter Education Course. They no longer mandate a minimum amount of time, or methods to be used, for classroom instruction. So please note, that our Instructor-Led course will accomplish this over 6 classes of 2-3 hours each, plus the live fire exercise. If you miss a class, you must <u>make</u> up the instruction, & it is <u>your</u> responsibility to get any required make-up assignments. You cannot miss the live fire exercise.

Graduation requires satisfactory completing three tests; a written test, attitude assessment, & live fire exercise.

The <u>written test</u> consists of 50 multiple choice questions. Students must score 75 percent (38/50) or higher to pass the course. Test material will come from the <u>Today's Hunter in Utah</u> student manual. These will be provided during the 1st class. <u>YOU MUST READ THIS BOOK!</u> We will <u>not</u> cover all the required material in the classroom. You may read ahead, but expect you to read the chapters pertaining to each class <u>beforehand</u>. This provides you the greatest chance of success. The Standards/Terminal Learning Objectives will be further explained below.

The purpose of the <u>live fire exercise</u> is to evaluate a student's ability to safely load, handle and shoot using a .22 caliber or .17 HMR rimfire rifle. A BB or Pellet gun may be used, but there are limitations (see below). Students failing to perform safely during live fire range activities shall be deemed to have failed the <u>live fire exercise</u>. Students will shoot at animal targets from 50 feet. Students will fire five practice shots at a bull's eye target, then must shoot 30 shots from a combination of the prone, sitting, kneeling, & standing positions. You may download the targets (<u>PDF</u> format) used for the shooting test & practice before your shooting test. <u>Rabbit</u> (216 KB); <u>Bull's eye</u> (244 KB).

The Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) has now authorized an archery option for the shooting test. A student may use any legal hunting archery equipment including crossbows. No minimum draw or arrow weight. Field or target points, or broadheads, may be used. From a standing position, students will shoot 5 arrows each from 15, 20, 25, & 30 yards at a target area of approximately 8" x 11". If you wish to use this option, you will have to make arrangements & plan on a separate range time.

V.5.0 12 April 2020 Page 1 of 6

Your <u>attitude</u> will also determine whether you pass or not. You must show a mature & responsible attitude towards firearms, fellow students, your instructor(s) & natural resources. <u>You can fail this course based on your attitude</u>. Having a positive attitude will go a lot further to getting cooperation when needed than a negative attitude will.

Instructor-Led Course Instructions

Registration for the course is done through the DWR's Hunter Education webpage, or during the 1st class (unless the class is full). Before you can register you must purchase a <u>Utah Hunter Education</u> <u>Registration Certificate</u> (HERC). These are available from the DWR online at https://secure.utah.gov/hflo/, or from a local license retailer. The fee is \$10.00. Once you purchase the HERC it is good for 365 days. If you purchase it online you must download a temporary copy of the permit to use for registration, since you need to allow time (1-2 weeks) for the actual permit to arrive by regular mail.

It is best to complete your enrollment through the DWR's <u>Hunter Education webpage</u>. But you can bring your official or temporary copy of the HERC to the 1st class. We may be able to accept them later, if the class isn't full, but we must have them before the shooting test, & the official copy is required to graduate.

Upon graduation the HERC becomes your Hunting License for the remainder of those 365-days, with no additional cost. This license is also required to qualify for other game tags & permits. The validated HERC or the Graduation Certificate also allows free use of the State's shooting ranges for one year from graduation.

In addition to the HERC, we will need the following information:

- The student's preferred name (if different from the name on the HERC. i.e. Mike instead of Michael).
- The student's home phone number (same as on the HERC).
- A contact email address (student's or parents') (email is the preferred means of communication).
- A contact phone number (if it is different than the home number).
- Parent's name(s) if student is under 18.

Tardiness: It may sound trivial, but every element of this course has been mandated by the DWR & is required in order to be properly prepared to take to the field with a firearm. Therefore, tardiness cannot be tolerated. Anyone that arrives more than a few minutes late may be credited with a missed class, & will require making up work. This includes arriving late at the range. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Withdrawal: If for any reason you have to withdraw from class, PLEASE, PLEASE let us know. If you withdraw before the class starts, there may be others waiting for a spot to open up. (Surely you would want that chance if you were the one waiting.) If you withdraw after class begins, it may be possible to complete the course, if we have another class available, or if we arrange for you to transfer to another instructor's class. But otherwise you will end up purchasing a new HERC to enroll in another class.

Things to Bring to Classes

Hunter Education Registration Certificate (Signed by parent or guardian if under 18) (1st/2nd class only).

- Your <u>Today's Hunter in Utah</u> student manual.
- Pen or pencil.
- Outdoor clothes & shoes. Most outdoor activities will go rain or shine.

