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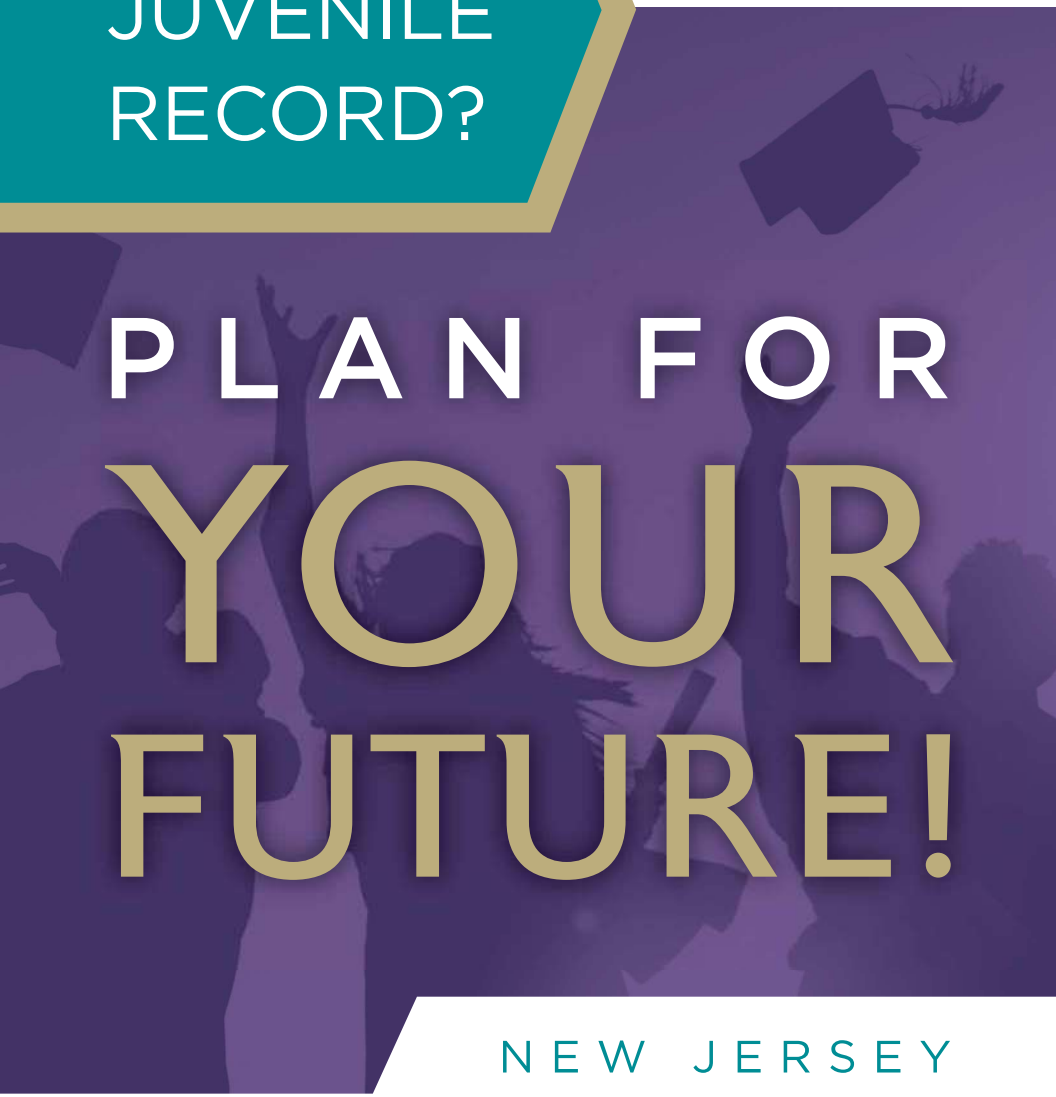
Have a JUVENILE RECORD?



PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE!

NEW JERSEY

NJDC 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

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Introduction

As you move forward with your life after being involved in the juvenile court system, this guide provides information about what obstacles may 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 barriers caused by a juvenile record and knowing what to do and where to go to get help.

The road forward may have some challenges — but we hope this guide will show you that progress can be made and there is a community of advocates in New Jersey 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 obtaining a driver's license.

Defense Lawyer: Your defense lawyer is the attorney who defended you in your juvenile case, who may have been from the public defender 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.

Disposition: A disposition in juvenile court is similar to a sentence in adult court. The disposition in your case is what the judge requires you to do because the judge decided that you broke the law. Your disposition could include probation, attending a treatment program, paying money, or being sent to a juvenile facility.

Expungement: If your juvenile record is expunged, it means that the records will be separated and put in a different location from all other juvenile records, and you can act as if your involvement in the legal system never happened.[2] Expungement 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.

Sealing: If your juvenile record is sealed, it means that the court and police paperwork related to your juvenile case will be closed. No one will be allowed to look at them without a special court order.[3]

Taken into Custody: If you are under 18 and picked up by the police, it is called being taken into custody instead of being arrested.[4]

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 New Jersey and what you can do to overcome them.

Every young person's situation is different. Depending on the charge you faced in court, you may have a suspended driver's license or trouble enrolling back into school. The Summary Chart on page 6 tells you which collateral consequences are addressed in this guide, and where 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 New Jersey are available to help you address the problems 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.

A juvenile adjudication is *not* a conviction.

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 New Jersey**.[5] Also, if an application asks about arrests, you can answer "No," as long as you have *not* been arrested as an adult.[6]

In New Jersey, most juvenile records are confidential. However, if you were adjudicated of certain offenses, your juvenile record may be available to the public unless it is sealed or expunged.[7] These offenses include a crime of the first, second, or third degree; aggravated assault; or destruction or damage to property worth more than $500.[8] Go to Questions 2 and 3 of this guide for information on sealing and 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 just 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.

