Have a JUVENILE RECORD?

PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE!

MINNESOTA

NATIONAL JUVENILE DEFENDER CENTER
HAVE A JUVENILE RECORD? PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE!

A Guide to Collateral Consequences of Juvenile Court Involvement

Your juvenile record doesn’t disappear when you turn 18.

Report design by Tanya Pereira
Introduction

As you begin to move forward with your life after being involved in the juvenile court system, this guide provides information about what obstacles lay ahead and how to prepare yourself.

The court and police paperwork about your case is called your “juvenile record.” This record can affect your life for years to come. But you can still pursue your goals and build a bright future by understanding the challenges caused by a juvenile record and knowing what to do and where to go to get help.

The road forward might be met with challenges — but we hope this guide will show you that progress can be made and there is a community of advocates in Minnesota who are here to help you succeed.

“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” - Lao Tzu
Glossary

**Adjudication**: An adjudication is when you go to court and the juvenile court judge decides you broke the law. It is not a conviction.¹

**Collateral Consequences**: Collateral consequences are the ways that your juvenile record can create challenges for you as you move forward with your life, like getting a job, applying for college, finding a place to live, joining the military, or simply obtaining a driver’s license.

**Confidential Records**: Confidential records are generally not available to the public.

**Defense Lawyer**: Your defense lawyer is the lawyer who defended you in your juvenile case, and may have been from the public defender’s office or appointed by the judge. Your defense lawyer’s job is to defend your rights and to make sure the court hears your point of view in your juvenile case. Your lawyer may also be able to help you after your case is over.

**Expungement**: If your juvenile record is expunged, the records will be closed and very few people will be able to look at it or find out about it.² Getting your record expunged may help you overcome some of the collateral consequences described in this guide.

**Juvenile Record**: Your juvenile record includes the court and police paperwork related to your juvenile case.

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A juvenile adjudication is *not* a criminal conviction.
Making the Most of This Guide

Having a juvenile record can get in the way of future opportunities. The barriers created by your juvenile record are called “collateral consequences.” This guide provides basic information about the collateral consequences of a juvenile record in Minnesota and what you can do to overcome them.

Every young person’s situation is different. Depending on the offense you faced in court, you may have a suspended driver's license or trouble enrolling back into school. The Summary Chart starting on page 6 tells you which collateral consequences are addressed in this guide, and where in the guide to look for more details. You can read the entire guide or jump to the sections that matter most to you.

Following the discussion on collateral consequences, you will find a Resources section. Many organizations in Minnesota are available to help you address the collateral consequences you are facing. The Resources section includes contact information for your local public defender office and organizations that can assist you with education, housing, immigration, and other collateral consequences.

This guide only talks about the consequences of juvenile court involvement — not adult criminal court involvement. Sometimes when youth are charged with serious crimes, they are charged as an adult even though they are under 18 years old. Here, we will only focus on juvenile records.

Because the law is always changing, some of the information in this guide might become outdated. Also, this guide does not discuss every collateral consequence or every detail of each consequence. You can contact the lawyer who represented you in juvenile court or someone at your local public defender office to make sure you have the most current information you need.

This guide is only intended to provide information, not legal advice.
Talking About Your Juvenile Record

It’s important to pay attention to the specific words used when someone asks you a question in an interview or when you’re filling out an application. If you are asked if you have a conviction or if you have ever been convicted of a crime, you can answer “No,” as long as you do not have any adult court convictions. A juvenile adjudication is not a criminal conviction.  

In Minnesota, most juvenile records are confidential and not available to the public. However, if you were charged with a felony offense and were 16 or 17 years old at the time of the offense, your juvenile record is available to the public unless you get it expunged. Getting your juvenile record expunged means that very few people can look at it or find out about it. Go to Question 2 of this guide for information on expunging your juvenile record.

Even though a juvenile adjudication is not a conviction, your juvenile record could show up on a background check. So, it’s important that you are prepared to answer questions about your juvenile record.

Tips on how to talk about your juvenile record:

• Talk with the lawyer who represented you in your juvenile case or a lawyer from your local public defender office to learn how you should answer questions about your juvenile record. A lawyer can provide you with specific advice on how to talk about your juvenile court involvement.

• The person interviewing you may not understand that a juvenile adjudication is not the same thing as a criminal conviction, so you may need to explain that an adjudication is not a conviction.

• Be brief and don’t give too many details.
  - For example, you can simply say: “I have a juvenile adjudication from 2016.”
  - A lawyer can help you figure out what exactly to say if you are asked for specific information about your juvenile adjudication.
  - It may be ok to say something like, “I have worked hard to move past
that part of my life and hope we can focus on my goals and what I can offer as an employee/student.”

- **Talk about how you have learned from your past.** “I am sorry about what happened. I have learned a lot since then, and I realize it is important to work hard and move my life in a more positive direction.”

- **Avoid blaming others.** It is important to focus on the positive things you have done since your juvenile court involvement. Blaming others will not take the focus off you. Instead, it may make your interviewer think that you are not ready to take on new responsibilities.

