

Marriage License FAQ's

Q: How do my partner and I obtain a marriage license? What documentation must we bring with us?

A: Both parties must be present at the time of applying for the marriage license. Each Applicant will need proper government-issued identification such as a Driver License, Certified Copy of Birth Certificate (not a hospital record), or a valid Passport. For more information on proper identification see [Texas Family Code 2.005](#). If you have additional questions about identification requirements please call our office.

Absent Applicants: If one of the applicants is unable to appear at the Clerk's office, you may submit an Affidavit of Absent Applicant for that person when purchasing the Marriage License. The Affidavit of Absent Applicant needs to be signed and notarized by the absent applicant before purchasing a Marriage License. The person who is the absent applicant needs to appear at the Ceremony.

Proxy Marriage: The only persons who can appoint a person to act as a proxy for the purpose of participating in the ceremony are members of the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in another country in support of combat or another military operation and they are unable to attend the ceremony
(House Bill 869 effective 9-1-2013).

Q: What if my partner cannot be physically present with me to obtain our marriage license?

A: You can download the Absent Applicant Affidavit form, have it filled out by the individual who cannot be present, notarized, and provide a photocopy of their ID with the completed form. If the person is incarcerated then obtain and use the form **ONLY** if they can be physically present for the ceremony. The affidavit **cannot** be used for a proxy ceremony.

Q: How much does a marriage license cost? What forms of payment can I use?

A: The cost is \$81.00. The forms of payment we accept are cash and debit/credit cards. If you choose to use a card the transaction will incur a 2.5% convenience fee.

If you present a Premarital Education Course Certificate through the **TWOGETHER IN TEXAS PROGRAM** (the only program approved by the State) the fee will be **\$22.00** and the 72-hour waiting period is waived. **You must present a copy of the Twogether in Texas Certificate at the time of purchase so the Clerk can adjust the fee to \$21.00.**

Effective January 1, 2019, a \$100 Out-of-State Applicant fee will be assessed if neither applicant is able to prove Texas residency.

All fees are waived if you are a member of the National Guard on federal active duty, or a member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty who is preparing to be deployed to serve in a hostile fire zone. You will need to provide documentation of your deployment.

Q: Do we need to make an appointment?

A: No, we are currently accepting walk-ins.

Q: When can the license be used?

A: The Marriage License is good for 90 days from the date it is issued and there is a 72-hour waiting period from date of issuance before the marriage can take place.

If an applicant is divorced, there is a 30-day waiting period after the divorce decree before they can marry another person. If this waiting period is waived in the divorce decree you will need to produce a copy of the decree. If applicants are remarrying each other, there is no waiting period.