

FISCAL SNAPSHOT

CONCEALED PISTOL LICENSE FEES

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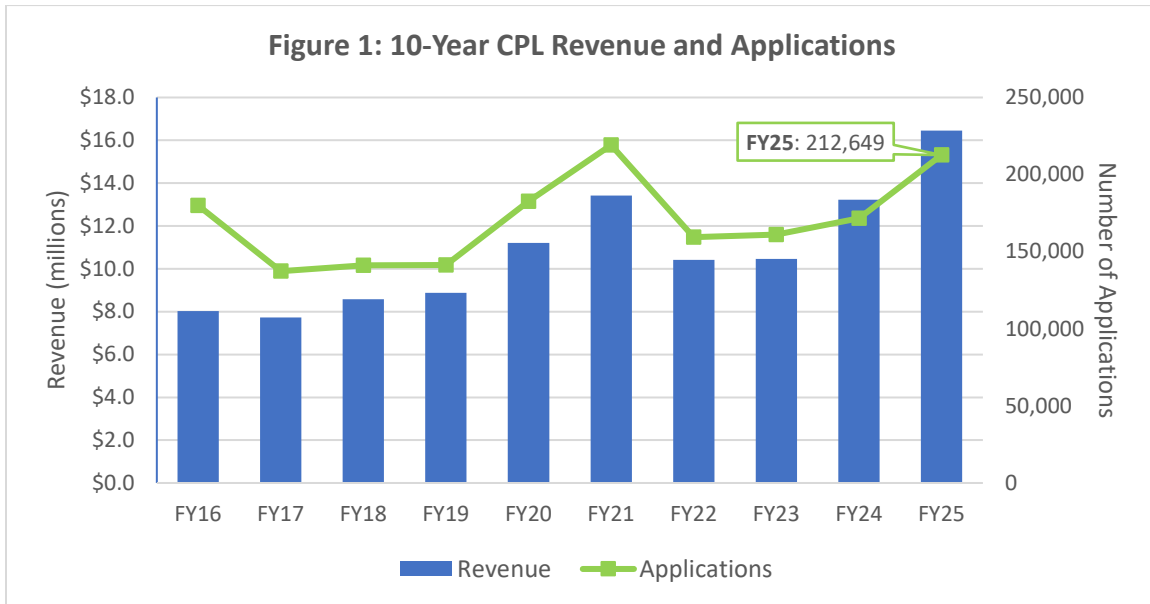
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Summary

Concealed pistol license (CPL) applications are handled by county clerks in cooperation with the CPL Unit of the Michigan State Police (MSP), which manages the statewide CPL database and the online system used by local officials to process applications. By statute, fee revenue from these applications is distributed to county CPL funds and the state general fund.

Background

While the open carry of firearms is generally permitted under state law, [1927 PA 372](#) (known as the firearm licensure act) requires Michigan residents to obtain (and renew every five years) a license to carry a concealed firearm through their county clerk’s office. Under [section 5b](#) of the act, the fee for first-time applications is \$100, of which \$26 is deposited into the county CPL fund and \$74 is forwarded to the state. A portion of the state’s share of these first-time fees is allocated to cover first-time fingerprinting costs, including reimbursement for services provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. [Section 5l](#) sets the fee for renewal applications at \$115, of which \$36 is deposited into the county CPL fund and \$79 is forwarded to the state. County CPL fund revenue is used to offset administrative costs associated with local administration of the CPL registration process, while the state revenue is deposited into the general fund to the credit of MSP.



Recent Activity

The current fee structure has been in place since the enactment of [2015 PA 3](#). On average, CPL application fee revenue increased by 14% each year from FY 2015-16 to FY 2024-25. In FY 2024-25, CPL application fee revenue totaled approximately \$16.5 million, and county clerks and MSP processed a total of 212,649 applications.

The Bottom Line

While the number of first-time and renewal applications for CPLs fluctuates from year to year, the state’s CPL system is essentially self-sufficient as currently organized. Application fee revenues are used almost exclusively to maintain the state’s various CPL systems that are utilized by both county clerks and MSP. The state’s portion of fee revenue also supports the operations of MSP’s CPL Unit and the Criminal Justice Information Center, which uses these funds to provide numerous criminal justice and law enforcement services used by federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies.

Table 1: 10-Year CPL Revenue and Expenditures

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
REVENUE (Application fees, less fingerprinting fees)	\$8,020,921	\$7,724,490	\$8,586,426	\$8,873,133	\$11,204,507	\$13,416,354	\$10,419,863	\$10,463,934	\$13,220,954	\$16,460,062
EXPENDITURES	\$8,020,921	\$7,724,490	\$8,586,426	\$8,873,133	\$11,204,507	\$13,416,353	\$10,419,863	\$10,463,934	\$13,220,954	\$16,460,062
Suspensions, disqualifications, and restorations (MCL 28.424, 28.425a, 28.425d, 28.428)	57,902	34,673	36,119	40,985	44,008	55,224	45,733	48,540	52,309	64,384
Application kits, licenses, and forms (MCL 28.425, 28.425c, 28.425m)	38,285	3,723	4,360	5,059	6,565	7,336	6,601	7,344	5,466	9,177
CPL database, annual report, background checks, citizenship verification (MCL 28.425b, 28.425e, 28.426)	1,799,429	1,881,724	2,559,422	1,928,955	2,209,477	4,292,588	3,301,994	3,568,180	3,871,958	4,462,593
Support systems utilized by MSP CPL Unit	5,425,305	5,804,370	5,986,525	6,898,134	8,944,457	9,061,205	7,065,534	6,839,869	9,291,221	11,923,908
<i>Carryforward set-aside (one-time AFIS upgrade)</i>	700,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
NET	\$700,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Source: Michigan State Police CPL Unit