

Marriage License Requirements

Guidelines for obtaining a marriage license

- Both parties must appear together, in person, to complete the application.
- Identification requirements for U.S. Citizens:
 - Proof of social security number
 - One of the following forms of photo I.D.:
 - A valid driver's license
 - Government issued photo I.D.
 - U.S. Passport
 - Military I.D.
 - In addition, by Missouri Statute, persons between the ages of 18 and 21 must provide a valid driver's license or a certified copy of their birth certificate to show proof of age.
- Identification for individuals who are not U.S. Citizens:
 - Valid U.S. government documentation must be provided. Acceptable documentation includes a valid passport with a visa or U.S. entry stamp, driver's license, tax identification number and an official copy of a translated birth certificate if proof of age is not included in the above documents.
- Non-English speaking applicants must provide an interpreter. The interpreter must be willing to sign a notarized affidavit attesting that he/she is fluent verbally and can read the language of the applicants. The interpreter has asked correctly of the applicants and answered truthfully their responses to Missouri Department of Health form MO06404. The interpreter must have a valid photo I.D. and be 18 years of age or older. There will be a \$2.00 cash fee for filing notarized affidavit. The interpreter understands he/she may be summoned or subpoenaed to Court for any legal matters arising from the issuance of the Marriage License.
- Couple must not be related to each other through and including first cousins.
- The license may be issued at the time of application if the ceremony is being performed within 30 days (RSMo 451.040). The license must be used within 30 days in the State of Missouri only.
- \$51.00 license fee (Non-refundable cash or check only)

- Previously married applicants will be asked to provide the date their last marriage ended by death or divorce.
- Applicants will be asked to affirm that all information is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and that they are free to marry under the laws of the state of Missouri. Applicants' signature on the application is considered sworn affirmation.

Under-Age Applicants

- Applicants under the age of 18 must bring a parent or legal guardian to give consent to the marriage. If the parents are divorced, the custodial parent must present the divorce decree showing proof of custody. Under-age applicants must bring a certified copy of birth certificate along with another form of identification, which shows their social security number.
- The custodial parent must be present at the time of application and must have proper identification. (Valid driver's license and a certified copy of birth certificate of the child with parents name).
- Any applicant age 15 and under must make an appointment with a Circuit Judge and appear with a parent or legal guardian to obtain a special order giving consent to the marriage. The applicant and parent must then bring the order from the Judge to the Recorder of Deeds to apply for the marriage license along with a certified copy of birth certificate and proof of social security number.
- License is valid for thirty days starting the day issued. After that date the license is no longer valid and may not be used.
- Marriage License must be returned to the Recorder's Office from which issued within 15 days after the ceremony. Failure to make such return is a misdemeanor.

Persons solemnizing marriages

Section 451.100 RSMo. Marriages may be solemnized by any clergyman, either active or retired, who is in good standing with any church or synagogue in this state. Marriages may also be solemnized, without compensation, by any judge, including a municipal judge. Marriages may also be solemnized by a religious society, religious institution, or religious organization of this state, according to the regulations and customs of the society, institution

or organization, when either party to the marriage to be solemnized is a member of such society, institution or organization.

Requests for Marriage License Certifications

Marriage License copies or certifications are available upon request in person or by mail. For mail-in requests, please include the groom's full name, bride's maiden name, date of marriage, the appropriate fee and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of the document.

Certified Copy of Marriage License	\$10.00
Copy of Marriage License	\$1.00

Please mail your requests to:
Recorder of Deeds
700 Webster St., Suite 6
Chillicothe, Mo 64601