How Do I Apply for Retired Officer Credentials? Page 1 of 3

Georgia POST issues two types of Retired Officer Credentials: a **Retired Officer Credentials Identification (ID) Card** and **Annual Firearms Qualification for Retired Officers (HR218)**.

The **Retired Officer Credentials ID Card** is for individuals who have retired from law enforcement service but do not qualify for agency-issued retirement credentials because they have not truly retired from that agency. Officers who have truly retired from their agency will receive retirement credentials from that agency.

The **Annual Firearms Qualification for Retired Officers (HR218)**, along with valid proof of retirement as a law enforcement officer, allows you to carry firearms nationally, under 18 U.S. Code § 926C titled "Carrying of concealed firearms by qualified retired law enforcement officers."

Below are instructions for applying for your **Retired Officer Credentials Identification** (ID) Card and Annual Firearms Qualification for Retired Officers (HR218). If you have retirement credentials from your agency, skip to Part B.

Part A: Applying for Retired Law Enforcement Credentials ID Card

- 1. Determine if you are eligible for the Georgia POST issued **Retired Law Enforcement Credentials**. You must:
 - a. Be a citizen of Georgia.
 - b. Be retired with at least ten years of aggregate service as a law enforcement officer with powers of arrest under the laws of any US state or of the United States.
 - These credentials are not for individuals who have truly retired from an agency.
 - c. Be in good standing at the time you separated from service.
 - Good standing means you were never suspended or revoked to practice as a law enforcement officer.
 - If you served as an officer in another state(s) or for the United States, documentation of good standing is required from the state(s) or the United States where you were employed.
 - d. Be eligible to possess a firearm.
 - You must provide a copy of your valid Georgia Weapons Carry Permit. The valid Georgia Weapons Carry Permit serves as your background check and as the groundwork for allowing you to carry nationally, once you have received your Annual Firearms Qualification for Retired Officers (HR218).

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- 2. Complete the Georgia POST Application for Retired Officer Credentials.
- 3. Attach the required documents:
 - a. Letter of good standing if you were not a Georgia officer. If you worked as a peace officer in another state or for the federal government, you must provide a letter of good standing from the applicable licensing board. (If you were a Georgia officer, your POST profile report will be used.)
 - b. Copy of your valid Georgia Concealed Carry Permit.
 - c. A photograph that complies with <u>US Department of State approved</u> <u>passport photo guidelines</u>. Photos that do not comply with these guidelines will be returned.
- 4. Attest to the accuracy of the application by signing and dating the form.
- 5. Send the completed form and all documents:

By email (**Preferred**): <u>acox@gapost.org</u>

OR

By mail: Georgia POST Council P.O. Box 349 Clarkdale, GA 302111-0349

Part B: Applying for Annual Firearms Qualification for Retired Officers (HR218)

- 1. Determine if you are eligible for the Georgia POST issued **Annual Firearms Qualification for Retired Officers (HR218)**. You must have either:
 - Retired from a POST recognized Georgia law enforcement agency OR
 - Retired from an out-of-state or Federal law enforcement agency <u>and</u> currently reside in the state of Georgia (<u>You cannot have an out-of-state</u> <u>mailing address.</u>)
- 2. Complete Section I of the <u>Annual Firearms Qualification for Retired Officers</u> (HR218) form.
- 3. Attest to the accuracy of your information by signing and dating the form.
- 4. Give the form to the POST Certified Firearms Instructor to complete at the time of your qualification. The instructor will return the form to you at the end. Ensure the instructor has completed all fields and attested to the accuracy of their information by signing and dating the form.
- 5. Attach the required documents:

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A copy of your agency-issued or POST-issued Retirement Credentials ID card.

OR

- A letter from your agency that confirms your retired status.
- 6. Send the completed form and all documents:

By email (**Preferred**): acox@gapost.org

OR

By mail: Georgia POST Council P.O. Box 349 Clarkdale, GA 302111-0349

If you have additional questions, please contact Angie Cox at 470-817-7031 or <u>acox@gapost.org</u>.