



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
LANSING

## **Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Clean Slate to Drive initiative**

As of Oct. 1, 2021, due to a change in state law, driver's license suspensions will be lifted if they were issued for failing to pay tickets or court fines or failing to appear in court for certain violations (a list of the violations follows).

Below are answers to frequently asked questions regarding this law change and how it will impact drivers who have qualifying violations on their driving record.

### **1. What violations are covered by the change in the law?**

The law will impact driver licenses suspended due to failing to comply with judgment (FCJ), such as failing to pay a ticket, or failing to appear in court (FAC) for the following violations:

- Open Intoxicants in Vehicle
- Open Intoxicants in Vehicle (Passenger)
- Person Under 21 Transport/Possess in Vehicle
- Person Under 21 Transport/Possess in Vehicle (Passenger)
- MIP (Person Under 21 Purchase/Consume/Possess Liquor)
- Failure to Comply with Civil Infraction
- Person Under 21 Used Fraudulent ID to Purchase Liquor
- Sold/Furnished Alcoholic Liquor to a Person Under 21
- MIP (Person Under 21 Purchase/Consume/Possess Liquor)
- Felonious Driving
- Controlled Substance
- False Report or Threat of Bomb/Harmful Device (School)
- Holds placed on licenses for unpaid parking tickets will also be lifted

### **2. Am I eligible to have suspensions removed from my record under the new law?**

If you are impacted by this change, you will receive a letter from the Michigan Department of State to the address listed on your driving record in early October. The letter will outline that you are eligible to have FCJ/FAC suspensions and/or holds due to failing to comply with a parking violation (FCPV) and failing to comply with a disability parking violation (FCDV) cleared from your record. It will also state whether you need to take additional action before your driving privileges will be restored.

The letters will fall into three categories:

- For drivers whose driving privileges will be reinstated: Eligible FCJ/FAC suspensions have been cleared from your driving record, and there are no other open actions or fines that restrict, suspend, or revoke your driving privileges.
- For drivers whose driving privileges won't be reinstated due to additional violations not covered under the law: Eligible FCJ/FAC suspensions have been cleared from your license; however, you *aren't* able to have your license reinstated because your license has been restricted, suspended, or revoked due to another violation. These actions, court costs, fines, or reinstatement fees must be resolved before your driving privileges can be restored.
- For drivers with parking and disability parking holds on their driving record: Qualifying parking holds have been cleared from your driving record, and your driver's license is now eligible to be renewed as long as there are no other actions, court costs, fines, or reinstatement fees that would prevent you from renewing your license.

You can purchase a copy of your driving record through your MDOS online account.

**3. Will I still owe any fees or fines after suspensions are cleared from my record?**

You are still responsible for any court costs, ticket fees, or other financial obligations resulting from the original citation.

FCJ/FAC suspensions that *aren't* eligible to be cleared will remain on your record, and you are responsible for any reinstatement fees, fines or other actions related to the original violation. Please follow up with the appropriate court that handled the case if you have any questions about fees and fines.

**4. Will my driving privileges and license be reinstated after the FCJ/FAC suspensions are cleared from my record?**

The reinstatement of your license depends on whether there are any other licensing violations, sanctions, or holds on your driving record that prohibit the restoration of your license. Those with violations, fines, and reinstatement fees that aren't addressed by these new laws will need to be resolved before your driving privileges and license may be restored.

**5. Will the FCJ/FAC suspensions be removed from my driving record altogether?**

Even though the qualifying FCJ/FAC suspensions will be marked as cleared and will no longer be in effect, they will still appear as entries on your driving record.

**6. How can I get a copy of my driving record?**

To obtain your driving record, please visit [Michigan.gov/SOS](https://Michigan.gov/SOS) and select [Online](#)

[Services](#). On this page, locate the panel titled [Driver's License and ID](#) and select the [More Driver Services](#) link. Then, follow the prompts to [create](#) or [log into](#) your account.

Once you are past the MiLogin screen, pull up your profile page in online services and select Request Driving Record from the menu to the right side of the page. Please follow the prompts to purchase your record.

After submitting your payment information, you will see a screen summarizing your transaction and providing the option to print your receipt and view transaction documents. Select the View Transaction Documents button to access your driving record (ignore the button labeled "Request Driving Record" – this will take you back to the beginning of the transaction).

**Please note: The link for your electronic driving record is only accessible for seven days.** During the seven-day period, you may view your driving record as many times as you need to. Log into your account and choose the option to View Transaction History to access it. We recommend you save your driving record to your computer, laptop, tablet, or phone so that you may conveniently view it at any time.

#### **7. Where can I go for additional information or help?**

The Department of State will be hosting information sessions and virtual clinics in the coming weeks for drivers with questions. Please continue to visit this web page for updates and more information.

Additional resources and help are available through the following local and state organizations. **Please make sure to have a copy of your driving record available when contacting these agencies for assistance.**

- [Michigan Legal Help](#) at [MichiganLegalHelp.org](#).
- Counsel and Advocacy Law Line: (888) 783-8190
- [Legal Aid and Defender Association](#): (313) 967-5800 or (877) 964-4700