CAUTION! If you were adjudicated of certain offenses, your juvenile record is available to the public unless it is sealed or expunged.

New Jersey Collateral Consequences Summary Chart

MY JUVENILE RECORD

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1. Who can look at my juvenile record?	Most juvenile records in New Jersey are confidential and not available to the public. But, if you were adjudicated of certain offenses, your juvenile record may be available to the public.
2. How can I keep people from looking at my juvenile record?	You may be able to get your juvenile record sealed, which means that very few people will be allowed to look at your record without a special court order.
3. Can my juvenile record be expunged?	Maybe. You may be able to get your juvenile record expunged, which means that the record will be set aside from all other records and prevents most people from being able to find out about your juvenile record.
4. Can my juvenile record be used against me in later juvenile or adult criminal cases?	Maybe. Having a juvenile record can sometimes lead to more serious consequences in a later case.

SCHOOL
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5. Will my juvenile record affect my ability to go to my local public school?	Maybe. Your juvenile record can be shared with your school, which may affect whether you can continue to attend the same school.
6. Can I get accepted to a college, technical school, or trade program if I have a juvenile record?	Yes, but you may need to say you have a juvenile record on some college applications or your juvenile record may show up on a background check, which could affect the school's decision to accept you.
7. Can I get a federal student loan to help pay for college, technical school, or trade program?	Your juvenile record should not impact your ability to get federal student loans to help pay for school.

JOBS AND THE MILITARY
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8. Can I get a job if I have a juvenile record?	Yes, but you may need to say you have a juvenile record on some job applications or your juvenile record may show up on a background check, which could affect the employer's decision to hire you.

New Jersey Collateral Consequences Summary Chart *(Continued)*

JOBS AND THE MILITARY (*Cont.*)
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9. Can I join the military if I have a juvenile record?	Maybe. Your juvenile record may make it harder for you to enlist in the military.

IMMIGRATION
Page 22

10. Will my juvenile record affect my immigration status?	It's complicated. Your juvenile record might affect your ability to remain in the United States.

PUBLIC BENEFITS AND HOUSING
Page 24

11. Can I get public benefits (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 (SNAP), Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

PUBLIC BENEFITS AND HOUSING
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12. Can I live in public housing or rent an apartment if I have a juvenile record?	Maybe. A juvenile record may limit your public housing options, depending on the type of offense and where it happened. Also, because some juvenile records are public and can appear on background checks, landlords may find out about your juvenile record, which could affect the landlord's decision to rent to you or your family.

OTHER CONSEQUENCES
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13. What happens if I don't pay court fees or restitution?	Unpaid court fees or restitution can make it harder to get loans, a car, and even a job because of bad credit.
14. If I had to give DNA as part of my juvenile case, what happens to my DNA after my case is closed?	If your DNA was taken, the police enter the DNA record and sample into a computer database, which can be shared with local, state, and federal law enforcement.

New Jersey Collateral Consequences Summary Chart *(Continued)*

OTHER CONSEQUENCES (*Cont.*)

Page 27

15. Do I have to register on the sex offender registry if I have a sex offense on my juvenile record?	If you were adjudicated of certain sex offenses, you will have to register on the sex offender registry. The specific registration requirements depend on the Tier classification you are assigned.
16. Can I get or keep my driver's license or state ID if I have a juvenile record?	Maybe. Your driver's license may be suspended or even taken away if you are adjudicated of certain offenses. Your juvenile record should not impact your ability to get or keep your state ID.
17. Can I vote if I only have a juvenile record?	Yes. Your juvenile record does not impact your right to vote.
18. Can I serve on a jury if I only have a juvenile record?	Yes. Your juvenile record does not impact your ability to serve on a jury.
19. Can I own or carry a gun if I have a juvenile record?	Maybe. You might not be allowed to own or carry a gun if you were adjudicated of certain offenses.

Collateral Consequences in New Jersey

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

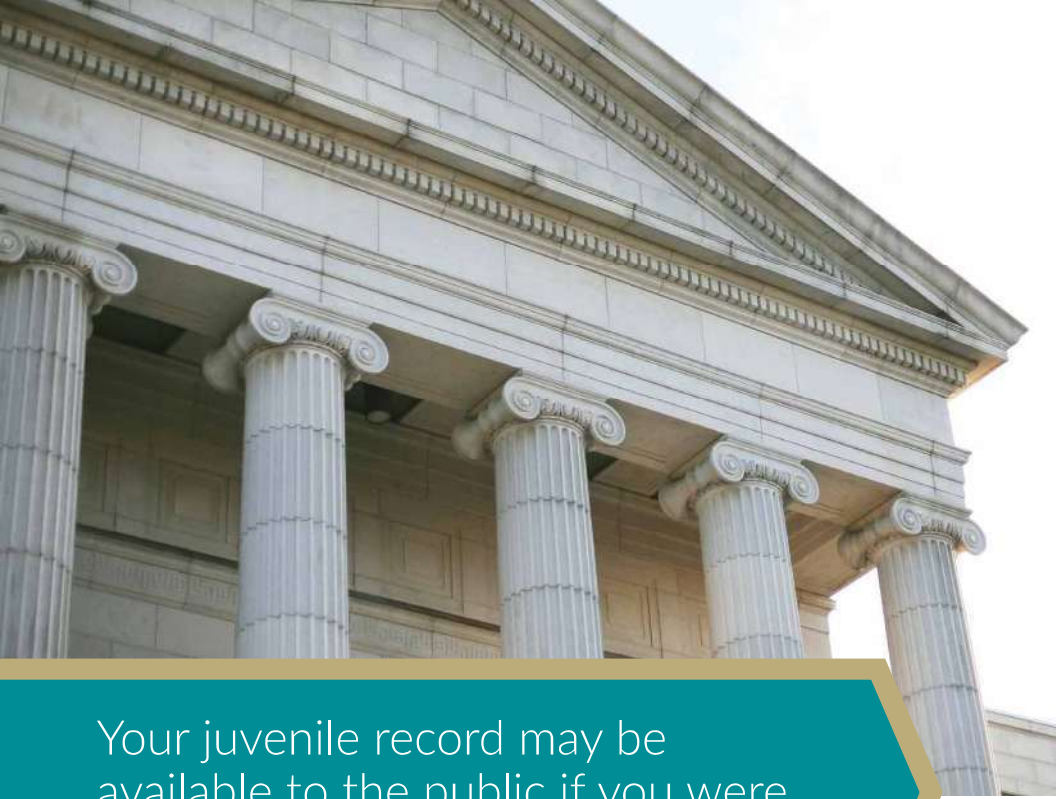
1. Who can look at my juvenile record?

