

Pardon Decision Guidelines

Consideration for a pardon is prompted to correct a grave injustice such as a miscarriage of justice or if the following criteria are met.

When the DOC receives a request to investigate a pardon application from the Office of the Governor, the investigator will use the four guideline categories outlined below to determine whether consideration for a pardon is appropriate. An investigator shall start with the objective timeframe category and if the minimum for that crime classification (e.g., felony or misdemeanor) is met, the investigator shall review the remaining subjective guideline categories (social behavior, employment, and benefit to society) in that row. If the minimum per guideline category for the applicant’s crime classification cannot be met, the investigator shall consider not recommending a pardon to the Office of the Governor.

INVESTIGATION GUIDELINE CATEGORIES					
		TIME	SOCIAL BEHAVIOR	EMPLOYMENT	BENEFIT TO SOCIETY
CRIME CLASSIFICATION	Felony (person)	<i>Ineligible if less than 10 years since conviction.</i>	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.
		<i>At least 10, but less than 20 years since conviction.</i>	<i>Significant contribution to immediate community; positive family life.</i>	<i>Improvement of a marginal job market to enable better support of dependents.</i>	<i>Benefit to career, employer, and immediate family. Gain to isolated individuals but lacks major community or societal group support.</i>
		<i>At least 20 years since conviction.</i>	<i>No indication of community or family problems.</i>	<i>No impact on employment opportunity.</i>	<i>Eases Conscience of applicant, no gain to community or society in general.</i>
	Felony (property)	<i>Ineligible if less than 10 years since conviction.</i>	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.
		<i>At least 10, but less than 20 years since conviction.</i>	<i>No indication of community or family problems.</i>	<i>Removes potential barrier to a new field as available.</i>	<i>Benefit to career, employer, and immediate family. Gain to isolated individuals but lacks major community or societal group support.</i>

		<i>At least 20 years since conviction.</i>	<i>Marginally acceptable social/family behavior/an occasional minor problem but no crimes.</i>	<i>No impact on employment opportunity.</i>	<i>Eases Conscience of applicant, no gain to community or society in general.</i>
Misdemeanor (person)		<i>Ineligible if less than two years from conviction.</i>	<i>N/A.</i>	<i>N/A.</i>	<i>N/A.</i>
		<i>At least five, but less than 10 years since conviction.</i>	<i>Significant contribution to immediate community; positive family life.</i>	<i>Removes an absolute impairment to employment or entry into a field for which the applicant is trained and qualified. Enables applicant to adequately meet family obligations.</i>	<i>Benefit to career, employer, and immediate family. Gain to isolated individuals but lacks major community or societal group support.</i>
		<i>At least 10, but less than 20 years since conviction.</i>	<i>No indication of community or family problems.</i>	<i>Removes potential barrier to a new field as available.</i>	<i>Benefit to career, employer, and immediate family. Gain to isolated individuals but lacks major community or societal group support.</i>
		<i>At least 20 years since conviction.</i>	<i>No indication of community or family problems.</i>	<i>Improvement of an already adequate career.</i>	<i>Personal gain such as career improvement, but no gain to family or community.</i>
		<i>At least 20 years since conviction (plus older person).</i>	<i>Marginally acceptable social/family behavior/an occasional minor problem but no crimes.</i>	<i>No impact on employment opportunity.</i>	<i>Eases Conscience of applicant, no gain to community or society in general.</i>

		<i>Ineligible if less than two years from conviction.</i>	<i>N/A.</i>	<i>N/A.</i>	<i>N/A.</i>
		<i>At least two years from discharge from supervision or offense if no probation/incarceration .</i>	<i>No indication of community or family problems.</i>	<i>Removes an absolute impairment to employment or entry into a field for which the applicant is trained and qualified. Enables applicant to adequately meet family obligations.</i>	<i>Immediate community would be deprived of the benefit of the applicant's services.</i>
		<i>At least five, but less than 10 years since conviction.</i>	<i>Significant contribution to immediate community; positive family life.</i>	<i>Improvement of a marginal job market to enable better support of dependents.</i>	<i>Benefit to career, employer, and immediate family. Gain to isolated individuals but lacks major community or societal group support.</i>
	Misdemeanor (property)	<i>At least 10, but less than 20 years since conviction.</i>	<i>No indication of community or family problems.</i>	<i>Improvement of an already adequate career.</i>	<i>Benefit to career, employer, and immediate family. Gain to isolated individuals but lacks major community or societal group support.</i>
		<i>At least 20 years since conviction.</i>	<i>No indication of community or family problems.</i>	<i>No impact on employment opportunity.</i>	<i>Eases Conscience of applicant, no gain to community or society in general.</i>
		<i>At least 20 years since conviction (plus older person).</i>	<i>Marginally acceptable social/family behavior/an occasional minor problem but no crimes.</i>	<i>No impact on employment opportunity.</i>	<i>Eases Conscience of applicant, no gain to community or society in general.</i>