

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 551.5) *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 551.101)

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)*

MACKINAC COUNTY CLERK

100 S. Marley Street, St. Ignace, MI 49781 (906) 643-7300 Fax (906) 643-7302
Office hours M-F 8:30am-4:30pm with the exception of holidays.

MARRIAGE LICENSE INSTRUCTIONS

- Affidavit must be signed in the presence of a Notary Public.
- Please type or print clearly and include a telephone number for verification information.
- After your affidavit is notarized, you have 33 days from the date of notarization to be married. Therefore, you must wait to have the affidavit notarized until you are within 33 days of your wedding.
- There is a three (3) day waiting period from the date you have your affidavit notarized until the license can be issued.
- If either party is a minor (17 years and under) a parent or guardian must consent by signing a notarized affidavit.
- **One must appear in person during regular business hours to either file the affidavit or pick-up the license.** If you plan on appearing in person to pick up the license, you must mail the affidavit, required documentation and filing fee at least three (3) days prior to your arrival. Please indicate on the affidavit in the upper right-hand corner, the date you will be arriving to pick-up your license.
- Application fee is \$20.00 for Mackinac County residents, \$30.00 for out-of-state residents.
- The State requires that the witnesses must be 18 years of age or older.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE OR VALID STATE IDENTIFICATION AS PROOF OF CURRENT RESIDENCY ALONG WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

ACCEPTABLE – U.S. BORN

- Photo copy of birth certificate issued by the city, county, or state.
- Letter of NO RECORD from State of Birth.
- Birth registration or hospital certificate which includes parents' names.

ACCEPTABLE – FOREIGN BORN

- Photo copy of birth certificate if not in English, one must provide an English translated copy. Certificate must contain full date of birth, (day, month and year.)

UNACCEPTABLE – FOREIGN BORN

- Baptismal, military or school records.
- Census reports
- Hospital birth certificates
- Any altered documents

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		FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last) <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	
	_____		_____	
	SURNAME ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE, IF DIFFERENT		SURNAME ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE, IF DIFFERENT	
	_____		_____	
	PRESENT AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	PRESENT AGE	DATE OF BIRTH
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	BIRTHPLACE - CITY AND STATE		BIRTHPLACE - CITY AND STATE	
	_____		_____	
	RESIDENCE NO.	STREET	RESIDENCE NO.	STREET
_____	_____	_____	_____	
CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE		CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE		
_____		_____		
RESIDENCE COUNTY	TIMES PREVIOUSLY MARRIED	RESIDENCE COUNTY	TIMES PREVIOUSLY MARRIED	
_____	_____	_____	_____	
FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)		FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)		
_____		_____		
SURNAME AT BIRTH	BIRTHPLACE	SURNAME AT BIRTH	BIRTHPLACE	
_____	_____	_____	_____	
FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)		FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)		
_____		_____		
SURNAME AT BIRTH	BIRTHPLACE	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 _____

MACKINAC COUNTY CLERK

100 S. Marley Street, Room 10

St. Ignace, Michigan 49781

(906) 643-7300

(906) 643-7302

TDD (800) 649-3777

ADDITIONAL MARRIAGE INFORMATION

1. Place of Marriage (City & County) _____

2. Date of Marriage _____

3. Witnesses full names _____

4. Minister/Reverend name _____

5. Minister's Mailing Address _____

6. Either party taking their spouses name and if so what name _____

7. Phone number where you can be reached _____

Email address _____

****This is not mandatory; but helpful in getting the marriage license ready for your arrival****