

Marriage License Requirements

Office Location: Lancaster County Clerk
555 S. 10th Street, Room 108
Lincoln, NE 68508

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday (no appointment necessary)

Information Hotline: 402-441-8448 (in English)

The Lancaster County Clerk's Office issues marriage licenses during normal business hours, Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m to 4:30 p.m., without an appointment.

The Clerk's Office also issues marriage licenses **by appointment only** on the first Thursday of the month between 4:30-6:00 p.m. If you would like to schedule an evening appointment, please contact us at 402-441-7484 or coclerk@lancaster.ne.gov.

- **APPLICATION FORM/WORKSHEET:** To expedite the application process, please fill out the [worksheet form](#) in advance and bring a copy with you when applying for your marriage license.

Applicants must supply the names of their parents (including mothers' maiden names) and their parents' birthplaces (city and state or foreign country).

It is extremely important that names appear on marriage licenses as they do on birth records. ***This is true for both applicants and both sets of parents.*** The slightest discrepancy (i.e., abbreviated names, omitted names/suffixes or spelling variations) could cause future problems when applying for benefits, residency and/or passports.

- **AGE:** If either applicant is not of legal age (19), a notarized [consent form](#) must be signed by a legal guardian. If either applicant is under age 17, a marriage license cannot be issued in the State of Nebraska.
- **ISSUANCE OF LICENSE:** Prior to the solemnization of a marriage in Nebraska, a license for that purpose shall be obtained from any county clerk in the State. Once a license has been issued, you are free to marry anywhere in the State of Nebraska. *There is no waiting period.*

Both parties are required to appear together in person in the Lancaster County Clerk's Office and must present current, government-issued photo identification (see identification requirements below).

We realize under extreme circumstances (i.e., illness, incarceration or military service) that it may be difficult for one party to appear in person at the time the license is issued. In that case, please contact our office at 402-441-7484 to make other arrangements.

- **IDENTIFICATION:** Neb.Rev.Stat §42-104 states, “Each party shall present satisfactory documentary proof of and shall swear or affirm to the application giving: (1) full name of each applicant and residence; and (2) the place, date and year of birth of each.”
For notary purposes, the identification must be: (1) issued by a government agency; (2) be current (unexpired); and (3) bear the photographic image of the individual’s face, a signature and a physical description. Properly stamped passports are also considered satisfactory evidence.

Those without satisfactory evidence (as defined above) may get a marriage license if they have a current, government-issued photo ID (i.e., military ID, consular card, etc.) AND a signed oath or affirmation of two (2) credible witnesses, unaffected by the document to be notarized, who each personally knows the individual and who shows satisfactory evidence of identity to the notary public. The oath/affirmation must be signed by both witnesses in the presence of a notary public at the County Clerk’s Office at the time the marriage license is issued.

Lancaster County deems the following as “satisfactory documentary proof” of identification: a driver’s license, state ID card or passport.

- **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS:** Applicants must supply Social Security numbers, if applicable.
- **DIVORCE/ANNULMENT:** If an applicant has been previously married, the date the marriage ended (court date) must be provided. If your divorce or annulment occurred in Nebraska, there is a six month waiting period (from the date the order was signed by the Judge) before a new marriage license can be issued. There is no waiting period to remarry following the death of a spouse.
- **FEE:** The fee for a marriage license is \$25 payable by cash or check. Debit/credit cards are also accepted (a small portal fee will be charged for debit/credit card use). Certified copies are an additional \$9/each.
- **EXPIRATION:** Marriage licenses are valid for one year (365 days) from the date of issuance and can be used to get married anywhere in the State of Nebraska. If the license expires, a new one will need to be issued before you can marry.
- **CERTIFIED COPIES:** At the time your marriage license is issued, you can pre-pay for a certified copy (\$9/each) which will be mailed to you approximately 10 business days following your wedding ceremony. A certified copy is required in order to change your name on a driver’s license, social security card and/or passport. A certified copy may also be needed for other legal purposes such as applying for benefits and/or insurance.
- **NAME CHANGES:** You will need a certified copy (see above) of your marriage license in order to change your last name upon marriage.
- **OFFICIANTS:** Neb.Rev.Stat. §42-108 states, “Every judge, retired judge, clerk magistrate or retired clerk magistrate, and every preacher of the gospel authorized by the usages of the church to which he or she belongs to solemnize marriages, may perform the marriage ceremony in this State.” The person performing the ceremony does not have to reside in Nebraska, nor register with the State of Nebraska. For more information on civil ceremonies, [click here](#).

- **CONTACT US:**

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The Lancaster County Clerk's Office is located in the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Room 108 (first floor), Lincoln, NE. Public parking is available in the lot located directly north of the building (enter off "K" Street or 10th Street). Complimentary parking passes can be obtained from our office.