



Phone: 505-341-0504 | 888-344-0504

MARRIAGE MAKERS

WEDDING OFFICIANTS

www.marriagemakers.net

OBTAINING A MARRIAGE LICENSE IN TEXAS

Requirements

A man and a woman desiring to enter into a ceremonial marriage must obtain a marriage license from the county clerk of any county of this state.

Eligibility

Applicants should be 18 years or older with valid identification. Applicants under the age of 18 must have a certified copy of their birth certificate.

The minimum age for marriage in Texas with parental consent is 16. Parents must be present and give written consent. Each under-age applicant will be required to provide a certified copy of their birth certificate. The consenting parent must provide some form of government identification such as a valid drivers license. If the natural parents are divorced, the parent given custody must be present and give written consent and present a certified copy of their custody papers. Documents are required to establish that a prior marriage has been dissolved.

Judicial approval is required for anyone under the age of 16 to marry. Individuals who are 16 and 17 must have judicial approval or parental consent.

Blood test or health certificates are not required to obtain a license.

A license will be issued to persons who may be delinquent for payment of court-ordered child support.

There is a 30-day waiting period after a divorce is granted within this state. An applicant may apply for a license within the 30 days if the court issues a waiver.

Online Applications

Marriage applications may also be completed online. Once the applications is completed, the applicant must come to the office to pay the required filing fee and then obtain their license.

Acquiring a License

A marriage license can be obtained from a county clerk's office. The cost is \$41.00 in cash.

If an applicant is unable to appear personally, any adult or the other applicant may apply on behalf of the absent applicant. The proper paper work must be completed prior to applying. Proper paper work including the absent applicant's identification and age is required. If one party is incarcerated, this office must send out and receive information directly from the incarcerated person.

A valid form of photo identification, such as a driver's license, U.S. passport, certified copy of a birth certificate (complete with raised seal and on blue certificate paper), or military identification is required.

Absent Applicant Affidavit

As of September 1, 2005, only military personnel or incarcerated persons are eligible for the absent applicant marriage form.

Time Limitations

There is a 72-hour waiting period following the issuing of the license prior to the ceremony. If either party is active military the 72-hour is waived. Military identification is required at the time of application. As of September 1, 2005, the 72-hour waiting period is being strictly enforced.

If a marriage ceremony has not been conducted before the 31st day after the license is issued, the marriage license expires.