Most juvenile records in New Jersey 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.[9] But police, prosecutors, probation officers, judges, and court employees can still access these records.[10] You, your parents, and your lawyer can also look at your juvenile record.[11] 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.[12]

However, if you were adjudicated of certain offenses, your juvenile record may be available to the public.[13] These offenses include a crime of the first, second, or third degree; aggravated assault; or destruction or damage to property worth more than $500.[14]

Getting your record sealed or expunged may prevent people from being able to look at your juvenile record. Go to Questions 2 and 3 of this guide for information about sealing and expunging your juvenile record.

If you have questions about whether your record is confidential or available to the public, contact the lawyer who represented you in juvenile



Your juvenile record may be available to the public if you were adjudicated of certain offenses.

court or go to the Resources section at the end of this guide to find contact information for your local public defender office.

Information about your juvenile court involvement can be shared with your school in certain circumstances.[15] Go to Question 5 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 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) if your license was suspended or postponed because you were adjudicated of certain offenses.[16] 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 **sealed**, which means that very few people will be allowed to look at your record without a special court order.[17] Getting your record **expunged** would also prevent most people from finding out about your juvenile record.[18] Go to Question 3 for information about expungement.

To get your juvenile record sealed, you can file a request with the juvenile court after either (1) two years have passed since the last court order in your case (if you were not placed on supervision/ probation or put into state custody) *or* (2) two years have passed since you were released from custody or supervision/ probation.[19] To be eligible to get your record sealed, you cannot have been convicted of a crime or disorderly persons offense or adjudicated of a juvenile offense in the two years prior to filing your request with the juvenile court.[20]

After your juvenile record is sealed, it can be unsealed if you are later adjudicated of a juvenile offense or convicted of a crime.[21]

Once your juvenile record is sealed, you can act as if the offense never happened.[22] You will not need to tell an employer or college, technical school, or trade program about your sealed record in interviews or on applications. You should always keep a copy of the sealing order, just in case you need to prove your case was sealed.

Your sealed 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 sealing 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 sealing your juvenile record on the Clean Slate Clearinghouse website: https://cleanslateclearinghouse.org/states/new-jersey/juvenile-record-overview/.

3. Can my juvenile record be expunged?

You may be able to get your juvenile record expunged, which means that the record will be set aside from all other records and prevent most people from being able to find out about your juvenile record.[23]

To get your record expunged, you can file a request with the juvenile court that handled your case.[24] If the judge grants your request to expunge your juvenile record, the court records, police records, fingerprint records, and photographs related to the case will be removed and isolated from the rest of the records.[25] Getting your juvenile record expunged allows you to deny the offense ever happened and would prevent it from showing up on most background checks.[26]

Figuring out whether your juvenile record can be expunged is tricky. Talk to a lawyer to get help!

If you were taken into custody and not charged or charged but not adjudicated, you can file a request at any time with the juvenile court to expunge the court and law enforcement records related to that offense.[27] You might not be eligible for expungement of these records if the judge determined you were mentally disabled or did not have the mental capacity (ability to understand) to commit the offense.[28]

You may be able to have your entire juvenile record expunged if (1) three years have passed since the last court order in your case (if you were not placed on supervision/ probation or put into state custody) *or* (2) three years have passed since you were released from custody or supervision/ probation.[29] To be eligible to get your entire record expunged, you cannot have been convicted of a crime or disorderly persons offense or adjudicated of a juvenile offense in the three years prior to filing your request with the juvenile court.[30] Additionally, all of the following must be true: (1) you do not have any pending criminal or juvenile cases, (2) you have not had any adult criminal charges dismissed after a treatment or

diversion program, (3) you have not had an adult conviction expunged.[31] Certain serious offenses are not eligible for expungement.[32]

If you are not eligible to have your entire juvenile record expunged as outlined above, you may have a longer waiting period and/or other requirements before you are eligible to expunge your record.[33] Because the eligibility requirements for expungement are complicated and confusing, you should contact the lawyer who represented you in juvenile court or someone at your local public defender office for help. Go to the Resources section at the end of this guide to find contact information for organizations that may be able to assist with expungements.

Some serious offenses are not eligible for expungement, such as criminal homicide, kidnapping, arson, robbery, sexual assault, and criminal sexual contact.[34]

You may have to pay a $30 fee to file your request to expunge your record with the court.[35] You do not need to pay the filing fee if you were arrested and not charged or charged but not adjudicated.[36] If you cannot afford to pay the fee, you can ask the court to waive (not make you pay) the filing fee by completing the Application in Support of a Fee Waiver, which can be found at: www.njcourts.gov/forms/11208_filingfeewaiver.pdf.

You should always keep a copy of the expungement order in case you need to prove your case was expunged in the future.

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/new-jersey/juvenile-record-overview/.

