

## Early Termination of Felony Probation

Georgia has both the highest rate of people on probation and the longest probation sentences in the country – by far. People are often kept on probation long after they have found success and stability. Recognizing this, a law called SB 105 took effect July 1, 2021 to make it easier for people to end probation early. **Over 20,000 people have gotten their probation terminated early because of this law.** If you are serving a felony probation sentence, read below to learn more about how you can pursue early termination, too. More info is also at [GJP.org/probation](http://GJP.org/probation).

### **Are you on felony probation? Have you served at least 3 years of your probation sentence?**

If so, you may be eligible for early termination of your probation!

#### **Do you meet the following criteria?**

1. No new arrests (besides non-serious traffic offenses)
2. No probation revocation in the past 24 months
3. Paid all restitution (not including fines and fees)

### **If you have served at least 3 years of your felony probation sentence and meet the above criteria, you are eligible for early termination of your probation sentence!**

If you meet the criteria above, here's what to expect:

- Your probation officer may submit a petition to terminate your probation to the court that sentenced you.
- The Court must grant the petition to terminate your probation unless the prosecutor or the Judge requests a hearing within 30 days.
- If a hearing is requested, it will be scheduled within 90 days of the court receiving the petition to terminate.
  - At the hearing, you will be able to present to the Judge why you should no longer be on probation.
  - If a hearing is requested, it will still be the Judge's decision whether to terminate your probation early.

#### **What should you do if you are eligible for early termination?**

- If you meet the above criteria, call the DCS Call Center at 678-783-4337 or contact your [probation officer](http://probation officer) and request early termination. More info on what to say when you call is at [GJP.org/probation](http://GJP.org/probation).
- If you are still experiencing issues requesting early termination, reach out to DCS directly at [early.termination@dcs.ga.gov](mailto:early.termination@dcs.ga.gov).

#### **Georgia Justice Project (GJP) may be able to help you.**

Reach out to GJP if:

- Your petition to terminate was submitted and you are now scheduled for a hearing.
- You believe you are eligible for early termination, and you contacted your probation officer, but your probation officer is not submitting a petition to terminate on your behalf.
- Your probation officer submitted a petition to terminate but it has been 30 days, the Court has not granted the petition to terminate, *and* you have not been scheduled for a hearing.

***Think you may qualify? Go to [GJP.org/probation](http://GJP.org/probation) to learn more.  
Questions? Call 404.827.0027 option 6 or email [probation@GJP.org](mailto:probation@GJP.org).***