



TOWN OF MADISON
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MARRIAGE LICENSE FAQs

The following information is intended to answer the most frequently asked questions on how to obtain a marriage license in New Hampshire. The information is not intended to be complete or specific to all individual circumstances. For further information, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 603-367-9931 Ext. 310 or Ext. 305.

What are the age requirements?

No male below the age of 14 years and no female below the age of 13 years shall be capable of contracting a valid marriage that is entered into by one male and one female. No male below the age of 18 and no female below the age of 18 shall be capable of contracting a valid marriage between persons of the same gender. When either of the applicants is not yet 18 years of age but meets the minimum age requirement (female 13–17 and male 14–17), he/she may request permission to marry from a justice of the Superior Court or a judge of probate of the county in which one of the applicants resides. The request shall be in writing and the parents or guardian of the applicant shall join in the request. The applicant requesting the age waiver shall be a resident of this state or marrying a resident of this state. No age waiver shall be granted to persons below the age of consent (18) if both parties are non-residents and/or same gender.

Where do we apply for a marriage license?

If you plan on getting married in New Hampshire, BOTH applicants must be present and may apply at any New Hampshire Town or City Clerk's Office. The license is valid in any New Hampshire town or city only. The process takes approximately one-half hour. Please plan to arrive at the Madison Clerk's Office by 3:30 p.m., which allows time for processing and any other delays that may occur.

What information is required on the marriage license?

Please be prepared to provide the following information for both applicants:

- Legal Name – First, Middle, Last name at birth (maiden surname), Suffix if applicable,
- Date of birth,
- Social Security Number,
- Address, including county,
- Birthplace—State or Foreign Country,
- Race,
- Ancestry,
- Years of Education,
- Certified record of date last marriage/civil union ended, if applicable,
- Father's Legal Name – First, Middle, Last name at birth (maiden surname), Suffix if applicable,
- Mother's Legal Name – First, Middle, Last name at birth (maiden surname),
- Father's Birthplace—State or Foreign Country,
- Mother's Birthplace—State or Foreign Country,
- Date marriage is planned to take place
- Officiant Name, Address, and Telephone number.

What do we need for identification?

Each applicant shall provide positive identification consisting of one of the following:

- a certified copy of a birth certificate, or
- a driver's license, or
- a passport, or
- identification that contains a photograph of the applicant and the applicant's name and date of birth, such as a State issued non-driver ID.

What do we need for documentation if one or both of us has been married or in a civil union before?

Each applicant previously married or/joined by a civil union would need to bring the **certified** document that ended the previous marriage/civil union consisting of one of the following:

- final divorce decree, or
- civil annulment decree, or
- civil union dissolution, or
- a death certificate, if applicable.

When should we apply for a marriage license/Is there a waiting period?

The marriage license is valid for use for 90 days from the date of application. There is no waiting period.

Is a blood test required?

The State of New Hampshire does not require a blood test.

What is the cost?

A marriage license costs \$50.00, payable by cash, check or credit/debit card. This fee is non-refundable.

How do we obtain a certified copy of our marriage license?

Once the officiant returns the marriage license to the Town Clerk's Office, an application can be made for certified copies. The cost is \$15.00 for the first copy and \$10.00 for each subsequent copy issued at the same time.