- **Focus on the positive things you are doing in your life.**
  - I have good grades.
  - I graduated from high school (or completed my GED).
  - I’m attending college.
  - I volunteer with_______________(organization).
  - I have a job at__________________.
  - I help take care of my younger siblings.
  - I help with household responsibilities, like chores and running errands for my parents.

- **Practice!** Sometimes it is hard to talk about your juvenile court involvement. Practice with a lawyer, friend, or mentor to make sure you feel comfortable.

- **Ask for a letter from a mentor, teacher, or other trusted leader that talks about your skills and strengths.** The letter can help show the employer or school that you work hard, show up on time, follow the rules, have a positive attitude, and are able to do the job or complete the educational program.

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**CAUTION!** If you were charged with a felony and were 16 or 17 years old at the time of the offense, your juvenile record is available to the public unless you get it expunged.
Minnesota Collateral Consequences Summary Chart

MY JUVENILE RECORD
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<td><strong>1. Who can look at my juvenile record?</strong></td>
<td>Most juvenile records in Minnesota are confidential and not available to the public. But, if you were charged with a felony and were 16 or 17 years old at the time of the offense, your juvenile record is available to the public – unless you get it expunged.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2. How can I keep people from looking at my juvenile record?</strong></td>
<td>You can apply to get your juvenile court record expunged, which means that fewer people can find out about it.</td>
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<td><strong>3. Can my juvenile record be used against me in later juvenile or adult criminal cases?</strong></td>
<td>Maybe. Having a juvenile record can sometimes lead to more serious consequences in a later case.</td>
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### SCHOOL

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<td>4. Will my juvenile record affect my ability to go to my local public</td>
<td>Maybe. Your juvenile record can be shared with your school, which may affect whether you can continue to attend the same school.</td>
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<td>school?</td>
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<td>5. Can I get accepted into a college, technical, or trade school if I</td>
<td>Yes, but you may need to talk about your juvenile record on some applications, which could affect the school's decision to accept you.</td>
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<td>have a juvenile record?</td>
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<td>6. Can I get a student loan to help pay for college, technical, or trade</td>
<td>Your juvenile record should not impact your ability to get federal college loans to help pay for school.</td>
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<td>school?</td>
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### JOBS AND THE MILITARY

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<td>7. Can I get a job if I have a juvenile record?</td>
<td>Yes, but you might need to say that you have a juvenile record on some job applications.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Can I join the military if I have a juvenile record?</td>
<td>Maybe. Your juvenile record might make it harder for you to enlist in the military.</td>
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</table>
9. Will my juvenile record affect my immigration status?

It's complicated. Your juvenile record might affect your ability to remain in the United States.

10. Can I get public benefits (like food stamps, Medicaid, SSI, and TANF) with a juvenile record? What happens to my benefits if I am locked up?

You should be able to get public benefits with a juvenile record. But, getting locked up might affect things like food stamps, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

11. Can I live in public housing or rent an apartment if I have a juvenile record?

Maybe. Depending on the type and location of offense, a juvenile record may limit your public housing options. Because some juvenile records are public and can appear on background checks, private landlords may find out about your juvenile record, which could affect the landlord’s decision to rent to you.
### OTHER CONSEQUENCES

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<th><strong>12.</strong> What happens if I don't pay the court fines or restitution?</th>
<th>Unpaid court fines or restitution could lead to a violation of probation and can make it harder to get loans, a car, and even a job because of bad credit.</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>13.</strong> If I had to give my DNA as part of my juvenile case, what happens to my DNA record after my case is closed?</td>
<td>If your DNA was taken, the police enter the DNA record and sample into a computer database, which can be shared with state and federal law enforcement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14.</strong> Do I have to register as a sex offender if I have a sex offense on my juvenile record?</td>
<td>No. Minnesota does not have a sex offender registry. However, you may need to register as a predatory offender.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15.</strong> What does it mean if I have to register as a predatory offender?</td>
<td>If you are adjudicated for certain serious offenses, you will have to register as a predatory offender. Generally, your registration information will be kept private and will only be available to law enforcement. But if you do not comply with the registration requirements, your registration information may be made available to the public.</td>
</tr>
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### Minnesota Collateral Consequences
#### Summary Chart (Continued)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>16. Can I get or keep my driver’s license if I have a juvenile record? Can I get or keep my state ID if I have a juvenile record?</th>
<th>Maybe. Your driver’s license may be suspended or even taken away if you are adjudicated for certain offenses. Your juvenile record should not impact your ability to get or keep your state ID.</th>
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<tr>
<td>17. Can I vote if I only have a juvenile record?</td>
<td>Yes. Your juvenile record does not impact your right to vote.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Can I serve on a jury if I only have a juvenile record?</td>
<td>Yes. Your juvenile record does not impact your ability to serve on a jury.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Can I own or carry a gun if I have a juvenile record?</td>
<td>Maybe. You may not be allowed to own or carry a gun if you were adjudicated of certain offenses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Collateral Consequences in Minnesota

Note to the reader: This section includes endnotes (small numbers at the end of a sentence or phrase that correspond to additional information at the end of the guide). The endnotes often tell you what laws or rules apply to the sentence containing the endnote number.