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

Maybe. A judge may be able to look at your juvenile record when deciding what disposition or sentence to give you in a later juvenile or adult criminal case.[37] The judge could also look at your record if deciding whether to waive your case to adult criminal court.[38]

SCHOOL

5. Will my juvenile record affect my ability to go to my local public high school?

Maybe. Your juvenile court involvement may affect your ability to stay at the same school. The police must tell your principal if you are charged with an offense that occurred at school, on school-property, against a school employee or official, or if you were taken into custody by law enforcement because of information provided by school officials.[39] They must also inform your principal if you are charged with an offense that resulted in someone being seriously injured or the attempt to seriously injure another, involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm or other weapon, involved distribution of illegal drugs, involved a hate crime, or would be a crime of the first, second, or third degree.[40] And the police may keep the school updated on any adjudication or disposition in the case.[41]

The police are also allowed to tell your school if you are under investigation, taken into custody, or charged for any offense that the police believe would be "useful to the principal in maintaining order, safety or discipline" at school.[42]

A juvenile adjudication cannot be the sole basis for your being suspended or expelled. However, your school can suspend or expel you if the school believes the alleged conduct is a danger to others at the school, even if the offense did not occur at school.[43]

School officials must follow certain rules and procedures to suspend or expel you from school. A lawyer or other education advocate can help you challenge the suspension or expulsion decision and understand the process and your rights. Even if you are suspended, you still have a right to academic instruction, whether in an alternative education program, instruction at home, or another instruction program.[44]

If your school decides to suspend you for one to ten school days, a school administrator should explain the claims against you (in person or in

“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.”

writing) to both you and your parent(s) and give you a chance to explain your side.[45] You can appeal the suspension to the district superintendent and then the board of education.[46]

If your school decides to suspend you longer than 10 days or expel you, your principal should provide you with notice of the suspension, claims against you, and an informal hearing.[47] Your parents should also receive written notification within two school days that includes information about the specific charges against you and your right to a formal hearing.[48]

If the district board of education decides to continue your suspension or expel you, you can challenge their decision by appealing to the Commissioner of Education.[49]

For more details on school discipline in New Jersey, the Education Law Center, Advocates for Children of New Jersey, and the Graphic Advocacy Project created a toolkit for students, families, and advocates. You can find the toolkit here: http://www.edlawcenter.org/assets/files/pdfs/publications/Student_discipline_manual.pdf.

Go to the Resources section at the end of this guide for contact information for organizations that may be able to assist you with school discipline questions.

6. Can I get accepted to a college, technical school, or trade program 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. **A juvenile adjudication is not a conviction in New Jersey**.[50] If the application asks about adjudications, you will likely need to include information about your juvenile record unless your record has been sealed or expunged.

Used by more than 800 colleges and universities around the country, the Common Application (Common App) 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.

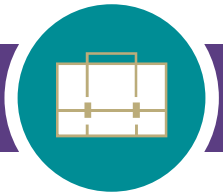
The Common App also asks about school discipline violations. You are required to report your school discipline violations on the Common App, even if they are related to your confidential, sealed, or expunged juvenile record.

Before you begin an educational, technical, or trade program designed for a particular job, you should first check to make sure you can get licensed to do that job once your program is completed. For instance, if you have certain serious adjudications on your record, you may not be allowed to work as an emergency medical technician. Go to Question 8 for more information about how a juvenile record might affect your ability to get a job, and go to the Resources section at the end of this guide for contact information for organizations that may be able to help you understand job licensing requirements.

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

7. 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.[51] If you only have juvenile adjudications,[52] 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*.



JOBS AND THE MILITARY

8. 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**.[53] However, if you were adjudicated of certain offenses (as referenced in Question 1), your juvenile record is available to the public and may show up on a background check.[54] 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.

Generally, you do not need to talk about your juvenile record if your record is sealed or expunged. Getting your juvenile record sealed or expunged allows you to deny the offense ever happened and would prevent it from showing up on most background checks.[55] However, your sealed or 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, security, the federal government, or the military. Go to Questions 2 and 3 of this guide for information about sealing and expunging your juvenile record.

Note that New Jersey law requires you to disclose information about your expunged juvenile record when seeking employment with law enforcement, department of corrections, probation, or the judicial branch of government.[56]

Just like you need a driver's license to drive a car legally, some jobs require you to have an occupational license to do certain work. For example, electricians, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), 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. Additionally, the state agency reviewing your application for an occupational license may be able to look at your juvenile record when deciding whether to grant you the license.

> “Remember 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.”

9. 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 U.S. military does not treat juvenile records any 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.[57] If your record includes a juvenile adjudication involving a sexual offense, you will be prohibited from joining the military, and no waivers are available.[58] 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 sealed or expunged.[59] Make sure to get a copy of your complete court record before it is sealed or expunged so you don't have to unseal or reopen your file to get the paperwork.

IMMIGRATION

10. Will my juvenile record affect my immigration status?

Maybe. Talk to an immigration lawyer to find out whether your juvenile record affects your ability to stay in the United States or obtain legal U.S. resident status in the future. If you're adjudicated of certain types of offenses, it will be more difficult to get legal immigration status.[60]

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.

"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."

Remember: Everything you tell your lawyer is confidential. This means your lawyer can't share anything you tell them without your permission.

If you're undocumented or don't have legal status, even just being taken into custody 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.

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.[61]

PUBLIC BENEFITS AND HOUSING

11. Can I get public benefits (food stamps, Medicaid, SSI, and TANF) with a juvenile record? What happens to my benefits if I'm 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" because **a juvenile adjudication is not a conviction in New Jersey**.[62]

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, case manager, or probation officer for help to make sure your Medicaid is reinstated 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.

12. 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.[63] In some situations, you may not be allowed to live in public housing at all; for example, if you have to register on a sex offender registry for life or if you are convicted of making meth while on public housing property.[64]

Many public housing and private rental 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**.[65] Some applications may ask about juvenile adjudications or probation, and you may need to answer "Yes" to these questions if your juvenile record has not been sealed or expunged. Each housing application is different, so you should read the questions carefully.

If you were adjudicated of certain offenses (as referenced in Question 1), your juvenile record is available to the public and may show up on a background check run by the local public housing authority or private rental company or landlord.[66] 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 for more information about what juvenile records are available to the public.

