

Applying for a Marriage License



There is a **\$20.00 application fee** for Alpena County residents, and \$30.00 for out-of-state residents.

There is a **3 day waiting period** after applying for your license, and you must be married within **33 days** of the date of application.

The 3 day waiting period can be waived with an additional fee of \$75.00

Both parties must be present to apply for a marriage license. Both parties must have the following information at time of application.

- Driver's License/Michigan State ID card with current address
- Social Security Number
- Certified Copy of Birth Certificate
- Full name (first, middle, last), age, address, date of birth & place of birth (city & state)
- County of residence - Current Address
- How many times previously married
- Father's full name (first, middle, last)
- Mother's full name (first, middle, current last name & maiden name)
- Place of birth for both parents (city, state)

You apply in the county where you or your future spouse resides, and then you may get married anywhere in the state of Michigan. If you reside outside the state of Michigan, you must apply in the county which you are going to be married in.

Please note, the copy you will be given after the ceremony is *NOT* a certified copy. If one is needed for name change etc., it can be purchased at the County Clerk's Office for \$16.00 after the license has been filed.

The County Clerk can perform marriage ceremonies for \$50.00 – this includes a certified copy of the completed marriage license – **all witnesses must be 18 years or older.**

Do not forget to pick up your marriage license! If the Clerk's Office must assist you after hours, there will be a fee of \$75.00.

Office hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. 989-354-9520

AFFIDAVIT FOR LICENSE TO MARRY

No. _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN

County of _____

The Undersigned, being duly sworn, depose(s) and say(s) that:

COUPLE	_____ and _____
	FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last) <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE

	SURNAME ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE, IF DIFFERENT
	PRESENT AGE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

	BIRTHPLACE – CITY AND STATE
	RESIDENCE NO. _____ STREET _____

	CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE
PARENTS	_____
	RESIDENCE COUNTY _____ TIMES PREVIOUSLY MARRIED _____

	FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)

	SURNAME AT BIRTH _____ BIRTHPLACE _____

	FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)

	SURNAME AT BIRTH _____ BIRTHPLACE _____

intend to marry and that this affidavit is made for the purpose of obtaining a marriage license; that each of the above-named persons is of the age required by law, is not related to the other within the degree prohibited by statute and is of sufficient mental capacity to contract marriage; that said persons are acquainted with the laws of the State of Michigan relative to marriage; that there is no legal impediment to said marriage; and that to the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned all of the foregoing statements are true.

Educational materials regarding prenatal care and the transmission and prevention of venereal disease and HIV infection as well as information on the availability of tests for these diseases have been received.

Signature _____ Signature _____

Social Security Number _____ Social Security Number _____

Subscribed to before me: the County Clerk: a Notary Public of _____ County,

acting in _____ County, and whose commission expires on _____, 20____;

or other person authorized to administer oaths, and sworn to on _____, 20____.

Signature _____

GETTING MARRIED IN MICHIGAN? WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW....

Who can marry....

To be able to marry you must not be married to someone else. (MCL 551.105) *If you have been married before, you may be asked to document that the earlier marriage has ended due to death or divorce.*

To obtain a Michigan marriage license the couple must be 18 years of age or older and be able to enter into legal contracts. (MCL 551.103)

If 16 or 17 years of age, a person can apply for a license but must have parental consent or consent of their legal guardian to marry. If custody of a person applying for a license under the age of 18 has been awarded by the court, the consent must be from a custodial parent. (MCL 551.51 and 551.103)

Where to apply and where to marry....

If either of the couple are Michigan residents, they must apply with the county clerk where one or both have legal residence. Once the license is issued, Michigan residents can marry anywhere in the state. (MCL 555.101)

If neither of the couple lives in Michigan, they must apply with the county clerk where the marriage ceremony is to be performed. Once issued, the license can be used only in the issuing county. (MCL 551.101)

*In either case, a Michigan license is **not valid outside the state of Michigan.***

Who can you marry....

There are restrictions on who someone can marry. (MCL 551.3 and 551.4)

A man cannot marry his mother, sister, grandmother, daughter, granddaughter, stepmother, grandfather's wife, son's wife, grandson's wife, wife's mother, wife's grandmother, wife's daughter, wife's granddaughter, brother's daughter, sister's daughter, father's sister, mother's sister, or cousin of the first degree.

A woman cannot marry her father, brother, grandfather, son, grandson, stepfather, grandmother's husband, daughter's husband, granddaughter's husband, husband's father, husband's grandfather, husband's son, husband's grandson, brother's son, sister's son, father's brother, mother's brother, or cousin of the first degree.

The three day waiting period....

Generally, a marriage license is not issued for a period of three days from the date of the application. Applicants can, however, request a waiver of the three day waiting period from the clerk issuing the license. (MCL 551.103a)

Special notice of perjury....

*Note that the application for a marriage license is a sworn affidavit. Making false statements in the marriage license affidavit is **an act of perjury** which is a prosecutable offense. (MCL 551.108)*