

EARLY TERMINATION OF PROBATION: SELF-ADVOCACY GUIDE

If you think you are eligible for early termination, call your probation officer:

Contact your probation officer or the probation office in the county where you were sentenced and request early termination if you meet the criteria above (see below for specific questions to ask). Find your office at <https://dcs.georgia.gov/locations/field-office>. Or call DCS at 678-783-4337.

What to say to your probation officer:

"I am reaching out because I believe I am eligible for early termination. I have served 3 years (*or however long you have served on probation if longer than 3 years*) of my probation sentence, I have not had any new arrests since this case, I have not had my probation revoked in the past 24 months, and I have paid all restitution (*or I did not have to pay restitution for my case*). I would like to know if probation has submitted a petition recommending me for early termination."

If probation has submitted a petition: "Could you please tell me when the petition was submitted?"

If probation says you do not qualify: "Could you explain why I do not qualify for early termination?"

If probation says they chose not to submit a petition, even though you qualify: "Could you explain why you chose not to submit a petition? Also, are you submitting progress reports to the court?"

DCS resources to help you:

The Department of Community Supervision (DCS) created a flyer to explain the early termination law. All probation officers in Georgia received this document, and you can use it as a reference when having this conversation with probation about your early termination status. Visit <https://dcs.georgia.gov/strategic-planning-research/interactive-dashboards/research-reports> and click "Early Termination Information Sheet" to access this flyer.

DCS also created an email to respond to early termination of probation questions. Reach out to DCS directly at early.termination@dcs.ga.gov.

Learn more about early termination of probation at GJP.org/Probation.

If you have issues, contact the Department of Community Supervision at early.termination@dcs.ga.gov. You can also send questions to Georgia Justice Project at probation@GJP.org.