

MARRIAGE LICENSE INFORMATION

WHERE TO APPLY:

- Applicants who are State of Wisconsin residents, must apply for a marriage license in the county one of the parties has resided in for at least 30 days prior to making application. The license can then be used in any county in the State of Wisconsin.
- In the case that both parties are nonresidents of the State of Wisconsin, application must be made in the county where the ceremony is to be performed.

WHERE TO APPLY IN SAUK COUNTY:

- Sauk County Clerk's Office, Sauk County West Square Building, 505 Broadway, Room #144, Baraboo, Wisconsin.
- The hours to apply are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The office is closed Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.
- Both parties must appear in person to apply for the license.
- The average time to fill out an application is approximately 15 minutes.

AGE:

- At age 18 an individual may marry without consent.
- An individual may marry at age 16 and 17 with written consent of the person's parents, guardian, custodian, or a parent having the actual care, custody, and control of the person. Marriages contracted without this consent are void. Marriages contracted out-of-State by persons not of age in Wisconsin are considered to be void in the State of Wisconsin.

RELATIONSHIP:

No marriage shall be contracted while either of the parties has a husband or wife living, nor between persons who are nearer of kin than second cousins, excepting that marriage may be contracted between first cousins where the female has attained the age of 55 years or where either party, at the time of application for a marriage license, submits an affidavit signed by a physician stating that either party is permanently sterile. Relationship under this section shall be computed by the rule of the civil law, whether the parties to the marriage are of the half or of the whole blood. A marriage may not be contracted if either party has such want of understanding as renders him or her incapable of assenting to marriage.

DIVORCED PERSONS:

Persons who are divorced, whether divorced in the State of Wisconsin or elsewhere, cannot marry again until six months have elapsed. A marriage of any such person solemnized before the expiration of six months from the date of the granting of judgment of divorce shall be void. Marriages contracted out of the State by persons not legally divorced in Wisconsin are considered to be void in the State of Wisconsin.

FEE:

A fee of \$50.00, payable by check or cash, is charged at the time of application for the license.

WAITING PERIOD:

Application for a marriage license shall be made at least six (6) business days before a license shall be issued, unless a waiver of this waiting period has been granted.

SPECIAL DISPENSATION:

A waiver of the six day waiting period may be granted by order of the County Clerk for any of the reasons outlined in Chapter 765 of the Wisconsin Statutes. An extra fee of \$10.00, payable by check or cash, is charged for a waiver of the 6 day waiting period.

EXPIRATION:

A marriage license must be used within 30 days from the issuance date.

CEREMONY:

Information to be provided:

- Date and place of the ceremony.
- Name, address & phone # of the officiant performing the ceremony.

Officiants as defined by Wisconsin State Statutes ss. 765.16 and 765.17:

765.16:

- Any ordained clergyman of any religious denomination or society who continues to be such ordained clergyman.
- Any licentiate of a denominational body or an appointee or any bishop serving as the regular clergyman of any church or denomination to which he/she belongs, if he/she is not restrained from so doing by the discipline of his/her church or denomination.
- The two parties themselves, by such mutual declarations, in accordance with the customs, rules and regulations of any religious society, denomination, or sect to which either of said parties may belong.
- Any judge of a court of record or a reserve judge appointed under s. 753.075..
- Any family court commissioner appointed under S.267.13, or court commissioner appointed under S.757.68.
- Any municipal court judge.

765.17:

- Any clergyman, licentiate or appointee named in s. 765.16 who is not a resident of this state may solemnize marriages in this state if he or she possesses at the time of the marriage a letter of sponsorship from a clergyman of the same religious denomination or society who has a church in this state under his or her ministry.

IDENTIFICATION OF PARTIES:

- Each party shall present satisfactory proof of where they live. If a driver's license is not available, other items accepted are: a piece of mail, rent/mortgage receipt, etc.
- Per Wisconsin State Statutes, all parties are required to present a state-certified copy of their birth certificate. Hospital birth certificates, hospital records, Wisconsin identification cards, or baptism certificates **are not accepted**.
- All applicants are required to present their social security numbers.
- A copy of a prior divorce proceeding, death certificate, or annulment papers, affecting the marital status is required.

✓ **NOTE:** Other than the lower confidential portion, your marriage license application is a public record.

24 hour marriage license information: 608.355.3580

OFFICE OF THE SAUK COUNTY CLERK