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

Generally, you do not need to talk about your juvenile record if your record is sealed or expunged. Getting your juvenile record sealed or expunged allows you to deny the offense ever happened and would prevent it from showing up on most background checks.[67]

You may be able to challenge a housing authority's decision to evict you or deny your housing application. Housing authorities are required to give you a hearing if you are denied housing or evicted for illegal activity.[68]

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

OTHER CONSEQUENCES

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

As part of your disposition or outcome of your case, the juvenile court judge may require you to pay a fine or restitution (an order to pay someone back for damage caused or property taken).[69] If you are unable to pay the fine or restitution, you can ask the judge to allow you to satisfy these payments through community service or a work program.[70]

If you don't pay court ordered fines or restitution, money can be taken out of your paycheck or tax return. Unpaid fines or restitution can also 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.

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

If you were adjudicated of an offense that would constitute a crime or certain disorderly persons offenses, you probably had to provide a DNA sample.[71] Your DNA sample is stored in the state DNA databank and can be used for law enforcement investigation and identification purposes.[72] The state can share your DNA record with other state and federal law enforcement.[73] Your DNA record may be expunged if the charges against you did not result in an adjudication or if your juvenile case is reversed on appeal and then dismissed.[74]

15. Do I have to register on the sex offender registry if I have a sex offense on my juvenile record?

Yes. If you are adjudicated of certain sex offenses, you will be required to register on the sex offender registry.[75]

The New Jersey Sex Offender Registry has three categories.

- If you are assigned Tier 1, your registration information will only be shared with local law enforcement.[76]
- If you are assigned Tier 2, your registration information will be available to local law enforcement, schools, licensed day care centers, summer camps, and registered community organizations.[77] However, if the judge determined that your conduct was a "pattern of repetitive, compulsive behavior," your information may be publicly available on the internet.[78]
- If you are assigned Tier 3, your registration information will be available to the public, including on the New Jersey Sex Offender Internet Registry.[79]

Your registration information includes your name, aliases, description, photograph, address, place of employment or school, vehicle and license plate information, a brief description of the offense, and the Tier level assigned.[80] If you move, you must notify law enforcement and update your information at least 10 days before you move.[81] If you change schools or employers, you must notify law enforcement at least 5 days before the change.[82]

> "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."

After 15 years from your adjudication or release from placement, you can file a request with the Superior Court to terminate your obligation to register.[83] You cannot have committed another offense in those 15 years and must convince the judge that you do not pose a threat to others.[84] If you were under 14 years old at the time of the offense, you can file a request with the court to terminate your obligation to register after you turn 18.[85] You will need to convince the judge that you do not pose a threat to others.[86]

If you have any questions about sex offender registration or removing your name and information from the registry, 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 office.

16. Can I get or keep my driver's license or state ID if I have a juvenile record?

Maybe. The juvenile court judge *could* suspend or take away your driver's license for up to two years if you used a vehicle during an offense for which you were adjudicated.[87] The judge *must* suspend or take away your driver's license for at least six months, but not more than two years, if you were adjudicated of a drug-related offense, unless the judge found that this would cause "extreme hardship."[88]

If you do not yet have a license, the suspension will begin when you become eligible to drive. You will have to pay a reinstatement fee of $100 before the suspension is lifted.[89]

You may be able to request early reinstatement of your driver's license.[90] If you have questions about your driver's license or if you want help 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 office.

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

Yes. Your juvenile record will not impact your right to vote.[91]

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.[92]

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, you are not allowed to purchase or possess a firearm if you are under 18 years old.[93] You may not be allowed to purchase or carry a gun at all if you were adjudicated of an offense that would have been a crime if committed by an adult and the offense involved the unlawful use or possession of a weapon.[94]

Resources

Local Public Defender Offices

Most counties have either a public defender office and/or individual attorneys that provide legal representation to all young people who cannot afford an attorney and are accused of breaking the law in New Jersey. Your local public defender's office or the attorneys who provide juvenile defense services in your county can help you understand the eligibility requirements and process for sealing and expunging your juvenile record, and may be able to represent you in the matter. To find the contact information for the public defender office in your county, visit www.state.nj.us/defender/regional.

Legal Aid Offices in New Jersey

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 with juvenile record sealing and expungement. Legal Services for New Jersey created an online toolkit to help you figure out if you are eligible for expungement; you can find the toolkit at www.lsnjlaw.org/Pages/Expunge.aspx. To get legal help, you can apply by phone at 888-576-5529 between 8am and 5:30pm Monday – Friday. You can also apply online at https://lsnjlawhotline.org/. To find a legal aid office in your area, visit www.lsnj.org/LegalServicesOffices.aspx.

Rutgers Children's Justice Clinic

The Rutgers Children's Justice Clinic provides post-disposition representation and assistance with sealing and expungement. The Clinic is located at Rutgers Law School in Camden. For help, call 856-225-6646.

Rutgers Criminal and Youth Justice Clinic

The Rutgers Criminal and Youth Justice Clinic may be able to help you with sealing, expungement, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), parole revocation hearings, and youth registry advocacy around tiering and removal from the sex offender registry. The Clinic is located at Rutgers Law School in Newark. For help, call 973-353-5576. For more information, visit www.rutgershelpsnj.org/organization.527766-Criminal_and_Youth_Justice_Clinic_Rutgers_U_School_of_LawNewark.

Education Law Center (ELC)

The Education Law Center works to improve school funding equity and secure essential resources for all students. They are able to take on a limited number of education-related cases. If you contact them for help and they are unable to represent you, they will provide you with information and referrals to other organizations that may be able to help. ELC created a toolkit for students, families, and advocates to provide information about students' rights in disciplinary proceedings. You can find the guide at www.edlawcenter.org/assets/files/pdfs/publications/Student_discipline_manual.pdf. To get legal help, call 973-624-1815 ext. 30. For more information, visit www.edlawcenter.org.

