

voter rights

former offenders

State	Voting Rights for Former Offenders ¹
Alabama	Ineligible to vote while incarcerated, on parole, or on probation. Voting rights can be restored based on the conviction. Those convicted of certain felony offenses--such as murder, rape, incest, sexual crimes against children, and treason--are not eligible to vote.
Alaska	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole. Note: if convicted of two or more felonies then the right to vote can only be restored through a judge or if pardoned.
Arizona	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, parole, and/or probation. Note: if convicted of two or more felonies then the right to vote can only be restore through a judge or if pardoned.
Arkansas	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
California	Voting rights restored upon completion of parole. People on probation can vote.
Colorado	Voting rights restored upon completion of parole. People on probation can vote.
Connecticut	Voting rights restored upon completion of parole. People on probation can vote.
Delaware	Voting rights restored five years after completion of confinement, probation and parole and satisfaction of all fines. Persons convicted of some felonies, such as murder, manslaughter and sex offenses must seek a pardon.
District of Columbia	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Florida	Persons may apply for restoration of voting rights through executive clemency process after a five-year waiting period. Persons convicted of certain felonies, such as murder, assault, child abuse, drug trafficking, arson, etc. are subject to a seven-year waiting period and clemency board hearing.
Georgia	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Hawaii	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Idaho	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Illinois	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Indiana	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Iowa	Persons may apply for restoration of voting rights after completion of sentence, parole and/or probation and payment of all fines. Restoration of voting rights can only be done through the governor or the president of the U.S.

Kansas	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Kentucky	Must obtain a pardon from the Governor after completion of sentence.
Louisiana	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Maine	Eligibility to vote not affected by felony conviction.
Maryland	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Massachusetts	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Michigan	Residents confined in jail or prison who are awaiting arraignment or trial are eligible to vote. Residents serving a sentence in prison after conviction cannot vote during the period of confinement. Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Minnesota	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Mississippi	Only individuals convicted of one of 21 specific felony crimes lose the right to vote. Voting rights may be restored by a pardon or an executive order issued by the Governor or by the state legislature upon completion of sentence. The 21 felonies are: armed robbery, arson, bigamy, bribery, carjacking, embezzlement, extortion, felony bad check, felony shoplifting, forgery, larceny, murder, obtaining money or goods under false pretense, perjury, rape, receiving stolen property, robbery, statutory rape, theft, timber larceny, and unlawful taking of a vehicle.
Missouri	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Montana	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Nebraska	Voting rights restored two years after completion of all supervised release for all convictions except treason.
Nevada	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence for non-violent felonies. Persons convicted of a violent felony and all second-time felony offenders must seek restoration of voting rights in the court in which they were convicted.
New Hampshire	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
New Jersey	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
New Mexico	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
New York	Voting rights restored upon release from parole.
North Carolina	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
North Dakota	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Ohio	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Oklahoma	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Oregon	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Pennsylvania	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Rhode Island	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
South Carolina	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.

South Dakota	Voting rights restored upon release from parole. Convicted felons must serve their full term of incarceration, parole, and probation before registering to vote.
Tennessee	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation, and/or parole. Persons convicted of a felony since 1981, except for felonies such as murder, rape, treason and voter fraud, may apply to the Board of Probation and Parole for restoration of voting rights upon completion of sentence.
Texas	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, parole and/or probation.
Utah	Voting rights restored upon release from prison.
Vermont	Eligibility to vote not affected by felony conviction.
Virginia	Voting rights are automatically restored upon completion of sentence, parole, and/or probation for non-violent felons. Persons convicted of violent felonies, drug sales and electoral offenses must wait five years before applying to the Governor for restoration of voting rights.
Washington	Voting rights restored after completion of sentence, parole and/or probation and all fines are paid.
West Virginia	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Wisconsin	Voting rights restored upon completion of sentence, probation and/or parole.
Wyoming	May apply to the Board of Parole for restoration of voting rights five years after completion of sentence for first-time, non-violent felony offenders. All others must apply to the Governor for restoration of voting rights five years after completion of sentence.

Note: ex-offenders should re-register to vote.

References:

¹ProCon.org; State Felon Voting Laws. (n.d.). State Felon Voting Laws [Data file]. Retrieved from <http://felonvoting.procon.org/view.resource.php?resourceID=286>