

Maine Statutes of Limitation (Updated January 2026)

CLAIM	TIME ALLOWED	STATUTE
Assault and Battery	6 years to file suit	14 M.R.S. § 752
Attorney Malpractice		
General	6 years to file suit from act of negligence	14 M.R.S. §§ 752; 753-B(1)
Title opinions	6 years from discovery to file suit, but no more than 20 years from act or omission	14 M.R.S. § 753-B(2)
Drafting of wills	6 years from discovery to file suit	14 M.R.S. § 753-B(3)
Civil Actions Including Personal Injury (Except where otherwise provided)	6 years to file suit Special limitation for proceedings to appoint P.R. of deceased defendant's estate: 1. Recovery of assets of estate – 3 years from date of death 2. Recovery of liability insurance only – up to 6 years from accrual ¹	14 M.R.S. § 752 18-C M.R.S. § 3-108(1)(F)
Contract ²		
General	6 years to file suit	14 M.R.S. § 752
UCC – sale of goods	4 years to file suit	11 M.R.S. § 2-725(1)
	6 years to file suit – personal injuries	11 M.R.S. § 2-725(2)
Defamation: Slander & Libel	2 years to file suit	14 M.R.S. § 753
Design Professionals (Architects and Engineers)	4 years / 10 years to file suit (within 4 years after malpractice or negligence is discovered, but no more than 10 years after substantial completion of the construction contract or the services provided, if there is no construction contract)	14 M.R.S. § 752-A
Discrimination (Maine Human Rights Act)	To file complaint with M.H.R.C.: 300 days from act of discrimination To file suit in court: 2 years from act of discrimination or 90 days (whichever is later) from the date the Commission: (1) dismissed the case under section 4612(2); (2) failed, within 90 days after finding reasonable grounds to believe that unlawful discrimination occurred, to enter into a conciliation agreement to which the plaintiff was a party; (3) issued a right-to-sue letter under section 4612(6); or (4) erroneously dismissed the case.	5 M.R.S. § 4611 5 M.R.S. § 4613(2)(C) 5 M.R.S. § 4622(1)(A)-(D)
False Imprisonment	6 years to file suit per P.L. 2021, ch. 207 (effective June 15, 2021)	14 M.R.S. § 752
Federal Civil Rights (42 U.S.C. § 1983)	Apply state limitations period	(See 42 U.S.C. § 1988(a))
Maine Civil Rights (5 M.R.S. § 4681, et. seq.)	6 years to file suit (Except where otherwise provided; e.g. Wrongful Death)	14 M.R.S. § 752
Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA)	Notice of Claim: 2 years to file Notice of Claim with federal agency ³ Prerequisite to Suit: Written denial by agency or failure of agency to act within 6 months of filing Notice of Claim To file suit in court: within 6 months following federal agency's mailing of written denial of claim and within six years after the right of action accrues ^{3, 4}	28 U.S.C. § 2401(b) 28 U.S.C. § 2675(a) 28 U.S.C. § 2401(a), (b)
Fire Loss (Property) – Action Under Standard Policy	2 years	24-A M.R.S. § 3002
Liquor Liability	Notice to "Server": 180 days, unless "good cause" shown ⁵ 2 years to file suit	28-A M.R.S. § 2513 28-A M.R.S. § 2514
Maine Tort Claims Act (MTCA)	365 days to file Notice of Claim for causes of action accruing on or after January 1, 2020, unless "good cause" shown	14 M.R.S. § 8107(1), (2)
Minors	2 years to file suit 2 years from attaining 18 years to file suit	14 M.R.S. § 8110 14 M.R.S. § 8110
Medical Malpractice		
General	3 years from negligent act/omission causing injury to file Notice of Claim; and 3 years to file suit ⁶	24 M.R.S. §§ 2902, 2903
Minors	3 years from attaining 18 years, or within 6 years from negligent act/omission causing injury, whichever is sooner	24 M.R.S. § 2902
Foreign objects	3 years from discovery to file Notice of Claim and to file suit	24 M.R.S. §§ 2902, 2903

