

Youth Opportunities

Special 2-day Youth Deer Hunt

- Youth Hunters and Apprentice Hunters ages 10-15 may hunt during the Youth Statewide Two-day Deer Hunt. See chart.

Youth Deer Hunts

- Some hunting districts offer special opportunities for youth ages 10-15. See specific hunting district regulations.

Youth Elk Hunts

- Youth 12 (by Jan 16, 2019) -15 years of age may hunt elk as listed in the specific hunting district regulations without applying for an elk permit through the drawing in the following hunting districts. Be sure to check specific hunting district regulations as youth hunting opportunities in some of the districts listed below may not include either-sex or antlered bull elk.

Resident and Nonresident Youth Opportunities with a General License	
R2	203, 204, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 216, 217, 240, 261, 262, 270, 280, 281, 283, 285, 291, 292, 293
R3	300, 301, 302, 311, 314, 316, 318, 319, 321, 328, 329, 331, 332, 334, 335, 339, 341, 343, 360, 361, 362, 380, 392
R5	560

Youth Elk Permits and Elk B Licenses

- Elk permits and Elk B Licenses only for youth 12 (by Jan 16, 2019) -15 years of age to hunt elk as listed in the specific hunting district regulations are offered in hunting districts listed below.
- To qualify, the applicant must:
 - be 12 (by Jan 16, 2019) -15 years of age at time of application.
 - show proof of successfully completing hunter education.
 - be accompanied, while hunting, by an adult and/or guardian who is at least 18 years of age.
- Youth that are 15 years of age at the start of the general season, October 20, are eligible to hunt in the youth areas even if they turn 16 years of age during the season.

Youth Resident/Nonresident Elk Permits	
R2	217-11, 282-10
R3	313-00

Elk B Licenses	
R6	621-00, 631-01, 690-00

Youth Hunter

Age	Opportunities and Special Requirements
Available To Resident & Nonresident	
10 and over	An Apprentice Hunter is a resident or nonresident certified at an FWP office. This license allows the apprentice to hunt some species, while accompanied by a mentor, without first completing a hunter education course. The apprentice hunter may not apply for or purchase a bighorn sheep, black bear, mountain lion or wolf license or a hunting license or permit with a limited quota. Other restrictions apply. See our website for details at: http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/all/apprenticeHunter/default.html
11	A youth 11 years of age who will reach 12 years of age by January 16, 2019, may (after completing hunter education): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for any special drawing, except spring turkey – must be able to show proof of having completed an approved hunter education course at the time of application. • After August 15, 2018, hunt any game species for which their license is valid during an open season.
under 14	In order to carry or use a firearm in public, a youth under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a person having charge or custody of the child; or be under the supervision of a qualified firearms safety instructor or an adult 18 years of age or older who has been authorized by the youth's parent or guardian, as per Montana law.
10-15	Youth Statewide Two-Day Deer Hunt – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The F&W Commission is allowing two additional days to provide a hunting opportunity to encourage youth participation in deer hunting. • Legally licensed hunters 10 through 15 years of age may hunt deer during the Statewide Two-day Youth Only Deer Season –October 18-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – During these two days, youth hunters with a general deer or deer B license may take those deer species and sex otherwise available on their general or deer B license the first day of the general firearm season in the specific hunting district the youth is hunting. • A non-hunting adult at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth hunter in the field. • Shooting hours, hunter safety requirements and all other regulations that apply to the regular deer firearm season shall apply to this youth two-day deer season.
Available To Nonresident Only	
12-17	Nonresident Youth Combination Licenses will be sold to nonresident youth who have an adult immediate-family member sponsor (applicant's natural or adoptive parent, grandparent, brother or sister who is 18 years of age or older and possesses a current resident or nonresident general deer or elk license). The youth must be accompanied by the sponsor while hunting. Applications are available from FWP's website and may be processed at any FWP Office. For further details and an application, contact Licensing at 406-444-2950.

Free license for terminally ill youth

- Montana law allows terminally ill resident or nonresident youth under 17 years of age to receive a free one-time Deer and Elk License.
- The youth must be accompanied by a licensed outfitter or an adult who has a license to hunt in Montana.
- Minimum age and hunter education requirements may be waived for this license. For information call the License Section at 406-444-2950.



Pass it on.

Share your passion for hunting by becoming a Montana hunter or bowhunter education instructor. It's a great way to give back and be part of the community of volunteer instructors.

Contact your nearest FWP office for more information on how to become an instructor or contact program coordinator
Wayde Cooperider at (406) 444-9947 or wacooperider@mt.gov



Be safe and enjoy your hunting season!