MY JUVENILE RECORD

1. Who can look at my juvenile record?

Most juvenile records are confidential and not available to the public, which means that people cannot find information about your juvenile record the same way they can look up information about an adult criminal record.7 But police, prosecutors, juvenile probation officers, judges, corrections officers, and the alleged victim may view these confidential juvenile record.8 Your lawyer can also look at your juvenile record. A judge may share your juvenile record with someone else, but only if the judge decides there is a good reason to share it with that person.9

However, not all juvenile records are confidential. If you were charged with a felony offense and were 16 or 17 years old at the time of the offense, your juvenile record is available to the public unless you get it expunged.10 Getting your juvenile record expunged means that very few people can look at it or find out about it.11 Go to Question 2 of this guide for information on expunging your juvenile record. Even if your charges were later reduced and you were adjudicated of a misdemeanor, not a felony, your record may still be available to the public.

Your juvenile record can be shared with your school in certain circumstances.12 Go to Question 4 of this guide for more information about when your school may be told about your juvenile court
involvement and what impact that could have on your ability to continue attending the same school.

Your record could also be shared with Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS) if you were adjudicated for an offense related to the operation of a motor vehicle.¹³ Go to Question 16 for more information about how your juvenile record might impact your driver's license.

2. How can I keep people from looking at my juvenile record?

You may be able to get your juvenile record expunged, which means that very few people will be allowed to look at it or find out about it.¹⁴

To get your juvenile record expunged, you can file a request with the juvenile court at any time.¹⁵ Your request should explain why it is helpful to you to have your juvenile record expunged.¹⁶
You could tell the judge that getting your juvenile record expunged may keep you from having to report it on applications or keep your record from showing up on background checks. Getting your juvenile record expunged would make it easier for you to go to college, get a job, or locate housing. You may also explain that you completed everything you were supposed to do for your juvenile case, and you would like to keep your record from blocking opportunities in the future.

In deciding whether to expunge your record, the judge may consider your age, education, seriousness of the offense, whether you are employed or in school, whether you successfully completed probation, whether you have stayed out of trouble since your time in juvenile court, and whether you have “learned from your offense.”

If your juvenile record is expunged, most people will not be able to see it or know that you ever had a juvenile record. However, there are exceptions. For example, police officers, prosecutors, and judges can still see expunged records if you are accused of, charged with, or convicted of another crime.

Once your juvenile record is expunged, you can act as if the offense never happened. You will not need to tell an employer or college, technical, or trade school about your expunged record in interviews or on applications. You should always keep a copy of the expungement order, just in case you need to prove your case was expunged.

Getting your juvenile record expunged prevents it from showing up on most background checks. However, to make sure that the Department of Human Services and teacher licensing board are not able to access your

If you were charged with a felony and were 16 or 17 years old at the time of the offense, your juvenile record is available to the public unless you get it expunged.
record when conducting background checks for occupational licensing purposes, you must follow certain steps. Go to Question 7 of this guide to learn about these steps and get more information on how your juvenile record might impact your employment opportunities.

Figuring out the best arguments to get your record expunged can be tricky. Talk to a lawyer to get help!

Your juvenile record may still show up in a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) background check – which may be required for jobs related to working with children and vulnerable adults, law enforcement, the federal government, or the military. Therefore, you should be prepared to talk about your juvenile record and follow the tips on page 4.

For help with or questions related to expunging your juvenile record, contact the lawyer who represented you in juvenile court or go to the Resources section at the end of this guide to find contact information for your local public defender office. You can also find more information about expunging your juvenile record on the Clean Slate Clearinghouse website: https://cleanslateclearinghouse.org/states/minnesota/ juvenile-record-overview/.

3. Can my juvenile record be used against me in later juvenile or adult criminal cases?

Yes. Judges may look at your juvenile record information when deciding whether to transfer your juvenile case to adult court or when deciding what disposition or sentence to give you in a later juvenile or adult criminal case. Judges are able to look at expunged records for sentencing purposes.
4. Will my juvenile record affect my ability to go to my local public school?

Maybe. Your juvenile court involvement may impact your ability to stay at the same school. Your school may be notified if you are arrested, charged, or adjudicated for certain offenses, whether the offense occurred on school property or not. If you transfer to a different school, your previous school will share your juvenile record information and any school discipline records with the new school.

Your school can use this information to suspend or expel you if the school officials believe that you have violated school board regulations; your actions have significantly disrupted the rights of other students or school personnel; or that your actions endanger other students, school personnel, or school property.

Schools must follow certain rules when you are suspended, excluded, or expelled. A lawyer or other education advocate can help you challenge the decision and understand this process. A suspension is when you are not allowed to attend school for one to ten days. An expulsion is when you are not allowed to attend school for 11 days up to one year.

If your school decides to suspend you, your school administrator should meet with you to tell you why and explain the grounds for the suspension, describe the evidence they have, and give you a chance to explain your side before the suspension begins or shortly after.

