

State Clemency Resources

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

- Pardons
- Commutations
- Parole

Decisionmaker

The Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole submits recommendations regarding clemency applications to the governor. The governor makes the final decision.

Resources:

- 🔗 doc.louisiana.gov/imprisoned-person-programs-resources/pardons-parole

Constitutional and statutory authority

- **Constitutional Authority:**
La. Const. Ann. Art. IV § 5
- **Statutory Authority:**
La. Admin. Code, Tit. 22, Pt. 5,
Ch.1 La. Rev. Stat. § 15:572

Eligibility Criteria

■ Pardon Criteria:

- (1) You have been convicted of a violation of Louisiana law, either a felony or misdemeanor.
- (2) You have no pending charges, outstanding detainers, or any pecuniary penalties or liabilities which total more than \$1,000 and result from any criminal conviction or traffic infraction.
- (3) You have paid all court costs which were imposed in connection with the conviction of the crime(s) for which pardon is requested.
- (4) You have paid all victim restitution, including but not limited to, restitution pursuant to a court or civil judgment or by order of the Committee on Parole.
- (5) You are not currently in jail or prison.
- (6) You must have discharged all sentences, including any type of supervision.
- (7) You cannot have been considered for a Pardon within the past two years.

The Department of Corrections lists the eligibility criteria for commutations on its website

- 🔗 doc.louisiana.gov/imprisoned-person-programs-resources/pardons-parole/application-for-commutation-of-sentence/#:~:text=In%20Louisiana%2C%20only%20the%20Governor,Governor%20will%20approve%20a%20commutation

- **Parole Eligibility:** Each person in prison whose sentence carries the possibility of parole has the right to an appearance before the Parole Board at some point during his or her sentence to determine whether parole will be granted. Parole hearings are generally scheduled within six months of the person's parole eligibility date.

- **Parole Rehearing:** One possible decision of the Parole Board at the parole hearing can be to deny parole. The person in prison will be advised of the reason for denial. The person in prison will have the opportunity to apply for consideration for a rehearing at such time as he or she is eligible to do so.

Type of Crime	Initial Request for Rehearing	Subsequent Request for Rehearing
Nonviolent, except as otherwise restricted	6 months after original date of denial	6 months after date of initial reapplication
Crime of Violence enumerated in R.S. 14:2(B)	1 yr after original date of denial	Every 2 yrs after date of initial reapplication
Crime Against Person enumerated in R.S. 14:29-47	1 yr after original date of denial	Every 2 yrs after date of initial reapplication
Sex Offense as defined in §903	2 yrs after original date of denial	Every 2 yrs after date of initial reapplication
Murder, 1st or 2nd degree	2 yrs after original date of denial	Every 2 yrs after date of initial reapplication
Manslaughter	2 yrs after original date of denial	Every 2 yrs after date of initial reapplication

Application Process

Applications for clemency can be filled out and submitted online on Louisiana's Department of Public Safety & Corrections's website or submitted by mail to the Board of Pardons at:

Board of Pardons
 Post Office Box 94304
 Baton Rouge, LA 70804

APPLICATION LINKS

- 🔗 **Pardon Application:** doc.louisiana.gov/imprisoned-person-programs-resources/pardons-parole/application-for-pardon-consideration
- 🔗 **Commutation Application:** doc.louisiana.gov/imprisoned-person-programs-resources/pardons-parole/application-for-commutation-of-sentence