GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

Preference Points

Seasons with a limited number of licenses have a preference point system for applicants who are unsuccessful on their first choice, in the first drawing (\$5 for residents, \$10 for nonresidents) and selected that option during the application process.

One preference point may be purchased each year the applicant is unsuccessful. Purchased preference points are automatically credited to an applicant for the following year. Preference points cannot be transferred to another person.

Preference point use is required for the first choice of the first draw.

Preference point use is optional in subsequent draws. If a person chooses to use their preference points, and they are successful in drawing that license, they will lose all accumulated preference points for that season. If a person chooses not to use their preference points and are successful in drawing a license, they will not lose their preference points for that season. If you have any questions about your preference points, please contact the GFP Licensing Office at 605.223.7660.

Fees

Payment for applications submitted online must be made with a valid credit/debit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express).

Your credit/debit card will not be charged the license fee unless you are successful in the drawing, or unsuccessful and selected to purchase a preference point. Nonpayment in the form of a cancelled credit/debit card will result in your license being withheld and the blocking of any future license purchases until the unpaid fee, along with any penalties, is paid in full.

Surcharge and Habitat Stamp Information

A person 18 years of age or older is required to purchase a Habitat Stamp (\$10 for residents and \$25 for nonresidents) when applying for or purchasing any hunting, fishing, or trapping license. A person is not required to purchase more than one Habitat Stamp within a license year.

The license fee - except for licenses to take fur-bearing animals, one-day small game licenses, predator/varmint licenses, migratory bird certification permits, youth deer licenses, youth small game licenses, and mentored youth big game licenses - includes a \$6 surcharge established by the South Dakota Legislature. Surcharge monies are divided between programs for wildlife damage management and public hunting land access, programs that benefit both landowners and hunters.