If a school administrator decides to initiate the expulsion process, they may suspend you until the school board has a hearing to decide whether to expel you. The school board must hold the expulsion hearing within 10 days of mailing the written notice to you and your parents or guardians. The school board must make their decision within seven days of the hearing. If the school board decides to expel you, a school administrator must work with you and your parents or guardians to help make a plan for your return to school.
REMINDER!

Talk to a lawyer or other knowledgeable adult about what to say in a school meeting or hearing. What you say may be used against you in a juvenile or criminal court case.
If you bring a firearm to school, the school board must expel you for at least one year, but the board is allowed to modify this requirement on a case-by-case basis.  

A lawyer or other knowledgeable adult can help you prepare for what to say when challenging the school's decision to suspend or expel you. Go to the Resources section at the end of this guide for resources and contact information for organizations that may be able to assist you.

5. Can I get accepted into a college, technical, or trade school if I have a juvenile record?

Yes. Pay close attention to how the college application asks about your record. If the application asks if you have been convicted, you can answer “No,” if you only have a juvenile record and no adult record. If the application asks about adjudications, you may need to include information about your juvenile record. Go to page 4 for tips on how to talk about your juvenile record.

You can be accepted into college even with a juvenile record. Don’t let your juvenile record keep you from applying!

The Common Application (Common App) for college, which is used by more than 800 colleges and universities, no longer asks all applicants to answer questions about juvenile and criminal records. However, it does allow colleges to ask about these records on their supplemental forms, which must accompany the Common App when applying to their school.

The Common App continues to ask about school discipline violations. You are required to report your school discipline violations on the Common App even if they are related to your confidential or expunged juvenile record.
6. Can I get a student loan to help pay for college, technical, or trade school?

Yes. To apply for a federal student loan to help pay for college, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA asks whether you have been convicted of a drug charge while receiving federal student loans. If you only have juvenile adjudications, you can answer “No” to this question — even if your juvenile record includes a drug-related offense — because this question is asking about adult convictions, not juvenile adjudications. And if you have never received federal student aid before, you can also answer “No” because the question is asking if you were convicted while receiving federal financial aid.

7. Can I get a job if I have a juvenile record?

Yes. Most job applications ask about convictions. If you do not have any adult criminal convictions, you can answer “No” because a juvenile adjudication is not a criminal conviction. However, if you were charged with a felony and were 16 or 17 years old at the time of the offense, those juvenile records are available to the public and may show up on a background check. You should be prepared to briefly explain that your juvenile adjudication is not the same as a criminal conviction and follow the tips on page 4 on how to talk about your juvenile record. Go to Question 1 of this guide for information about what records are available to the public.

Getting your juvenile record expunged would prevent it from showing up on most background checks. However, your expunged juvenile record may still show up in a FBI background check — which may be required for jobs related to working with children and vulnerable adults, law enforcement,
If an application asks whether you’ve been convicted of a crime, you can answer “No” as long as you do not have any adult court convictions.”
security, the federal government, or the military. Go to Question 2 of this guide for information about expunging your juvenile record.

Just like you need a driver’s license to legally drive a car, some jobs require you to have an occupational license in order to do certain work. For example, electricians, emergency medical technicians, nurses, and teachers must have occupational licenses. The application for an occupational license might ask about your juvenile record. Please remember to read the questions on the application carefully so that you answer only what is asked.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) and the teacher licensing board will review your entire juvenile record (private and public) and can deny your application for an occupational license based on your record. Even if the court dismissed your juvenile case, DHS and the teacher licensing board can deny you a license based on your arrest record or charges filed against you.

You can prevent DHS and the teacher licensing board from denying your occupational license application because of your juvenile record by following certain steps when getting your record expunged. First, you must give DHS and the teacher licensing board a copy of the expungement request you filed with the court. Second, the court’s expungement order must specifically require the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), DHS, and teacher licensing board to expunge all records relating to your juvenile court involvement. Finally, you need to give the BCA, DHS, and teacher licensing board a copy of the expungement order. Once you complete these steps, DHS and the teacher licensing board will no longer be able to access your juvenile record when deciding whether to grant you an occupational license.
8. Can I join the military if I have a juvenile record?

Maybe. Your juvenile record might make it harder for you to join the military. Generally, the United States military does not treat juvenile records differently than adult records. If your record involves selling drugs, domestic violence, or a felony, you may need to request special permission (a waiver) to enlist. If your record includes a juvenile adjudication involving a sexual offense, you will be prohibited from joining the military and no waivers are available. Each branch of the military has different rules about waivers. For more information, visit www.usa.gov/join-military or contact a recruiter.

You may need to give the military a copy of your juvenile court paperwork, even if your record has been expunged. Before you request to have your juvenile record expunged, make sure to get a copy of your complete court record because the court cannot give you expunged records without a court order. Go to Question 2 of this guide for information about expunging your juvenile record.
9. Will my juvenile record affect my immigration status?

