

### Obtaining a Marriage License

A marriage license may only be obtained from the Town Clerk of the Town where the ceremony **will take place**. There is no waiting period between applying for and receiving your license. Blood tests are no longer required.

Both parties must appear in person in the Town Clerk's office to sign the license and present a valid photo ID. Please plan to arrive 30 minutes prior to closing in order to process the Marriage License.

Fee for the license is \$30. A certified copy of your license is required by the Social Security Department and the DMV in order to make a name change, so an additional certified copy may be ordered for \$20 and can be mailed or picked up in person once the original certificate is returned to the town clerk's office. We accept cash or checks only.

You may print and complete the [Marriage License Worksheet](#) and bring it with you. If you do not complete the form in advance, please be prepared to provide the following information:

- Your place of birth (state or country only);
- Your parents' places of birth (state or country only);
- Your mother's maiden name (first and last name); and
- The name address and phone number of the person performing the ceremony.

Once both parties have appeared in person, the application is completed, the oaths are given and the license is signed by both parties, you will leave with the actual license in hand which will be valid for 65 days.

Please give the license to the individual performing the ceremony. Under Connecticut law the following individuals may officiate a marriage ceremony:

- All judges, including out of state judges who are authorized to perform marriages in their jurisdictions
- Family support magistrates, state referees and Justices of the Peace who are appointed in Connecticut. [See here for list of Barkhamsted Justices of the Peace](#)
- All ordained or licensed members of the clergy belonging to this state or any other state, as long as they continue in the work of the ministry.

The person who performs the ceremony will complete the "Officiator" section of the license after he or she performs the ceremony. By law, it is that person's responsibility to return the license to the town clerk's office in the town where the ceremony **occurred**.

Once the license is returned to the Town Clerk, it will be kept on file in the town permanently. A copy will also be sent to the Connecticut town of residence for both parties if different from the town of occurrence.

### *Connecticut Marriage Laws*

A person is eligible to enter into a marriage in the State of Connecticut if such person is:

- not a party to another marriage;
- at least 18 years of age, or at least 16 years of age with parental consent, or is under 16 years of age with the consent of probate court;
- not under the supervision of a conservator unless written consent of the conservator has been granted; and
- not kindred