

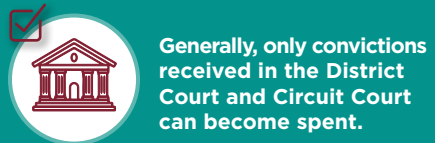
# Information on: Spent Convictions

Committing even a minor crime can result in a criminal conviction. Having a criminal record can be an obstacle when it comes to work, education, insurance, travel and even volunteering. However, some convictions are not disclosed on your record after a certain period of time.

## Convictions for offences committed aged 18 or over

Since April 2016, certain convictions are not disclosed on your record after 7 years. These are called 'spent convictions'. They include convictions for public order and minor motoring offences.

There are a few conditions that must be met:



It applies to: fines, community service, probation orders, prison sentences of up to 12 months and suspended sentences of up to 24 months, as long as they were complied with.



No limit

## Information on: Spent Convictions

When it comes to convictions for other offences, such as theft, minor drug possession or dangerous driving, only one conviction can become spent. If you have two or more of these convictions (other than offences committed at the same time or in the same event and dealt with by the Court on the same day), then none of them can ever become spent.



Eligible convictions will be taken off your record automatically, and employers cannot ask you to tell them about any that have become spent. But you may still be asked to disclose these convictions if you are applying for citizenship, certain areas of work, certain licenses or for emigration reasons.

**Different conditions apply for Garda Vetting.**

**Different rules apply for offences committed when a person was aged under 18.**

### Find out more:

The information presented here is not exhaustive. A number of exclusions and exceptions apply. For example, convictions for fraudulent claims must continue to be disclosed when applying for insurance.

This information is general guidance and not legal advice. It is important to check whether your convictions are eligible to become spent under the law.

For more information on the relevant laws, see:

- Criminal Justice (Spent Convictions and Certain Disclosures Act) 2016  
<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2016/act/4/enacted/en/html>
- National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012  
<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2012/act/47/enacted/en/html>
- Children Act 2001  
<http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2001/act/24/enacted/en/html> (Section 258)

For more information on Garda vetting, visit: <https://vetting.garda.ie/>

For more information on spent convictions, visit: [www.iprt.ie/spent-convictions](http://www.iprt.ie/spent-convictions)