Talk to an immigration lawyer to find out whether your juvenile record affects your ability to stay in the United States or become a legal resident. If you’re adjudicated for certain types of offenses, it will be more difficult to get legal immigration status.45

To help your lawyer figure out possible ways that you can get immigration status, tell your lawyer if you:

- Have been abused, neglected, or abandoned by a parent;
- Have been a victim of human trafficking or sex trafficking, or the victim of any crime; or,
- Are undocumented or have a green card or other type of legal status, such as a U visa.

Remember: Everything you tell your lawyer is confidential. This means your lawyer can’t share anything you tell them with anyone else.

If you’re undocumented or don’t have legal status, even just being arrested can cause problems. If you’re taken into custody or arrested by the police, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) may try to pick you up when you are released from the local jail or detention facility.

If anyone from the FBI or ICE asks you questions, especially about your immigration status or where you were born, you do not have to answer their questions without a lawyer.

For help with immigration issues, go to the Resources section at the end of this guide for contact information for organizations that may be able to provide you with legal representation in immigration matters. You can also find more information in the Immigrant Legal Resource Center’s Guide for Immigrant Youth: www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/documents/youth_handbook-2015-06_05-en.pdf.46
“If anyone from the FBI or ICE asks you questions, especially about your immigration status or where you were born, you do not have to answer their questions without a lawyer.”
10. Can I get public benefits (like food stamps, Medicaid, SSI, and TANF) with a juvenile record? What happens to my benefits if I am locked up?

Yes. You should be able to get most public benefits with a juvenile record. If the application asks about convictions and you only have a juvenile record and no adult convictions, you can answer “No.”

Getting locked up in a juvenile facility might affect things like food stamps (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program—SNAP), Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Your parents may not be able to receive SSI checks for you, and your family’s SNAP and TANF assistance could be reduced while you are locked up in a juvenile facility. If you have health insurance through Medicaid and you are sent to a secure juvenile facility, ask your lawyer for help or go to your local county or tribal human services (Department of Human Services) office to make sure you get re-enrolled in Medicaid when you are released.

For help with public benefits, go to the Resources section at the end of this guide for contact information for the legal aid office in your area.

11. Can I live in public housing or rent an apartment if I have a juvenile record?

Maybe. You and your family may not be allowed to live in public housing if you are involved with certain criminal activities — especially drugs or violence — even if you don’t go to court. In some situations, you may not be allowed to live in public housing at all; for example, if you have to register as a sex offender for life or if you are convicted of making meth while on public housing property.

Many housing applications ask about convictions. If you do not have any adult criminal convictions, you can answer “No” because a juvenile...
adjudication is not a criminal conviction. However, if you were charged with a felony and were 16 or 17 years old at the time of the offense, those juvenile records are available to the public and may show up on a background check. Also, some applications may ask about arrests, probation, or adjudications, and you may need to answer “Yes” to these questions if your juvenile record has not been expunged. Each housing application is different, so you should read the questions carefully. Go to page 4 for tips on how to talk about your juvenile record.

For help with housing issues, go to the Resources section at the end of this guide for contact information for the local legal aid office in your area.

Getting your juvenile record expunged would prevent it from showing up on most background checks.
OTHER CONSEQUENCES

12. What happens if I don't pay the court fines or restitution?

As part of your disposition, the juvenile court judge may require you to pay a court fine of up to $1,000. You may also be required to pay restitution (an order to pay someone back for damage caused or property taken).

If you do not pay the restitution or fines according to the payment schedule included in the disposition order, your probation officer may ask the court to find you in violation of your probation. If the judge determines you violated your probation, the judge could modify or extend your probation or lock you up in a juvenile facility for a period of time.

Unpaid fines or restitution may show up on your credit report. A credit report is like a school report card that shows how good or bad you’ve been about paying your bills. Having a bad credit report can make it harder for you to rent an apartment, get a school loan, buy a house or car, or get a credit card. It can also show up if you apply for a job where the employer asks for a credit check or background check, like many government jobs.

13. If I had to give my DNA as part of my juvenile case, what happens to my DNA record after my case is closed?

If you were charged with or adjudicated for a felony offense, the court will require you to provide a DNA sample that will be analyzed and stored by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). The BCA can share this information with other state and federal law enforcement for use in future investigations. If you were found not guilty, the BCA must destroy your DNA and return the record to you. If your charges were dismissed, you will need to file a request with the court to have the record of your DNA destroyed.
14. Do I have to register as a sex offender if I have a sex offense on my juvenile record?

No. Minnesota does not have a sex offender registry, but instead has a “predatory offender” registry, which requires people to register after being adjudicated for a wide variety of offenses.\(^{61}\) Go to the next question for more information about the Predatory Offender Registry.

If you have been adjudicated for a sex offense and move or stay more than a few days in another state, that state could require you to register as a sex offender. Contact a lawyer to get advice on the consequences of moving or staying more than a few nights in another state.