Things to Bring to Range

- A rifle (.22 caliber, or .17 HMR, or BB gun, or Pellet gun firearm). *
- 50 rounds of ammunition that matches your rifle. **
- Preferred eye & ear protection. These will be provided at the center, but if you have some you like you should bring them. Regular sunglasses & prescription eyeglasses are allowed.
- Outdoor clothes & shoes. This is a rain or shine activity. A long sleeve shirt with a collar is recommended to protect you from ejected brass. NO OPEN TOE SHOES!

*Typical Daisy "Red Ryder" style BB guns will NOT work! If you intend to bring a "pump" type BB or pellet gun, we recommend that you shoot it at 50-foot targets to check for accuracy & penetration.

Take the time to clean your rifle, sight it in & make sure it is in good working condition before class.

Bipods & other rests are not allowed. Scopes (6x max) are allowed but not required.

You are allowed to share a rifle if there is more than one person in your group attending together, however it may not be a single shot, & only two people may share a rifle. However, if this creates too long of a delay, we may ask one of you to use a loaner rifle.

If you do not have access to a suitable rifle, arrangements can be made for a loaner rifle, but you must let us know before we go to the range. Not having a rifle will not stop you from completing Hunters' Education.

STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE LIVE AMMUNITION IN THE CLASSROOM! **Do not bring guns or ammo to any class. When we go to the range leave your rifle & ammo in your vehicle until after the safety lecture. If you are being dropped off at the Lee Kay Center, give your ammunition to the instructor.

Information for Parents of Hunter Education Students

This course has been completed successfully by children as young as seven years of age. As long as your child is able to read & understand the material, they should be successful. Many believe that the Instructor-Led Course is a better environment for teaching young students, than the Online Course. However, any student of any age, that has trouble maintaining their attention in a classroom, may want to consider the Online Course, being able to learn at their own pace, often keeps students' attention better than traditional teaching methods.

The DWR states that parents are to attend classes with students under the age of 16, & we certainly encourage the same. But what we ask is that parents & guardians stay in class with children under 12 whenever possible. It may also be more convenient when parents needing to take Hunter Education do so along with their children. Utah requires that adults accompany young hunters (Utah Code 23-20-20). All children under 14 must be accompanied by their parent/guardian (*or a responsible adult, 21 years of age, & approved by the parent or guardian) while hunting with any firearm. Children 14 years old but not yet 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult while hunting with any firearm, & by their parent/guardian* while hunting big game. "Accompanied" means at a distance within which visual & verbal communication is maintained for the purposes of advising & assisting. The DWR encourages

adults to be familiar with hunter education guidelines or to complete the hunter education course before accompanying youth into the field.

We keep this in mind when teaching Hunting Education to children, especially because it will be the parents' responsibility to reinforce the ideals taught during this course, as the child matures. This is especially important when teaching areas of the curriculum that the family members may not be familiar with (i.e. bowhunting, or muzzleloading). Therefore, we encourage parents to review the student manual with their child, thereby ensuring that the parents know what their child is being taught, so that they also understand, & can reinforce those concepts.

The Standards/Terminal Learning Objectives

These are guidelines for the student. They are an itemized list of what the student is expected to learn. The following list of standards comes from the IHEA & provides a guideline of the subjects covered in order to meet the minimum standards & learning objectives.

IHEA-USA Hunter Education Standards

Adopted 2014

Course content designed for students to be instructed and assessed according to performance-based learning objectives related to safe, legal, & responsible hunting.

The minimum requirement for certification shall include the following core standards:

I. Reasons for Hunter Education and Justification for Hunting

- A. Justification for Hunter Education
 - 1. Why hunter education is important
- B. Hunter's Role in Wildlife Conservation
 - 1. Role of hunting in conservation
 - 2. North American Model of Wildlife Conservation
 - 3. Conservation funding wildlife management & hunter education
- C. Key Wildlife Ecology & Management Principles
 - 1. Basic factors of wildlife conservation
 - 2. Biological basis for hunting

II. Safe Firearm Handling

- A. Safe Firearm Handling (mechanics)
 - 1. Major causes of incidents
 - 2. Basic rules of firearm safety
 - 3. Parts of a firearm including safety mechanisms
 - 4. Differences between rifles, shotguns and handguns
 - 5. Common firearm actions
 - 6. Parts of ammunition
 - 7. Proper ammunition

- 8. Performance characteristics of ammunition
- B. Safe Firearm Handling
 - 1. Passing firearms safely
 - 2. Failure to fire
 - 3. Loading and unloading firearms
 - 4. Crossing obstacles
 - 5. Shooting skill
 - 6. Eye and ear protection
 - 7. Transporting firearms
 - 8. Cleaning firearms
 - 9. Storing firearms

