

Marriage Licenses

[Chapter 765 Wisconsin Statutes](#) [PDF]

Marquette County Clerk's Office
Room 107 – Marquette County Courthouse
Montello, WI 53949

608-297-3016

Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Closed Weekends and Holidays)

Please come in before 4:00 p.m. and not during the noon hour unless you have called ahead and made arrangements with us to do so.

License Fee: \$75.00

Waiver Fee: \$25.00 - The five day waiting period may be waived for good cause (i.e. out-of-state applicants, military, serious illness) by the County Clerk for an additional \$25.00. The applicants will be required to fill out an application stating the reason for the waiver. Once the waiver is approved by the County Clerk, the license can be issued immediately following application.

Where to Apply? If you are a Wisconsin resident, you apply in the County that you live in. The license may be used in any county in the State of Wisconsin. If the bride and groom live in different counties, application can be made in either county. If both applicants live out-of-state, but are getting married in Marquette County, then the license would be purchased in Marquette County.

When do we apply? The license is valid for 30 days, after the 5 day waiting period. Example: if a license is purchased on the 10th, it would have an issue date of the 16th, and would be valid for 30 days after that. The waiting period may be waived in certain circumstances or by approval of the County Clerk. **You MUST have a marriage date when you apply.**

What do we need to bring?

Both applicants should appear at time of application and present the following documents:

- Record of Birth - Must have a certified birth certificate.
- Proof of Residence - A Driver's License, ID Card, or other form giving place of residence. (Where residence has last been established for a period of 30 days or more). If driver's licenses are not current, bring a copy of a bill that shows where your current address has been for the last 30 days.
- Social Security Number (Do not have to have the actual card)

- A copy of the divorce judgment, annulment paper, or a death certificate must be presented for the last previous marriage, if any applicant has been married before.
- Name and contact information (address, e-mail address, and/or phone number) of your officiant.
- Payment of the fee must be made at the time of the application.

How do I change my name? Once your license is filed with the Register of Deeds in the county you were married in, which is usually done by the officiant within 3 days of the ceremony, you will need to apply and purchase a certified copy of your marriage certificate. **Remember, the marriage license is filed in the county where the marriage was performed so that is the county that you need to purchase the copy from.** Once you receive your certified copy, take that along with your birth certificate and driver's license to the Social Security Office for change of last name purposes. ***Keep in mind, just by purchasing a marriage license, it will not automatically get you a certified copy of the marriage certificate. A marriage certificate, which will be needed to be able to change a name at the Social Security Office, must be purchased separately through the Register of Deeds in the County where the marriage took place. The last name will not be changed until it is changed with the Social Security Office.**

It is illegal to make photocopies of a Marriage Certificate/License!

Minimum Age To Marry

Males and females - 18 years of age.

Individuals who are 16 or 17 years of age will need BOTH parents' consent or guardian's consent is required.

Males or females under 16 cannot marry under any circumstances. A Court can no longer grant special permission in such cases.

Witnesses to the Marriage

Both witnesses must be 18 years of age or over.

Persons Who May Not Marry

Blood relatives - nearer of kin than second cousins, except when the female is 55 years or older.

Any person who has not been legally divorced in this state or any other state for a period of six (6) months.

A marriage may not be contracted if either party has such want of understanding as renders him/her incapable of assenting to marriage (Section 765.03(1), Wis. Stats.)