Disability Rights New Jersey

Disability Rights New Jersey is a non-profit corporation with a mission to advocate for the human, civil, and legal rights of people with disabilities in New Jersey. They can assist students with developmental disabilities receive proper special education services. For help, call 800-922-7233 between 9am and 5pm, Monday through Friday. You can also apply for assistance online at www.drnj.org/onlineintakeform.htm. For more information, visit www.drnj.org.

National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC)

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.

IMMIGRATION

American Friends Service Committee – Immigrant Rights Program

The Immigrant Rights Program provides legal representation and advocacy for immigrants throughout New Jersey. They represent immigrants who are in detention, facing deportation, seeking to reunite with families, or in need of protection. For questions related to family immigration, citizenship, asylum, Violence Against Women Act, U Visa, deportation defense, temporary protected status (TPS), and detention, you can call their hotline at 973-643-1924

on Tuesdays from 2-4pm. Their office is located at 89 Market Street, 6th Floor in Newark. For legal assistance, call 973-643-8924. For more information, visit www.afsc.org/program/immigrant-rights-program-newark-nj.

The Bishop Francis Center for Legal Immigration Services

The Bishop Francis Center for Legal Immigration services provides assistance to clients with immigration needs by providing low-cost and free legal aid in all phases of immigration and naturalization proceedings, including representation in removal proceedings before the Immigration Court and assistance in any matter involving immigration and citizenship. They also provide legal assistance to immigrant detainees at the Essex County Detention facility in Newark and the Hudson County Detention facility in Kearny. Their consultation fee is $60. They are located at 976 Broad Street in Newark. For help, call 973-733-3516 or attend one of their intake sessions on Tuesdays from 9-11am or Thursdays from 3-5pm. For more information, visit www.ccannj.com/refugee_immigration.php.

Camden Center for Law & Social Justice (CCLSJ)

The Camden Center for Law & Social Justice provides low-cost immigration services for those unable to afford a private attorney. They can assist with Family immigration petitions for relatives, citizenship, asylum, work authorization, temporary protected status (TPS), suspension of deportation, cancellation of removal, immigration court cases, Violence Against Women Act, U Visa, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), and affidavits of support. Their consultation fee is $30. Their Camden office is located at 126 N. Broadway, 2nd Floor. Their Atlantic City office is located at 9 N. Georgia Avenue. Their Bridgeton office is located at 312 N. Pearl Street. For help, call 856-583-2950. For more information, visit http://camdenlawandjustice.org/immigration-services.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Camden

The Catholic Charities, Diocese of Camden, provides low-cost immigration services for those unable to afford a private attorney. They can assist with initial consultation and counseling, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), immigration visa petitions for relatives, naturalization, citizenship, adjustment of status, replacement of green card, travel documentation, asylum, work permits, and visas. Their Camden office is located at 1845 Haddon Avenue. Their Atlantic City office is located at 9 N. Georgia Avenue. Their Rio Grande office is located at 1304 Rt. 47 South, Unit C1.

Their Vineland office is located at 810 E Montrose Street. Their Westville office is located at 1200 N. Delsea Drive, Suite 1. Their Penns Grove office is located at 114 State Street. For help, call 856-342-4167. For more information, visit http://catholiccharitiescamden.org/refugee-immigration/immigration-services.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen

The Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, provides immigration services to individuals and families, including consultation and representation. They can assist with naturalization, citizenship, permanent resident, family petitions, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), temporary protected status (TPS), U Visas, Violence Against Women Act, and other immigration issues. You can make an individual appointment by calling 732-324-8200 or attend one of their walk-in sessions. Walk-in sessions are held on the second Friday of every month at 9am at the Maple Street Family Service Center, 319 Maple Street, in Perth Amboy. Their New Brunswick office is located at 56 Throop Avenue. Their Phillipsburg office is located at 700 Sayre Avenue. For more information, visit www.ccdom.org/middlesex-immigration.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton

The Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton, provides legal assistance, citizenship classes, and education for immigrants in Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth, and Ocean Counties. They can help complete immigration petitions and translate documents in addition to immigration information and referrals. Their Trenton office is located at 327 South Broad Street and can be reached at 609-394-2056. Their Lakewood office is located at 200 Monmouth Avenue and can be reached at 732-363-5322 ext 3236. For more information, visit www.catholiccharitiestrenton.org/services/immigration-human-trafficking.

El Centro Hispanoamericano

El Centro Hispanoamericano provides counseling and representation to low-income immigrants before the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), in Immigration Court, and in appeals covering matters such as political asylum, cancellation of removal, temporary protected status (TPS), naturalization, Violence Against Women Act petitions, U and T Visas, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), work authorizations, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS),

and permanent residence. They primarily serve the Spanish-speaking community in the central New Jersey region. They are located at 525 East Front Street in Plainfield. For help, call 908-753-8730. For more information, visit http://elcentronj.org.

The Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (LALDEF)

The Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund provides low-cost legal services related to citizenship, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), adjustment of status through an immediate relative petition, renewals of green cards and work permits, temporary protected status (TPS), and petitions for victims of domestic violence and crime. They cannot assist with employment-based visas or represent individuals in detention or deportation proceedings. They are located at 714-716 S Clinton Avenue in Trenton and have drop-in consultations on Fridays from 1-7pm. You can call 609-688-0881 to make an appointment for other times. The consultation fee is $35, which can be waived for those who are unable to pay. Their website also has a summary of immigrant rights, which you can find at https://laldef.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/PROTECT-YOUR-RIGHTS-last.pdf. For more information, visit https://laldef.org/legal-services.

HOUSING

Anchor House - Trenton

Anchor House provides shelter, food, clothing, counseling, medical attention, transitional and supportive housing, and employment and educational services for young people between 12 and 21 years old. They are located at 480-482 Centre Street in Trenton. For help, call 609-396-8329. For more information, visit www.anchorhousenj.org.