15. What does it mean if I have to register as a predatory offender?

If you are adjudicated for certain serious offenses, Minnesota law requires you to register as a predatory offender.\(^{62}\) Some examples of these offenses include: murder, kidnapping, criminal sexual conduct, felony indecent exposure, false imprisonment, or possession of child pornography.\(^{63}\)

If you are required to register as a predatory offender, you will be required to provide information to local law enforcement about where you live, your employment and school, and any cars you own or regularly drive.\(^{64}\)

**REMININDER!**

If you have a sex offense on your record and you want to move or stay more than a few days in another state, contact a lawyer first to make sure your plans will not negatively affect you.
If any of that information changes, you must also notify the registration agent or local law enforcement immediately.\textsuperscript{65}

Generally, your registration is kept private and will only be available to law enforcement.\textsuperscript{66} However, if you are 16 years old or older and fail to comply with the registration requirements, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) may make your registration information available to the public and place it on BCA’s website.\textsuperscript{67} Once you update your registration information, you can send a written request to BCA to remove your information from public access.\textsuperscript{68} If you knowingly fail to comply with the registration requirements or intentionally provide false information, you could face felony criminal charges, the records for which will be available to the public.\textsuperscript{69}

You may either be required to register for 10 years or life, depending on the offense for which you were adjudicated and any other criminal history.\textsuperscript{70}

If you have any questions about predatory offender registration, contact the lawyer who represented you in your juvenile case or go to the Resources section at the end of this guide to find information on how to contact someone at your local public defender’s office.

\textbf{16. Can I get or keep my driver’s license if I have a juvenile record? Can I get or keep my state ID if I have a juvenile record?}

Maybe. The juvenile court judge can cancel your driver’s license up to your 18th birthday as part of the disposition of your case.\textsuperscript{71} You may file a request with the court to reinstate your license prior to your 18th birthday if you can provide a good reason for the court to do so.\textsuperscript{72}

If you are adjudicated of certain driving-related offenses your driver’s license will be revoked or suspended.\textsuperscript{73} Examples of these offenses include reckless driving, driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs, fleeing a peace officer, and felony and homicide offenses in which a motor vehicle was used.\textsuperscript{74}

Your juvenile record will not impact your ability to get a state ID. If you were placed in a juvenile facility, ask your case manager, probation officer, or your lawyer to help you get a state ID after you are released. A driver’s license or state ID is required for employment, housing, medical assistance, and many other important opportunities and resources.
If you have questions about your suspended driver's license or if you want to request that the judge reinstate your license early, contact the lawyer who represented you in your juvenile case or go to the Resources section at the end of this guide to find information on how to contact someone at your local public defender's office.

**17. Can I vote if I only have a juvenile record?**

Yes. Your juvenile record will not affect your right to vote.75

**18. Can I serve on a jury if I only have a juvenile record?**

Yes. Your juvenile record will not impact your ability to serve on a jury.76

**19. Can I own or carry a gun if I have a juvenile record?**

Maybe. The law on carrying and owning guns is complicated, so make sure you do the research or talk to a lawyer. For instance, except in limited circumstances, no one under the age of 18 is allowed to possess a firearm.77 You may not be allowed to carry a gun even after you turn 18 if you have an adjudication for a violent crime.78

You may file a request with the court to restore your right to possess a firearm.79 You must convince the court that allowing you to carry a gun will not harm the public and will help you in some way.80 If the judge denies your request, you must wait three years before filing your request again.81
**Resources**

**Minnesota Public Defender Offices**
www.pubdef.state.mn.us

Public defender offices throughout the state of Minnesota provide legal representation to all young people who cannot afford an attorney and are accused of or convicted of crimes in Minnesota. Your local public defender's office can help you understand the eligibility requirements and process for expunging your juvenile record, and may be able to represent you in the matter.

**PHONE NUMBERS BY PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Defender Offices</th>
<th>Counties Represented</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Judicial District</td>
<td>Dakota, Goodhue, Carver, Le Sueur, McLeod, Scott, Sibley</td>
<td>651-480-0122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Judicial District</td>
<td>Ramsey</td>
<td>651-757-1600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Judicial District</td>
<td>Olmsted, Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Mower, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, Winona</td>
<td>507-285-7370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Judicial District</td>
<td>Hennepin</td>
<td>612-348-7530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth Judicial District</td>
<td>Blue Earth, Brown, Cottonwood, Faribault, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, Murray, Nicollet, nobles, Piperstone, Redwood, Rock, Watonwan</td>
<td>507-389-5138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth Judicial District</td>
<td>St. Louis, Carlton, Lake, Cook</td>
<td>218-733-1027</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal Aid Offices in Minnesota
Legal aid offices are non-profit organizations that provide free legal services to people below a certain income level. They usually help with housing, public benefits, education, immigration, employment issues, domestic violence cases, family law, and other types of cases that can cause serious problems in a person’s everyday life. Your local legal aid office may also be able to help you get your juvenile record expunged. To find a legal aid office in your area and find out what areas of law that office may be able to assist you with, visit www.lawhelpmn.org/find-legal-help.

