

RAISE the AGE | NY

What is the new sealing law?

The new sealing law, passed as part of Raise the Age legislation, allows people who were convicted of up to two crimes to apply to have their conviction records [sealed](#).

When does the law go into effect?

October 7, 2017

What convictions can be sealed?

All convictions EXCEPT

- Sex offenses
- Homicides
- Violent felony offenses
- Class A felonies
- Conspiracy to commit an excluded offense
- Attempt to commit an excluded offense, if the attempt was a felony

How long do I have to wait since my last conviction?

10 years. The clock starts when you were sentenced or released from prison or jail.

Is sealing automatic?

No. You have to apply at the court where you were sentenced for your most serious case.

How will the judge decide whether to seal my case?

Under the law, the judge must consider several things, including:

- How long it's been since your conviction
- Positive things you have done including school, work, and community service
- The circumstances and seriousness of your convictions
- The impact of sealing on your successful reentry and on public safety
- Any other things the judge thinks are relevant
- If my cases are sealed, who will be able to see them?
- Employers will NOT see sealed records, unless you are applying for a job as a police or peace officer.
- Law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and judges will see them if you have a new criminal case.
- They will also come up if you apply for a gun license.

Where can I get more information and help?

There are other requirements too, so please call one of these groups for more information:

Brooklyn Defender Services: (718) 254-0700

The Bronx Defenders: (718) 508-3439

Community Service Society Next Door Project: (212) 614-5441

The Legal Aid Society: (888) 663-6880

Legal Action Center: (212) 243-1313

Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem: (212) 876-5500

Youth Represent (if you were arrested when you were under 25): (646) 759-8080