Covenant House New Jersey

Covenant House New Jersey serves young people up to age 24 years old. They provide food, shelter, clothing, transportation, crisis care, supportive housing, and many other supportive services. They have a crisis center in Newark (973-621-8705) and one in Atlantic City (609-348-4070). Rights of Passage is a supportive housing program that has a location in Newark (973-482-9405) and one in Atlantic City (609-348-1421). Nancy's Place is

a supportive housing program located in Montclair (973-744-8175) that focuses on assisting young people with mental health issues. Raphael's Life House is a mother-child program, created to help pregnant young women, and is located in Elizabeth (908-354-4750). The Covenant House Youth Advocacy Center attorneys represent their young people in civil legal matters, including immigration, housing, public benefits, obtaining identification, emancipation, and are advocates for youth in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. For more information, call 973-621-8705 or visit https://nj.covenanthouse.org.

LGBT Rain Foundation – Essex County

LGBT Rain Foundation provides emergency shelter services to address the emergent need of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) individuals experiencing crisis leading to homelessness. For help, call 973-675-6780. For more information, visit http://essexlgbthousing.org/.

Triad House – Trenton

The Triad House provides a 24-hour residential group home for young people between 16 and 21 years old with emotional, medical, and behavioral challenges. They offer counseling, independent living skills training, substance abuse assessment and referrals, educational planning, job readiness training, tutoring, and aftercare. For help, call 877-652-7624. For more information, visit www.lifeties.org/programs/triad-house.

Ocean's Harbor House – Toms River

Ocean's Harbor House provides shelter, food, clothing, counseling, health care referrals, transitional and supportive housing, and employment and education services for young people between 10 and 21 years old. Their emergency youth shelter is located at 2445 Windsor Avenue in Toms River. For help, call 732-929-0660. For more information, visit www.oceansharborhouse.org.

Visions and Pathways - Bridgewater

Visions and Pathways provides shelter, food, clothing, counseling, health care, transportation, and employment and educational services for young people between 13 and 21 years old. They are located at 49 Brahma House in Bridgewater. For help, call 908-526-6605. For more information, visit https://visionsandpathways.org.

Hudson Pride – YouthConnect – Jersey City

YouthConnect provides an engaging group for LGBTQ youth and young adults between 13 and 24 years old. They offer fun events, empowerment workshops, job development assistance, tutoring, meals, a social support group, HIV testing and prevention education, drop-in center, and more. Their weekly meetings take place on Fridays from 6-8pm. They are located at 176 Palisade Avenue in Jersey City. For more information, visit www.hudsonpride.org/social.

Kaleidoscope

Kaleidoscope is a community-based Gay-Straight Alliance that offers monthly student-led meetings in a safe, supportive environment for LGBT and allied teens to gather, socialize, organize, and help each other. Meetings are held the first Saturday of each month from 1-3pm at Tiki Tiki Board Games in Woodbury and the third Saturday of each month from 2-4pm at the Cherry Hill Public Library. For more information, visit https://www.centerffs.org/our-services/community-connections/kaleidoscope.

New Jersey Next Stop

New Jersey Next Stop is a state-sponsored website that seeks to help teens, parents, and counselors learn more about career interests, career options, and the world of work. It provides information about industries, occupations, and skills that are in demand in New Jersey. For more information, visit www.njnextstop.org/.

PerformCare

PerformCare partners with the New Jersey System of Care to coordinate the mental health care for children and teens. They help young people with behavioral, mental health, substance abuse treatment, or emotional challenges access the services the young people need. If you are experiencing a behavioral health crisis, call 877-652-7624. For more information, visit http://www.performcarenj.org/youth/index.aspx. You can also find more information about the New Jersey Children's System of Care at www.state.nj.us/dcf/families/csc/.

Endnotes

[1] *See* N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-48 (West 1983).
[2] N.J. STAT. ANN. §§ 2C:52-1 (West 1979), 2C:52-15 (West 2018), 2C:52-27 (West 2016).
[3] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-62(a), (d) (West 1994).
[4] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-31(c) (West 1983).
[5] *See* N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-48 (West 1983).
[6] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-31(c) (West 1983).
[7] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-60(f) (West 2010).
[8] *Id.*
[9] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-60(a) (West 2010).
[10] *Id.*
[11] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-60(a)(3) (West 2010).
[12] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-60(a)(6) (West 2010).
[13] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-60(f) (West 2010).
[14] *Id.*
[15] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-60(d)-(e) (West 2010).
[16] N.J. STAT. ANN. §§ 2A:4A-43(b)(17) (West 2012), 2A:4A:43.3 (West 1995), 2C:35-16(b) (West 2008).
[17] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-62(d) (West 1994).
[18] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-1 (West 1979).
[19] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-62(a)(1) (West 1994).
[20] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-62(a)(2) (West 1994).
[21] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-62(e) (West 1994).
[22] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2A:4A-62(d) (West 1994).
[23] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-1 (West 1979).
[24] N.J. STAT. ANN. §§ 2C:52-2(a) (West 2018), 2C:52-3(a) (West 2018), 2C:52-4 (West 1979).
[25] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-1 (West 1979).
[26] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-27 (West 2016).
[27] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-6(a) (West 2017).
[28] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-6(d) (West 2017).
[29] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-4.1(b)(1) (West 2018).
[30] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-4.1(b)(2) (West 2018).
[31] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-4.1(b)(3)-(5) (West 2018).
[32] N.J. STAT. ANN. § 2C:52-2(b) (West 2018) (offenses not eligible for expungement include criminal homicide, robbery, criminal sexual contact, arson and crimes related to arson, kidnapping, sexual assault, false imprisonment, numerous sex offenses, and terrorism).
[33] N.J. STAT. ANN. §§ 2C:52-4.1(a) (West 2018), 2C:52-2 (West 2018), 2C:52-3 (West 2018), 2C:52-4 (West 1979).
[34] N.J. STAT. ANN. §§ 2C:52-4.1(b)(3) (West 2018), 2C:52-2(b) (West 2018).

