

# Marrying in New York

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## *Application*

**NYC Marriage Bureau:** <http://www.cityclerk.nyc.gov/html/marriage/license.shtml>

**On-line Application:** From the above URL, click on "Submit an Application Online"

## *New York State*

All persons who intend to get married in New York State must obtain a Marriage License. This page explains the procedure for obtaining a Marriage License from the Office of the New York City Clerk. You may use a Marriage License issued in New York City in any part of New York State. Your marriage record will be maintained by the Office of the City Clerk. You may also use a Marriage License issued by a Town Clerk or City Clerk outside of New York City anywhere within the City of New York. Your marriage record will be maintained by the Department of Health of the State of New York in Albany.

## *Fee*

The fee for a Marriage License is \$35 by credit card or money order payable to the City Clerk.

## *Duration of the Marriage License*

A New York State Marriage License is valid for 60 days (except for *active military personnel*, for whom the validity runs for 180 days). A Marriage License issued in New York can be used anywhere within New York State but may not be used outside New York State.

## *Application Procedure*

Listed below are the general steps and rules of the application process. You can submit an application online to the Office of the City Clerk via City Clerk Online or you can fill out the form when you arrive at the Clerk's office. After submitting your application online you will receive a confirmation number that will look something like this:

**QQABHY7E.** Applications submitted online expire after 21 days. If you do not complete your application before then, you will need to resubmit online or complete a new application when you arrive at the Clerk's office. You then must appear at the Office of the City Clerk to complete your application.

- You and your prospective spouse must appear together in person to apply for a Marriage License.
- Proxy marriage is not permitted in New York, so no other party may apply on behalf of the bride or groom.
- You and your prospective spouse must have government issued identification such as a passport or driver's license in order to apply for a Marriage License.
- Your Marriage License will be processed while you wait.
- **Before you leave**, carefully read your Marriage License to make sure there are no mistakes.
- You will take the Marriage License with you when you leave our office.
- You must wait a full 24 hours before your Marriage Ceremony can be performed unless you obtain a Judicial Waiver.

## *Required Information*

Listed below is the information you will need to fill out the Marriage License Application:

- The application is an affidavit where you and your prospective spouse must list your name; current address; city, state, ZIP code and country; country of birth; date of birth; name and country of birth of your father and mother; Social Security number; and marital history.
- When you sign the affidavit, you are making a sworn statement that there are no legal impediments to the marriage.
- Valid government issued ID
- If you were married before, you must list all prior marriages. You must include your previous spouse's full name; the exact date the divorce decree was granted and the city, state, and country where the divorce was issued. If you cannot provide these details, you will be asked to produce the final divorce decree in English.
- All divorces, annulments, and dissolutions must be finalized before you apply for a new Marriage License.
- If you are a widow or widower, you must provide your deceased spouse's full name and date of death.

## *Required Witnesses at Your Ceremony*

You and your prospective spouse must have at least one witness, who must be 18 years of age or over present at your ceremony. The witness or witnesses must bring proper identification. They need not be US Citizens but must have an address of residence. Post Office boxes, hotels, etc., will not be accepted.

### *Who Can Perform Marriages in New York City?*

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Please note that any marriage officiant who performs a marriage in any of the boroughs of New York City must be registered with the Office of the City Clerk. Therefore, if your marriage ceremony will take place in any of the five boroughs you should ensure that the person performing the ceremony is registered with the Office of the City Clerk. You can ask for your officiant's registration number, and call 212-669-2778 to check.

### *Who Can Perform Marriages in New York State?*

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New York State will accept a marriage performed by a friend or family member who is ordained online, and will consider the marriage a "good marriage". \*HOWEVER\* if the friend or family member is not active clergy, the marriage can be legally challenged if at a later date the legitimacy of the marriage is questioned.

## New York City Clerk's Office Location & Hours

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Please note that their offices open and close promptly at the hours stated below. Please allow for enough time to pass through security at each of our locations. Parties who do not have all of the necessary materials, such proper identification before the time the office closes, will need to return on another day.

### **Manhattan Office**

Hours: 8:30 am to 3:45 pm, Monday through Friday

141 Worth Street

New York, NY 10013

Subway: Brooklyn Bridge Station on the 4, 5, & 6 lines; Park Place Station on the 2 & 3 lines; City Hall Station on the N & R lines; Chambers Street Station on the A & C lines

Buses: M1, M6, M15, M22, M103, B51, & express buses serving City Hall area

### **Bronx Office**

Hours: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday

Supreme Court Building

851 Grand Concourse, Room B131

Bronx, NY 10451

Subway: 161st Street-Yankee Stadium Station on the 4, B, & D lines

Buses: Bx1, Bx6, Bx13

### **Brooklyn Office**

Hours: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday

Brooklyn Municipal Building

210 Joralemon Street, Room 205

Brooklyn, NY 11201

Subway: Borough Hall (Court Street) Station on the 2, 3, 4, 5, M, & R lines

Buses: B25, B26, B37, B38, B41, B45, B51, B52, B54, B57, B61, B65, B67, B75, B103

### **Queens Office**

Hours: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday

Borough Hall Building

120-55 Queens Boulevard, Ground Floor, Room X001

Kew Gardens, NY 11424

Subway: Kew Gardens-Union Turnpike Station on the E & F lines

Buses: Q10, Q37, Q46, Q60, Q74

### **Staten Island Office**

Hours: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday

Borough Hall Building

10 Richmond Terrace, Room 311

Staten Island, NY 10301