

Juvenile Sex Offender Registration

This survey researched sex offender registration for juveniles in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia (DC). Of these 51 jurisdictions, 11 do not have requirements for juvenile registration.¹

States with Juvenile Sex Offender Registration

The remaining 40 jurisdictions either require juvenile registration in all cases, have discretionary processes for ordering juvenile registration, or require registration only for certain crimes. 18 states require juvenile registration for sex offenses.² Six states, however, require registration only for certain ages.³ 11 states allow the judge or presiding board the discretion to determine whether a juvenile offender must register.⁴ 13 states require juvenile registration only for certain sex offenses.⁵

Duration of Registration Requirements

Among the jurisdictions that have some form of juvenile registration for sex offenses, the duration of the registration requirements vary widely across and even within states, depending on the seriousness of the crime. 4 states require lifetime registration in all cases⁶ while 8 states only require lifetime registration in cases of a serious offense.⁷ The next section lists states that allow offenders to petition for relief from this requirement after a certain amount of time has elapsed.

<i>Reg. Req. Length</i>	2 years	5 years	7 years	10 years
	IL (depending on offense)	IL (depending on offense), KS (or until 18 yo, whichever comes later)	CO (or until 25 yo, whichever comes later)	AL, AR (or until 21 yo, whichever comes later), IN, IA, MN (or for term of probation), RI, SD, TX (depending on crime), UT

¹ AZ, CT, DC, GA, HI, KY, ME, NM, NY, VT, WV.

² AL, CO, ID, IL, MD, MI, MN, MN, NH, NJ, OH, OK, RI, SC, TX, WA, WI, WY.

³ ID (14-18 years old), MD (at least 14 years old), MI (at least 14 years old), MS (at least 14 years old), OH (14-17 years old), OK (between 14-18 years old).

⁴ AL, AR (for certain crimes), IN (if at least 14 years old and deemed a likely repeat offender); KS (depending on age and crime); MA (for certain crimes); MT, NC (if at least 11 years old and committed certain offenses), ND, OR (for non-felony sex crimes), PA (for certain crimes), VA (for certain crimes).

⁵ CA, DE (if at least 14 years old), IA (if at least 14 years old and serious crime, but court can waive), KS (if at least 14 years old and committed sexually violent crime), LA, MO (if at least 14 years old), NV (if at least 14 years old); OR (felony sex crimes), SD (if at least 14 years old and convicted of rape), TN (for violent sexual offense), UT, VA.

⁶ MT, SC, VA, WY.

⁷ AL, IN, IA, MA, PA, RI, TN, TX.

<i>Req. Reg. Length</i>	15 years	20 years	Life
	NJ (minimum, can petition after), WI	MA (depending on offense)	AL (certain crimes and over 14 yo), IN (for SVP), IA (for certain crimes), MA (for certain crimes), MT, PA (for sexual violence), RI (for sexual violence, repeat offense), SC, TN (if over 14yo and sexual violence), TX (for certain crimes), VA, WY

10 states terminate registration requirements when the juvenile offender reaches a certain age.⁸ 4 of these states,⁹ however, either leave it to the discretion of the court to determine whether to relieve aged-out offenders of requirements, or allow the prosecutor to petition to maintain registration requirements. 9 states¹⁰ apply the same tiered system to duration of registration requirements as they do to adult offenders. Of these states, most use a three-tiered approach: 15 years, 25 years, or for life.

Off-Ramps for Relieving Registration Requirements

Of the states that have some system of juvenile sex offender registration, 11 do not have any process for registrants to petition for early relief from registration requirements.¹¹ Of the remaining 29 states, the process of requesting an early off-ramp depends on the age of the offender, the offense committed, and/or how much time has passed since the conviction.

8 states do not specify a time period that juvenile offenders must wait for before filing a petition for relief.¹² 20 states require a certain amount of time, ranging from 2 to 25 years, to elapse before an offender can seek relief.¹³ One state, Louisiana, allows only some offenders to petition to shorten their 15-year or lifetime registration requirements.

⁸ AZ (at 25 years old), AR (at 21 years old, or after 10 years of registration, whichever comes later), CO (at 25 years old, or 7 years of registration, whichever comes later), AL (at 21 years old), KS (at 18 years old, if under 14 years old when convicted, or committed less serious offense), MD (at 21 years old), NV (at 21 years old), NH (at 17 years old), NC (at 18 years old), OK (at 21 years old).

⁹ AL (allows prosecutor to file petition to subject offender to adult registration requirements), NV (at court's discretion), NH (at court's discretion), OK (allows district attorney to file petition to maintain registration).

¹⁰ CA (5/10 years), DE (15/25/life), LA (15/25/life), MI (15/25/life), MS (15/25/life), MO (15/25/life), ND (15/25/life), ND (15/25/life), OH (15/25/life), WA (10/15/life).

¹¹ CT, ID, KS, MD, MN, NV, NH, NC, OK, RI, SC.

¹² AZ, AR, CO (if convicted younger than 18 years old and not for a sexually violent crime), DE (unless subject to mandatory registration), FL (only for certain offenses), IA (only for certain offenses), MI (depending on age of offender and victim), TX.

¹³ AL (lifetime registrants may petition after 25 years), CA (may petition after serving mandated minimum), IL (after 2 or 5 years, depending on offense), IN (after 10 years for non-serious offense), MA (after 10 years), MS (after 25 years for certain crimes), MO (after 10 or 25 years, depending on seriousness of offense), MT (10 or 25 years, depending on seriousness of offense),

Not Included in Analysis

To limit the breadth of research, this state survey did not consider any provisions that may have specified different policies for juveniles with out-of-state adjudications or the effects of pardons or expungements on registration requirements. It also did not analyze notification requirements.

NJ (after 15 years), ND (only if the offense was committed before August 1, 1999, and registration is no longer mandatory for offense committed), OH (after 25 years), OR (after 2 years or 1 month, depending on level of offense), PA (after 25 years), SD (after 5 years), TN (after 10 years or 25 years, depending on offense), UT (after 5 years for certain offenses), VA (after 3 or 5 years, depending on offense), WA (after 2 or 5 years, depending on age and crime), WI (after 25 years), WY (after 10 or 25 years, depending on offense).