(continued)

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STATUTE

Medical Malpractice (cont'd)

Tolling pending Panel process	Statute of limitations tolled from service or filing of Notice of Claim until 30 days after notice of Panel findings	24 M.R.S. § 2859
Governmental entities / employees	Maine Tort Claims Act and Federal Tort Claims Act requirements apply to medical malpractice claims against State and Federal governmental entities/employees For State entities/employees, a Notice of Claim pursuant to 24 M.R.S. § 2902 is required in addition to an MHSA Notice of Claim For certain federally supported entities/employees subject to FTCA requirements (e.g., Community Health Centers), see http://bphc.hrsa.gov	14 M.R.S. § 8107(1), (2) 28 U.S.C. §§ 2401(a), (b); § 2675(a) 14 M.R.S. § 8110 28 U.S.C. §§ 2401(a), (b); § 2675(a)
Nursing Home Liability	See Medical Malpractice requirements	
Product Liability (Negligence or Strict Liability)	6 years from date of accrual	(See, e.g., <i>Bernier v. Raymark Industries, Inc.</i> , 516 A.2d 534 (Me. 1986))
PFAS Claims ⁷	6 years from discovery of harm or injury per P.L. 2021, ch. 328 ⁸	14 M.R.S. § 752-F
Sex Acts Towards Minors	Generally, no limit for claimants born on/after August 11, 1970. Otherwise, all claims barred unless tolling applies. See 14 M.R.S. § 853 (minority/mental illness/imprisonment); 14 M.R.S. § 859 (fraudulent concealment); 14 M.R.S. § 866 (defendant out of state); or equitable tolling under common law.	
Ski Areas	2 years to file suit	14 M.R.S. § 752-B
Uninsured Motorist Claims	6 years from denial of claim ²	14 M.R.S. § 752
Wrongful Death	3 years from date of death, per P.L. 2023, ch. 390 (effective Oct. 25, 2023) For death by homicide, 6 years from discovery of the cause of action For death caused by medical malpractice, see medical malpractice requirements; see e.g., <i>Butler v. Killoran</i> , 1998 ME 147, 714 A.2d 129	18-C M.R.S. § 2-807

¹ Where no "actual notice" of death.

² Unless otherwise provided in contract or policy.

³ See *Wood v. United States*, No. 1:14-cv-00399-JDL, 2016 WL 11580579, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 13689 (D. Me. Feb 2, 2016) (declining to apply the discovery rule generally applicable in FTCA cases in a medical malpractice case, because 24 M.R.S. § 2902 was interpreted as a state statute of repose, which can be a substantive limitations defense in FTCA cases).

⁴ Person under legal disability or "beyond the seas" when action accrues may file suit within 3 years after disability ceases. [28 U.S.C. § 2401\(a\)](#).

⁵ "Good Cause" includes but is not limited to plaintiff's inability to obtain investigative records from law enforcement. [28-A M.R.S. § 2513](#).

⁶ In the case of continuing acts of negligence causing the injury, 3 years from the last such act. See *Baker v. Farrand*, 2011 ME 91, 26 A.3d 806.

⁷ Claims arising from harm or injury caused by perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances.

⁸ Effective October 18, 2021, and retroactive to conduct occurring prior to Act. Retroactivity not applicable to notice or limitations period in MTCA.

TOLLING PROVISIONS (other than as noted)

CLAIM

TIME ALLOWED

Absence of Defendant from the State	Certain state law limitations tolled during residence outside of Maine	14 M.R.S. § 866
Fraud and Fraudulent Concealment	6 years after discovery (state law claims)	14 M.R.S. § 859
Minority, Mental Illness, Imprisonment or Absence of Plaintiff from U.S. when cause of action accrues	Certain state law limitations tolled until plaintiff attains the age of majority; is no longer disabled; is released from prison; or returns to the United States	14 M.R.S. § 853

**Statutes of limitations may change and can be difficult to interpret.
Please consult a knowledgeable attorney for any questions.**