National Juvenile Defender Center
Contact NJDC if you’re having trouble finding a public defender, legal aid attorney, or other help with the collateral consequences of your juvenile court involvement. We will do our best to help find someone to assist you. For more information, visit www.njdc.info or call 202-452-0010.
Legal Rights Center
The Legal Rights Center provides free high quality defense and restorative justice services to people who cannot afford an attorney. They represent young people in Hennepin Co. and can help you with expungement. For representation, call 612-337-0030 or email office@legalrightscenter.org to schedule an in-person intake meeting. For more information, visit www.legalrightscenter.org.

Minnesota Disability Law Center
The Minnesota Disability Law Center (MDLC) provides free legal services to Minnesotans of any age with all types of disabilities. In addition to housing, employment, and health care matters, MDLC can assist young people with school-related matters. They help young people who are excluded from school because of conduct that is related to their disabilities. MDLC advocates for young clients to obtain positive behavior interventions instead of harsh punishments. MDLC also helps children get access to special education and related services in the least restrictive setting. For more information, visit http://mylegalaid.org/about/our-work/disability-law or call 800-292-4150.

PACER Center
The PACER Center provides services, advocacy, and education to assist children, youth, and young adults with disabilities and their families. They created an interactive school discipline guide for parents of children with disabilities: www.pacer.org/school-discipline-information/. They also created a guide to help young people with disabilities better navigate the juvenile court system: www.pacer.org/jj/pdf/JJ-8.pdf. For more information, visit www.pacer.org or call 952-838-9000.

Children’s Law Center of Minnesota

Volunteer Lawyers Network – Youth Law Clinic
The Youth Law Clinic provides young people an opportunity to get legal advice from a free lawyer on Mondays between 11am and 1pm at YouthLink (41 N. 12th St. in Minneapolis). The clinic may not take place
The Advocates for Human Rights
The Advocates for Human Rights provides free immigration legal assistance to those seeking asylum; detained immigrants; and those trafficked for either labor or sex. For legal assistance, you can call their client line at 612-341-9845 or complete their intake form online at www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/intake_form.

Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota
The Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota provides free immigration legal assistance to immigrants and refugees of all nationalities living in Minnesota who are unable to afford an attorney. For more information about their intake process, eligibility requirements, and the types of cases they can assist with, visit www.ilcm.org/immigration-help or call 800-223-1368 or 651-641-1011.

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Lutheran Social Service helps refugees, asylees, and other immigrants living in the Twin Cities and St. Cloud. They help complete immigration documents – including Green Card and visa applications, citizenship documents and family reunification petitions. Services are available by appointment or via walk-ins on Tuesdays in Minneapolis and Wednesdays in St. Cloud. Their Minneapolis office is located at 2400 Park Avenue – 612-879-5258. Their St. Cloud office is located at 22 Wilson Avenue – 320-251-7700. For more information, visit www.lssmn.org/services/refugees/services.

University of Minnesota – Immigration and Human Rights & Detainee Rights Clinics
The Immigration and Human Rights Clinic represents persons seeking asylum in the United States, human trafficking victims, and immigrant detainees. The Detainee Rights Clinic represents non-citizens facing removal from the United States who are detained at Immigration and
Customs Enforcement ("ICE") facilities in the Twin Cities area. For more information, call 612-625-5515.

Avenues for Homeless Youth
Avenues for Homeless Youth provides emergency shelter, short-term housing, and supportive services for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness. Avenues seeks to help youth achieve their personal goals and make a positive transition into adulthood. They are located in the Minneapolis area. For more information, visit http://avenuesforyouth.org/find-help/ or call 612-522-1690.

The Bridge for Youth
The Bridge for Youth provides shelter, food, and health, employment, and other supportive services for young people between 10 and 17 years old. They are located in Minneapolis. For more information, visit https://bridgeforyouth.org/find-help/. If you need immediate help, text 612-400-SAFE (7233) or call 612-377-8800.

Hope4Youth
Hope4Youth provides shelter, food, clothing, showers, and employment, education, health, and other supportive services for young people 23 years old or younger. Their drop-in center is located at 2665 4th Avenue North in Anoka. For more information, visit www.hope4youthmn.org/drop-in-center or call 763-323-2066 (business hours) or 612-849-2561 (after hours).

Hope Street Shelter
Hope Street Shelter provides shelter, food, clothing, and other supportive services for young people between 18 and 20 years old. They are located at 1121 East 46th Street in Minneapolis. For more information, visit www.cctwincities.org/locations/hope-street-shelter or call 612-204-8211.

Oasis for Youth
Oasis for Youth provides shelter, food, clothing, and other supportive services for young people between 16 and 24 years old. The resource
center operates out of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in Bloomington (2200 W Old Shakopee Road). Drop-in hours are Monday through Friday from 2-5pm. For more information, visit www.oasisforyouth.org/drop-in-center or call 952-512-2061.

YouthLink
YouthLink provides shelter, food, showers, and education, employment, and housing services to young people between 16 and 23 years old. Their drop-in center is located at 41 N. 12th Street in downtown Minneapolis. For more information, please visit www.youthlinkmn.org/i-want-help or call 612-252-1200.

