

Clean Slate is an automatic civil sealing bill

A person's conviction will be automatically sealed under Clean Slate after a waiting period, which is *eight years for a felony* and *three years for a misdemeanor*. During this time, a person can have no other convictions. The waiting period begins on the sentencing date, unless the person was incarcerated. Then it begins running once the person is released.

Once the waiting period is over, a conviction will be sealed if:

- The person is no longer under community supervision, including probation and parole.
- They have no pending criminal cases.

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SOME CONVICTIONS CAN NEVER BE SEALED: sex offenses, sexually violent offenses, and Class A felonies, except for drug-related convictions.

Once sealed, conviction records will be unavailable for most civil purposes. They won't appear on background checks and cannot be used against the person, so people can better access housing, education, and most jobs. **But convictions sealed by Clean Slate will remain available for:**

- Law enforcement, prosecutors, and courts
- Hiring police and peace officers
- Gun licenses
- The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
- Certain jobs regulated by the government, including:
 - » Entities required by law to conduct a fingerprint-based background check.
 - » Entities authorized by law to conduct a fingerprint-based background check because they work with children, adults who are elderly or have disabilities, or otherwise vulnerable people.
 - » Specified licenses to do jobs overseen by the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

The Clean Slate Act will become "effective" on November 16, 2024, one year after the Governor signed the bill into law.

Once effective, the courts and various agencies will have up to three years to seal eligible conviction records. Every eligible conviction must be sealed by November 2027.



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