



MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maine eCourts: Coming to a Court Near You!

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Maine eCourts is the Judicial Branch's new online court case management system, powered by Tyler Technologies' Odyssey software.

What is Maine eCourts?

- A powerful court case management and digital document storage system;
- A web-based tool that allows parties to **electronically file documents (eFile)**, access court documents, and pay court fees and fines online; and
- An online portal to search public court records.

Where is Maine eCourts available?

Maine eCourts is currently available for traffic violation cases in all courts statewide and will expand to include all types of cases in all Maine courts over the next few years.

Which courts will offer eFiling next?

eFiling and other features of Maine eCourts is on track to be available beginning in the **fall of 2020** for some types of cases in Bangor District Court and Penobscot County Superior Court, as well as the Business Consumer Docket statewide. All trial court case types will be available in Penobscot and Piscataquis County courts in **spring 2021**, with additional courts to follow. Criminal and juvenile dockets will be among those cases that will be available in the spring of 2021.

How will Maine eCourts benefit court users?

Maine eCourts will provide attorneys and unrepresented parties with greater access to case records and more convenient ways to manage their cases. Parties and their attorneys will be able to eFile documents, review case files, and search for case-related information from any computer connected to the internet from home or another location.

eFiling and access to public court records through the Maine eCourts portal will make interacting with courts more convenient, more efficient, and easier.

Who will use Maine eCourts eFiling?

When available at your court, eFiling will be **required** for:

- Attorneys;
- State, County and Municipal governmental entities; and
- Parties, such as businesses, who file more than three non-emergency cases per month, unless individually excused by the court.

If I do not have an attorney, do I have to eFile?

Contact accessibility@courts.maine.gov
with requests for disability accommodations.

TTY: Maine Relay 711
www.courts.maine.gov

Contact interpreters@courts.maine.gov
with requests for interpreters.



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- Unrepresented parties will **not be required** to use eFiling, but they will be **supported and encouraged** to eFile if they choose to do so.
- If you do not have an attorney and do not wish to eFile, you will be able to fill out and file paper court forms and documents and receive communications from the court the same way you do today.

Help for eFiling

No matter who you are—a party in a case without an attorney, or an attorney, legal assistant, legal service provider, public sector user, or other court user—there will be support and resources to help with Maine eCourts eFiling.

- **Help at the courthouse** - Public Access Computers (PACs) will be available at courthouses offering eFiling and Maine eCourts portal access to court records. Clerks will be available at the courthouse to help unrepresented parties use the terminals.
- **Online tools for unrepresented parties** - the Maine eCourts “Guide & File” online question and answer tool, designed for unrepresented litigants, will help parties fill out and eFile court forms and documents. Guide & File is currently available for traffic violation cases and will be expanded to include other types of cases.
- **Online and in-person trainings and tutorials** - the Judicial Branch will be offering a variety of hands-on trainings and online tutorials and resources for attorneys and staff, governmental entities, legal service providers, and others interested in learning how to eFile.
- **Technical support and helplines** - The Judicial Branch will offer helplines for users during normal business hours. Offsite technical support will also be provided by Tyler Technologies’ call centers from 8 a.m.- 8 p.m. EST.

Stay tuned for more information about trainings, resources, and other Maine eCourts news.

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The Judicial Branch is Maine’s state court system. Established by the Maine Constitution, it is one of three co-equal branches of state government, comprised of the Supreme Judicial Court, Superior Court, District Court, Family Division, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. Its mission: to administer justice by providing a safe, accessible, efficient, and impartial system of dispute resolution that serves the public interest, protects individual rights, and instills respect for the law. To learn more about the Judicial Branch, visit www.courts.maine.gov.