

HOW TO APPLY FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE



Any couple can get married as long as each person is 18 or older, and currently not married.

If you or your partner is under 18 years old, you will **need permission from a parent or legal guardian** to get married.

You do not have to be a state resident to get married in Massachusetts.

Please keep in mind:

A marriage license is only good to use for 60 days in Massachusetts from the date you apply. You cannot use the marriage license outside of Massachusetts.

To apply for a Marriage License, couples must apply together and in person, and you must make an appointment. Please call the Westwood Town Clerk's office at 781-326-3964 or email townclerk@townhall.westwood.ma.us

Please Note: During this current COVID-19 pandemic, both parties will be required to wear a facial covering and bring a black pen to sign forms.

- The license fee is \$25, which can be paid by cash, check (*made payable to the Town of Westwood*) or credit card (*additional fee's may apply*).
- Your Marriage License will be available three days after you file your Marriage Intention.
- Your Marriage License expires 60 days from the date that you file your Marriage Intention.
- Massachusetts Law requires couples to have a valid Marriage License to get married in the Commonwealth.
- The Marriage license is only valid in Massachusetts.

When you schedule your appointment, we will email you a pdf fillable Marriage intention packet that you will need to complete and email back before you arrive which includes the following information:

- Your legal names, and what last name you will use after marriage.
- Please keep in mind you can only change your surnames; in order to make changes to your first or middle names you have to file for a [name change](#) in probate & family court.
- Your current addresses.
- Your dates and places of birth.
- The names of your parents, including maiden names, and whether or not your parents were married at the time of your birth.
- If you were previously married and your marriage ended in divorce you cannot file intentions until 90 days after the Court grants a Decree Nisi and it then becomes absolute. Proof of Divorce or Annulment is required.
- your Social Security numbers (if you do not have a Social Security number, you have to write down why — for example, it was never issued or you are not a resident).
- The date and place of your Marriage Ceremony.
- The name and address of the officiant who will be conducting your Marriage Ceremony.
- If your officiant is applying for a [one-day designation](#) the certificate issued by the State will need to be presented at the time of your appointment.

Picking up your Marriage License

Please note:

- After the three-day waiting period has passed, your Marriage License will be available to pick up by appointment.
- The Marriage license must be picked up before the ceremony and given to the person officiating your ceremony.
- To register your Marriage, the officiant needs to complete the Marriage License and return it to the Westwood Town Clerk's office (*instructions will be provided*).
- Once we have registered your Marriage, we will send you a complimentary certified copy of your Marriage license.
- Additional copies are available for \$10 each.

Find someone to marry you

A Massachusetts minister, priest, rabbi, or justice of the peace can officiate the ceremony. You can also have a friend or family member marry you with a [One-Day Marriage Designation](#). Clergy from outside of Massachusetts can marry you as long as they get [state authorization](#).