Youth Services Network Minnesota
Youth Services Network is a mobile-optimized web application that connects young people between 16 and 24 years old who are homeless, in crisis, or at risk of either, to the services they need in Minnesota. For more information, please visit https://ysnmn.org/.

OTHER RESOURCES

Handbook for Youth and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness in Minnesota
The handbook is a guide for youth and young adults with information about your rights, responsibilities, and resources in every major aspect of your life. You can find the handbook at www.homelessyouth.org/us/minnesota.

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development has employment programs that are designed to help young people find jobs, build job skills, learn specific trades, and explore education, training, and career options. For more information, visit https://mn.gov/deed/job-seekers/find-a-job/targeted-services/youth-employment/.

OutFront Minnesota
OutFront’s Youth & Schools Program promotes safe and supportive
educational environments for all students. In addition to faculty and student trainings, they focus on developing young leaders who they foster by centering the voices, needs, and priorities of LGBTQ+ youth. Racial, economic and gender justice comprise the core of their educational work. For more information, visit www.outfront.org/youth-schools or call 612-822-0127. OutFront’s website also includes a directory of LGBTQ+ friendly service providers and advocacy organizations.

Pathways4Youth
Pathways4Youth provides food, clothing, showers, and employment, education, health, and other supportive services for young people 23 years old or younger. Their Youth Opportunity Center is located at 203 Cooper Avenue North, Suite 260, in St. Cloud. For more information, visit www.pathways4youthmn.org/yoc or call 320-316-1640.

Law Help MN
Law Help MN is a free online resource that provides helpful information about laws related to youth law and education, immigration, housing, disability, and family law. Visit www.lawhelpmn.org/.

The Minnesota State Law Library
The Minnesota State Law Library is a free online resource that provides helpful information about laws related to housing, education, child custody and support, and the juvenile court system. For more information, visit https://mn.gov/law-library/.

Housing Section:
http://mncourts.libguides.com/landlord-tenant/

Education Section:
https://mn.gov/law-library/legal-topics/education-law.jsp

Special Education Section:
https://mn.gov/law-library/legal-topics/special-education.jsp

Juvenile System Overview:
http://mncourts.libguides.com/juvenile
Endnotes

22. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 260B.171(3)(a) (West 2014). Your school will be notified whether or not the offense took place on school property, or if you are charged with a violent offense: murder, manslaughter, assault, robbery, kidnapping, false imprisonment, solicitation, criminal sexual conduct, arson, burglary, terrorist threats, stalking, and certain offenses involving drugs or firearms. See also Minn. Stat. Ann. § 121A.75 (West 2015).
26. Minn. Stat. Ann. § 121A.41(5) (West 2009). For purposes of this guide, we use the term “expulsion” to also include “exclusion.” An exclusion is when you are
not allowed to attend school or reenroll in school until the next school year. See Minn. Stat. Ann. § 121A.41(4), (10) (West 2009).

36 Id.
41 Minn. Stat. Ann. § 609A.03(7a)(b), (c) (West 2017).
42 See generally 32 C.F.R. § 66.6 (West 2016) (listing the military’s basic enlistment rules).
43 32 C.F.R. § 66.6 (West 2016).
44 See 32 C.F.R. § 66.3 (West 2016); Dep’t of the Army, Reg. 601-210, Regular Army & Reserve Components Enlistment Program 14 (Aug. 31, 2016) (providing examples of how the military views sealed or expunged cases).
52 In re Welfare of J.J.P., 831 N.W.2d 260 (Minn. 2013) (quoting Barlow v. Comm'r of Pub. Safety, 365 N.W.2d 232, 233 (Minn. 1985)).
Minn. Stat. Ann. §§ 299C.105(1)(a)(3) (West 2006) (young people must submit DNA if they "appeared in court and have had a judicial probable cause determination on a charge of committing, or [they] have been adjudicated delinquent for committing or attempting to commit" murder, manslaughter, assault, robbery or aggravated robbery, kidnapping, false imprisonment, criminal sexual conduct, incest, burglary, or indecent exposure), 609.117(1)(2) (West 2010) (young people must submit DNA if a they have been "petitioned for committing or attempting to commit a felony offense and [are] adjudicated delinquent for that offense or any offense arising out of the same set of circumstances"), 299C.155(4) (West 2005).
Id.
Id.
Id.
Id.
Id.
Id.
Id.
Acknowledgements

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About National Juvenile Defender Center

The National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to promoting justice for all children by ensuring excellence in juvenile defense. Through community building, training, and policy reform, we provide national leadership on juvenile defense issues with a focus on curbing the deprivation of young people's rights in the court system. Our reach extends to urban, suburban, rural, and tribal areas, where we elevate the voices of youth, families, and defenders to create positive case outcomes and meaningful opportunities for children. We also work with broad coalitions to ensure that the reform of juvenile courts includes the protection of children's rights — particularly the right to counsel. To learn more about NJDC, please visit www.njdc.info.