State Clemency Resources

Which form(s) of clemency does the state offer?

- Pardons
- Parole
- Restoration of voting rights

Decisionmaker

Alabama Bureau of Pardons & Paroles

Resources: paroles.alabama.gov

Constitutional and statutory authority

- Statutory Authority: Ala. Code § 15-22-36(a)

Eligibility Criteria

- **Pardon Eligibility Criteria:** To be considered for a pardon or remission, an applicant must have either completed his or her sentence or have successfully served at least three (3) years on parole for the sentence for which the applicant seeks a pardon.

- **Parole Eligibility Criteria:** [The Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Parole] calculates an inmate’s eligibility consideration according to Ala. Code §15-22-28(e). An inmate's sentence, crime, jail credit, ability to earn good time, time served, and any orders by the sentencing court can all affect an inmate's eligibility. Prisoners are released on parole if they receive a majority vote of the board. Prisoners who commit violent offenses are ineligible for parole unless they have served at least one third or 10 years of his sentence, whichever is lesser, except by a unanimous affirmative vote of the board (see, Section 12-25-32 for Ala. violent offenses).

- **Restoration of Voting Rights:** A person may be eligible to restore their voting rights if they have no pending felony charges in any state or federal court, all fines, court costs, fees, and victim restitution ordered by the sentencing court must be paid in full OR relief has been granted, completed sentence, probation, or parole; conviction does not include impeachment, murder, rape, sodomy, sexual abuse, incest, sexual torture, enticing a child to enter a vehicle for immoral purposes, soliciting a child by computer, parents or guardians permitting a child to engage in obscene matter, possession of obscene matter, possession with intent to distribute child pornography, or treason.


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Application Process

- **Pardon Process:** To apply for a pardon, you must complete the Bureau of Pardons and Parole’s pardon application and a waiver of liability and authority for release of information. You can find both forms on the Bureau’s website. You can send them by mail (ATTN: Pardons Unit, 100 Capitol Commerce Blvd, Montgomery, Alabama) or by email to pardons@paroles.alabama.gov. You should indicate if you need a misdemeanor pardoned for purposes of obtaining a license (such as bonding or nursing, etc). If this is not indicated, it will be assumed that you are only interested in having felony convictions pardoned.

- **Parole Process:** The Bureau of Pardons and Parole’s calculates an inmate’s eligibility consideration according to Ala. Code §15-22-28(e). An inmate’s sentence, crime, jail credit, ability to earn good time, time served, and any orders by the sentencing court can all affect an inmate’s eligibility. Once an inmate’s eligibility date has been calculated per Alabama law, the inmate will receive a letter with his or her parole consideration eligibility date or ‘set date’ designating a specific month and year. You can also submit an application for early parole consideration to the Bureau once a year. The application is on its website and may be submitted via email to paroles@paroles.alabama.gov.

**APPLICATION LINKS**

- **Pardons:** paroles.alabama.gov/about-us/faqs-pardons
- **Paroles:** paroles.alabama.gov/about-us/faqs-paroles