



A caution about Private Services

You may have seen ads for companies that say they can get you a record suspension faster, easier or “guaranteed.” The truth is, it’s impossible for them to speed up or guarantee the process or outcome. The eligibility requirements and process are the same for everyone, no matter if they apply through a company or on their own – everyone gets the same consideration. You do not have to pay a private company or a lawyer to obtain a record suspension, you can go through the process yourself and only pay the document and application fees.



RECORD SUSPENSION SERVICES

Travel Waivers

Certain criminal records may **exclude you from travel** into some countries. A **Waiver** is a document, issued by the country to which you would like to travel, allowing you to enter even if you do not meet the entry requirements. For example, the United States restricts entry for people who have been convicted of certain crimes. You can find a list of what these crimes are at www.cbp.gov

For more information about travel waivers, visit:

policerecordhub.ca/en/record-suspensions/

More information Available at:

- **Parole Board of Canada:**
<https://www.canada.ca/en/parole-board/services/record-suspensions.html>
- **JHS Record Suspensions:**
<https://policerecordhub.ca/en/record-suspensions/>

If you’re having difficulty with the process and would like some assistance, contact one of our local JHS affiliates. For more information, visit the JHS Record Suspensions website above.





What is a Record Suspension?

A Record Suspension (formerly called a pardon) is an order that keeps a person's criminal record (of convictions) separate and apart from other criminal records. This means a person's convictions will not be revealed on criminal record checks. **It does not erase a criminal record.**

Record suspensions allow people who have made positive life changes to be freed from many of the negative impacts of having a criminal record. People have the right not to be discriminated against because of a criminal conviction for which they have received a record suspension.

The **Parole Board of Canada** is responsible for granting, denying, and revoking record suspensions. If a record suspension is related to a sexual offence, the file will be 'flagged' in the RCMP system and will still be revealed on a vulnerable sector check.

Am I Eligible?

You **MAY** apply for a Record Suspension if you:

- were convicted of an offence in Canada under a federal act or regulation of Canada as an adult; and/or
- were convicted of a crime in another country and were transferred to Canada while serving that sentence under the *Transfer of Offenders Act* or *International Transfer of Offenders Act*.

You can apply for a record suspension **only** if you meet **both of the following conditions**.

- You have **completed your sentence**, meaning you completed paying any fines, surcharges, costs, compensation and restitution orders, completed any probation orders or conditional sentences, and served all of your sentence including parole/ statutory release (with the exception of a fine or victim surcharge imposed for a simple possession of cannabis conviction only);
- You have **met the required wait time** based on when you **committed your first offence**;



Before June 29, 2010

The waiting period is:

- **5 years** – an offence prosecuted by indictment.
- **3 years** – an offence punishable on summary conviction.

Between June 29, 2010 and March 12, 2012

The waiting period is:

- **10 years** – Serious personal injury offence (within the meaning of 752 of the Criminal Code); including manslaughter; an offence for which you were sentenced to a prison term of 2 years or more, and an offence referred to in Schedule 1 that was prosecuted by indictment.
- **5 years** – any other offence prosecuted by indictment and an offence referred to in Schedule 1 that is punishable on summary conviction.
- **3 years** – an offence other than the ones mentioned above, that is punishable on summary conviction.

On or after March 13, 2012

The waiting period is:

- **10 years** – an offence prosecuted by indictment.
- **5 years** – an offence that is punishable on summary conviction.