

In 2022, Maryland voters passed a referendum decriminalizing cannabis possession. Beginning July 1st, 2023, people 21 years of age and older may possess up to 1.5oz of cannabis. As a result, people with cannabis-related charges may be newly eligible for expungement of their criminal record. As of July 1st, 2023, the following rules will apply to expungement of cannabis cases.

## Convictions for possession

- If you have been convicted of possession of cannabis, and the amount was under 1.5oz, you may be eligible to expunge your case immediately. If the amount was more than 1.5oz, or you were under 21 years old at the time, expungement may be possible “after successful completion of sentence, including probation

## Possession with intent to distribute

- If you have been convicted of CDS Possession with Intent to Distribute, and the only substance involved was cannabis, you may be eligible to expunge the case 3 years after the satisfactory completion of your sentence. That means three years from the last day of incarceration, probation, or parole. Note that if you violated any terms of your sentence, or were convicted of other charges, this may affect eligibility.

## Automatic Expungement

- If you have been convicted of possession of cannabis, and there were no other charges in your case, the courts may automatically expunge your case by July 1, 2024. However, you still retain the right to file an expungement before this date if your case qualifies.

## Partial Expungement

- In a case where you were convicted of cannabis possession and a non-cannabis-related charge, you may be eligible to have the court expunge the cannabis charge even if the other charges are ineligible.

**Even if your case is not eligible for automatic expungement, you may still be eligible to file for an expungement.**

This is not legal advice. Please consult an attorney about your particular situation.

This is not legal advice. To get free legal help visit:

[WWW.MVLSLAW.ORG/APPLY](http://WWW.MVLSLAW.ORG/APPLY)

Or call intake between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. on Monday through Thursday at 1(800) 510-0050 or (410) 547-6537