

# Marriage License Requirements

## FOR ALL 6 NEW ENGLAND STATES

Weddings are romantic, full of hope and dreams come true. But, they are also legal proceedings with rules and regulations. Here is a summary of the marriage license application requirements for all 6 New England States. Please remember that these laws can change, so it is recommended you contact your city or town's offices for confirmation for the current requirements, and/or to ask policies if this is not your first marriage, proxy marriages, or for questions regarding marriage under the legal age listed. Note: A blood test is no longer required for a marriage license in any New England state.

### Connecticut

*In the State of Connecticut, marriage licenses are issued by the Municipal Clerk's office in the town where the marriage will be performed. Couples are advised to apply for their license about two weeks before the ceremony.*

- Connecticut marriage license fee is \$30.
- The legal age for marriage in Connecticut is 18.
- Both applicants must personally appear.
- Valid form of identification (Driver's License, Resident ID, Passport or Birth Certificate).
- Marriage license is valid for 65 days.
- There is no waiting period in Connecticut to get married.
- Connecticut does not require that there be any witnesses (although religious entities may require witnesses).

### Massachusetts

*Couples who wish to be married in Massachusetts must apply in person, together and at the same time and have a marriage license issued within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. You may file your intentions with the City/Town Clerk in any community in the state.*

- The fee for filing the Intention of Marriage in Massachusetts varies from city to town and is required at the time of application.
- The legal age for marriage in Massachusetts is 18.
- Valid form of identification (Driver's License, State ID, or Passport).
- Marriage license is valid for 60 days.
- Massachusetts has a (3) three-day waiting period.
- Witnesses are not required in Massachusetts.

### Rhode Island

*Please be sure to contact the city/town clerk's office where you will apply for the license to verify their identification requirements and hours open to the public.*

- Rhode Island's Marriage License fee is \$24.
- The legal age for marriage in Rhode Island is 18.
- Most cities and towns require certified copies of your birth certificates and a valid government issued photo ID.
- Marriage license is valid for 90 days.
- There is no waiting period in Rhode Island to get married.
- Witnesses: The marriage must take place in the presence of two (2) witnesses who have reached legal age (18 years of age).

### Maine

*Persons wishing to be married in the State of Maine must apply for a marriage license from the Municipal Clerk's office. Be sure to contact your local Municipal Clerk's office well in advance of the wedding to find out on which days and during what hours the Clerk will be in the office.*

- Maine's marriage license fee is \$40.
- The legal age for marriage in Maine is 18.
- Both applicants must personally appear.
- Valid form of identification (Driver's License, Passport or State ID with picture)
- Marriage license is valid for 90 days.
- There is no waiting period in Maine to get married.
- The ceremony must be witnessed by at least two people other than the officiant, and signed by the couple, the officiant and witnesses.

### New Hampshire

*If applying for your license in the State of New Hampshire, you may apply for your marriage license in any NH state City/Town Clerk's office. It doesn't matter where you're getting married.*

- New Hampshire's Marriage License fee is \$50.
- The legal age for marriage in New Hampshire is 18.
- Both parties must present their Birth Certificates or Passports and their Drivers Licenses at the time of application.
- Marriage license is valid for 90 days. Your license will be effective immediately, with no waiting period.
- Witnesses are not required in New Hampshire.

### Vermont

*If you wish to get married in Vermont, bring a copy of both of your birth certificates and the fee for the license to a City/Town Clerk's office, where you can apply for a Vermont marriage license.*

- Vermont's Marriage License fee is \$45.
- The legal age for marriage in Vermont is 16. If the applicant is at least 16, but under 18, they will need the consent of a parent or guardian. The parent or guardian needs to go to the City/Town Clerk's office to sign an affidavit giving the applicant permission to marry.
- Marriage license is valid for 60 days.
- There is no waiting period in Vermont to get married.
- Witnesses: Vermont law does not require witnesses; however, if you are planning a religious ceremony, check to see if the religion's tenets require witnesses.