III. Safe Firearm Field Practices

- A. Safe Firearm Field Practices
 - 1. Handling firearms in hunting situations
 - 2. Proper field carries
 - 3. Safe zones of fire
 - 4. Barrel obstructions
- B. Hunter Field Safety
 - 1. Elevated Stands/Climbing
 - Systems
 - 2. Full Body Harness/Fall Arrest Systems
- C. Hunter Best Practices
 - 1. Avoid alcohol and drug consumption

- 2. Outdoor preparedness
- 3. Preparing a "Hunt Plan"
- 4. Physical Conditioning

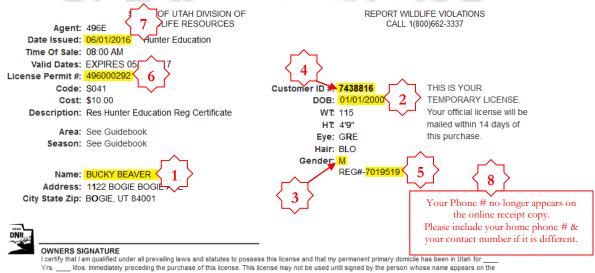
IV. Hunting Laws, Regulations and Wildlife Identification

- A. Hunting Regulations
 - 1. Reasons for hunting laws/regulations and who regulates/legislates
 - 2. Resources for locating current hunting regulations
- B. Wildlife Identification
 - 1. Wildlife identification skills for hunters

V. Personal Responsibility and Next Steps

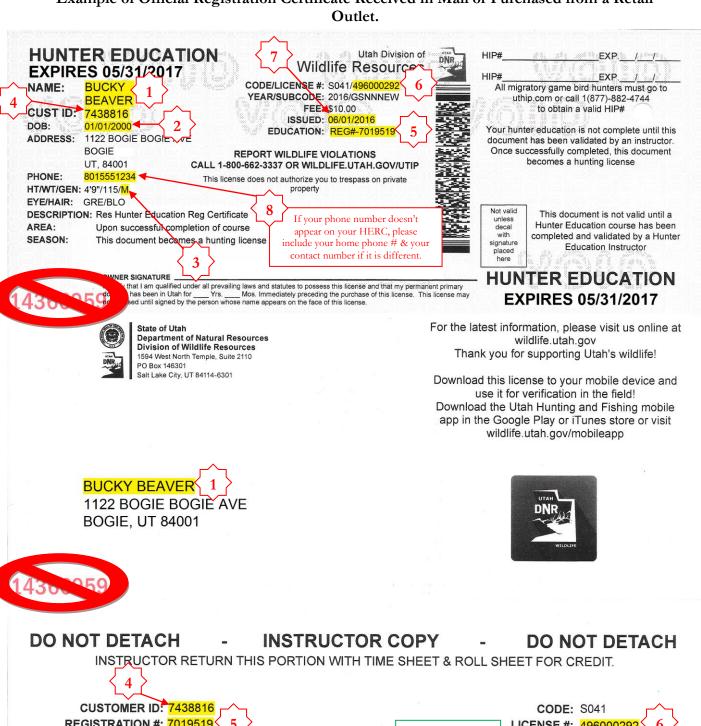
- A. Personal Responsibility and Behavior
 - 1. Responsible & respectful behaviors that promote positive image of hunters/hunting
 - 2. Fair chase principles that show respect for game and others
- B. Responsibility to Wildlife
 - 1. Effective shot placement/angles to ensure a quick, clean kill
 - 2. Game Recovery Tracking techniques and reading sign
 - 3. Proper and legal care of game to prevent violations/meat spoilage
 - 4. Proper selection of sporting arms to satisfy legal requirements and ensure accuracy

Example of Temporary/Online Registration Certificate Downloaded from DWR



face of this license.

Example of Official Registration Certificate Received in Mail or Purchased from a Retail



REGISTRATION #: 7019519 LICENSE #: 496000292 MUST sign this **MAILING ADDRESS** portion here. If your phone number doesn't NAME: BUCKY BEAVER tudents under 18 appear on your HERC, please PASS ADDRESS: 1122 BOGIE BOGIE VE may NOT include your home phone # & your **BOGIE** contact number if it is different. articipate in unter Education UT, 84001 PHONE: without this. 801555123 FAIL GENDER: DOB: 01/01/2000 PARENT SIGNATURE (IF UNDER 18) parent/legal guardian of the minor named above. I understand that Hunter Education involves the use activities and I authorize his/her participation and waive all claims arising out of such participation.

> 12 April 2020 Page 6 of 6