



Applying for your New Jersey Marriage License



WHERE TO APPLY:

If both applicants live in New Jersey: apply for your license in the hometown of either applicant.

If one applicant lives out of state: apply in the hometown of the New Jersey resident.

If both applicants live out of state: obtain the license from the municipality where the ceremony will take place.

HOW TO APPLY:

Marriage Licenses are taken by **appointment only**. Call 201-529-5757, option 2 to make your appointment.

WHEN TO APPLY:

Please arrange to come in at least two weeks (and up to six months) before your ceremony. New Jersey State Law does provide for a (minimum) 72-hour waiting period between the time you apply for a license and the date and time it can be released to you. This timeframe, however, cannot always be accommodated as it does not take staffing issues into consideration or the fact that our office is closed on weekends and holidays.

WHAT TO BRING:

- 1) **Government-issued photo ID and proof of residence.** A valid driver's license showing your current Mahwah address satisfies both of these requirements. Alternatively, a passport accompanied by a phone or utility bill or a bank statement (dated within the last three months) may be presented. Your identification must be current; we are not permitted to accept expired documents.
- 2) **A witness who is at least 18 years old, who speaks English fluently and is carrying photo ID.** You, your fiancé or partner, and the witness must all appear together.
- 3) **\$28.00 Marriage License fee.** Payment can only be made by personal check, money order or exact cash.

Because all three parties to the application must take an oath as to the accuracy of the information provided, the couple should also bring in the following documents:

- 4) **Birth certificate.** Birth certificates that are not in English should be translated and notarized. If you are a Naturalized U.S. Citizen, you may present your naturalization papers in lieu of a birth certificate. If you have had a legal name change, bring the court order with you.
- 5) (If applicable), **the Final Decree of Divorce, the court ordered Dissolution of Civil Union, or a copy of the spouse's/partner's Death Certificate relating to the most recent prior Marriage or Civil Union.** These documents not only prove that you are free to marry again; they also provide the accurate dates, locations and docket numbers of the events to enter on your application.

WHAT TO KNOW:

You will need to provide the following information in order to complete your application:

- a) Date of the ceremony.
- b) Name and mailing address of the person who will perform the ceremony.
- c) Correct spelling of both mothers' maiden names.
- d) States of birth for all parents.
- e) Applicants' social security numbers.