

In Illinois, a conviction is **NOT** an automatic bar to professional licensure.



The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) licenses more than 1.2 million professionals across more than 100 industries across the Land of Lincoln. A key part of IDFPR’s mission is to **remove barriers of entry** and **ensure that all Illinoisans have a fair opportunity** to work in the professions they’ve trained hard to practice in.

This includes IDFPR **considering mitigating factors** for individuals who have convictions so **they have increased chances of success and the opportunity to earn a livable wage**. In fact, in 2023, **no applicants were denied a license** solely because of a conviction if they responded to requests for more information from IDFPR. As part of the application process, applicants **do not** need to disclose sealed and expunged convictions to IDFPR.

Each licensed profession has a series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that explains if a certain conviction is an automatic bar to licensure. Find your profession’s list by scanning this QR Code (or go to <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/profs/proflist.html>), find the link to your profession’s webpage, and find the “Criminal Conviction FAQs.”



Remember, when disclosing a criminal conviction to IDFPR as part of your licensure application, you may be required to submit additional information before your license can be issued. It is critical you respond to any communications from IDFPR and provide the requested information. Learn more about this process by scanning this QR Code or going to: <https://tinyurl.com/yf6r6stf>

Learn more in our annual report about how criminal convictions alone don’t stand in the way of professional licensure in Illinois by scanning this QR Code or going to: <https://tinyurl.com/9xwx5a69>



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Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation