

State Clemency Resources

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

- Pardons
- Commutations

Decisionmaker

The Governor's Board on Executive Clemency reviews clemency applications and sends recommendations to the governor for each applicant. The governor makes the final decision.

Resources:

- 🔗 maine.gov/corrections/pardonboard

Constitutional and statutory authority

- **Constitutional Authority:**
Me. Constitution, Article V, Part First § 11

Eligibility Criteria

- (1) The Governor Board on Executive Clemency lays out its criteria for pardons on its pardon application form
 - 🔗 maine.gov/corrections/sites/maine.gov.dps.msp/files/inline-files/pardon%20application%20final.pdf
- (2) Applicants for a commutation must have served at least half of their original sentence (not including "good time"), or a minimum of one year of a sentence, whichever is the longer period of time. A person petitioning for a commutation must have confirmation in writing from the warden or superintendent of the penal institution in which the person is incarcerated, that the minimum time served criteria, discussed above, have been met.

Applicants cannot seek commutations to rectify alleged errors in the judicial system. People serving life sentences may not apply for a commutation. In exceptional cases, the Governor's Board on Executive Clemency may waive these guidelines.

Application Process

The Governor's Board on Executive Clemency explains the application process for receiving a pardon or commutation on its executive clemency application form:

- 🔗 maine.gov/corrections/sites/maine.gov.dps.msp/files/inline-files/pardon%20application%20final.pdf

APPLICATION LINKS

- 🔗 maine.gov/corrections/sites/maine.gov.corrections/files/inline-files/Pardon%20application-Supplemental-checklist_0.pdf