[35] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:52-29 (West 1979).
[36] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:52-6(b) (West 2017).
[37] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-44(a)(1)(d) (West 2016). *See also* N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 2A:4A-48 (West 1983), 2C:44-1(a)(6) (West 2017); State v. Pindale, 592 A.2d 300, 312 (N.J. Super. Ct. App. Div. 1991) (holding that court could lawfully consider defendant's prior juvenile record in determining sentence in adult criminal case).
[38] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-26.1(c)(3)(g) (West 2016).
[39] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-60(d)(1)-(2) (West 2010).
[40] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-60(d)(3) (West 2010).
[41] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-60(d), (c)(3) (West 2010).
[42] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-60(e) (West 2010).
[43] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:37-2 (West 2011); N.J. Admin. Code § 6A:16-7.5(a) (2014).
[44] N.J. Admin. Code §§ 6A:16-7.2(a)(5)(i) (2014), 6A:16-7.3(a)(9)(i) (2014).
[45] N.J. Admin. Code § 6A:16-7.2(a)(2), (3) (2014).
[46] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:37-4 (West 1968); N.J. Admin. Code § 6A:16-7.2(b) (2014).
[47] N.J. Admin. Code § 6A:16-7.3(a)(1), (2) (2014).
[48] N.J. Admin. Code § 6A:16-7.3(a)(5) (2014).
[49] N.J. Admin. Code §§ 6A:3-1.9 (2005), 6A:16-7.2(c) (2014), 6A:16-7.3(a)(11) (2014); N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:37-2.4 (West 1995).
[50] *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-48 (West 1983).
[51] 20 U.S.C.A. § 1091(r) (West 2015); *Students with Criminal Convictions Have Limited Eligibility for Federal Student Aid*, Fed. Student Aid, www.studentaid.ed.gov/node/55 (last visited Nov. 20, 2018).
[52] *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-48 (West 1983).
[53] *See id.*
[54] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-60(f) (West 2010). As defined in Question 1 of this guide, "serious offense" includes a crime of the first, second, or third degree; aggravated assault; or destruction or damage to property worth more than $500.
[55] N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 2C:52-27 (West 2016), 2A:4A-62(d) (West 1994).
[56] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:52-27(c) (West 2016).
[57] *See generally* 32 C.F.R. § 66.6 (West 2016) (listing the military's basic enlistment rules).
[58] 32 C.F.R. § 66.6(8)(iii) (West 2016).
[59] *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).
[60] 8 U.S.C.A. §§ 1227(a)(2) (West 2008), 1182(a)(2) (West 2013).
[61] Immigrant Legal Res. Ctr., Living in the United States: A Guide for Immigrant Youth (2015), www.ilrc.org/sites/default/files/documents/youth_handbook-2015-06_05-en.pdf.
[62] *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-48 (West 1983).
[63] 24 C.F.R. § 966.4(l)(5)(i)(B), (l)(5)(iii) (West 2017).
[64] 24 C.F.R. §§ 982.553(a)(1)(ii)(C)-(a)(2)(i) (West 2016), 960.204(a)(3)-(4) (West 2017).
[65] *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-48 (West 1983).

[66] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-60(f) (West 2010). As defined in Question 1 of this guide, "serious offense" includes a crime of the first, second, or third degree; aggravated assault; or destruction or damage to property worth more than $500.
[67] N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 2C:52-27 (West 2016), 2A:4A-62(d) (West 1994).
[68] 42 U.S.C.A. § 1437d(k) (West 2013).
[69] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-43(b)(8)-(9) (West 2012).
[70] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-43(b)(8)-(10) (West 2012).
[71] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 53:1-20.20(h) (West 2017).
[72] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 53:1-20.21 (West 2003).
[73] N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 53:1-20.21 (West 2003), 53:1-20.24(a) (West 1994).
[74] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 53:1-20.25(a)(2) (West 2013).
[75] *New Jersey Sex Offender Internet Registry*, N.J. State Police, https://www.njsp.org/sex-offender-registry/faqs.shtml (last visited Nov. 20, 2018). *See also* N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 2C:7-2(a)(1), (b)(4) (West 2018), 2C:7-13 (West 2014).
[76] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:7-8(c)(1) (West 1994).
[77] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:7-8(c)(2) (West 1994).
[78] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:7-13(b)(2) (West 2014).
[79] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:7-8(c)(3) (West 1994).
[80] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:7-13(g) (West 2014); *New Jersey Sex Offender Internet Registry*, N.J. State Police, https://www.njsp.org/sex-offender-registry/faqs.shtml (last visited Nov. 20, 2018).
[81] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:7-2(d)(1) (West 2018).
[82] *Id.*
[83] *New Jersey Sex Offender Internet Registry*, N.J. State Police, https://www.njsp.org/sex-offender-registry/faqs.shtml (last visited Nov. 20, 2018).
[84] *Id.*
[85] *In re* J.G., 777 A.2d 891, 911-12 (N.J. 2001); *See also New Jersey Sex Offender Internet Registry*, N.J. State Police, https://www.njsp.org/sex-offender-registry/faqs.shtml (last visited Nov. 20, 2018).
[86] *In re* J.G., 777 A.2d 891, 911-12 (N.J. 2001).
[87] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2A:4A-43(b)(17) (West 2012).
[88] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:35-16(a) (West 2008).
[89] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 39:3-10a (West 2008).
[90] *See* N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:35-16(d) (West 2008).
[91] N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 19:4-1(6)-(8) (West 2010), 2C:51-3(a) (West 1979).
[92] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:51-3(b) (West 1979).
[93] N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 2C:58-3(c)(4) (West 2018), 2C:58-4(c) (West 2018).
[94] N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:58-3(c)(7) (West 2018).

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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.

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