

Pardons

Clearing Your Criminal Record

*If there are crimes reported on your criminal history that are not eligible for expungement, you may seek to have your civil rights restored or get a pardon.

There are only two requirements to get your civil rights restored:

1. You must finish serving all your sentences; and
2. You must live in Georgia, or your request must involve a conviction from a Georgia court.

There are several requirements to qualify for a pardon:

1. You must finish serving all your sentences AND then wait at least 5 years before requesting a pardon.
2. You must be a law-abiding citizen after you finish serving your sentences,
3. You cannot have any other criminal charges pending against you; and
4. You cannot have any unpaid fines.
5. Your request must involve a conviction from a Georgia court. (Georgia CANNOT pardon convictions from other states or from a federal court on federal charges).

How to Apply to Have Your Civil Rights Restored, or For a Pardon:

1. To apply for either, you must fill out an application and mail it to:
Georgia State Board of Pardons and Parole
2 Martin Luther King Drive, Suite 458
Balcony Level East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4909
2. You can get the application from the Parole Board by calling them at (404) 656-5330 or on their website at http://www.pap.state.ga.us/Pardon_Application.PDF.
3. There is no fee for submitting the application. Once you have submitted the application, the process takes at least six months.