

Utah Marriage Officiant Guide

Marriage Officiants: Ministers of the gospel or priests of any denomination who are in regular communion with any religious society may perform marriages. Ministers must submit the completed certificate of marriage to the county clerk who issued the marriage license within 30 days after the marriage ceremony. Non-resident Officiants may also serve in Utah without restriction.

Solemnization Authority: A minister, rabbi, priest, mayor, judge, county clerk, Native American spiritual adviser, the Governor of Utah, court commissioners and judges, as well as particular members of the legislature, are eligible.

MARRIAGE LICENSE INFORMATION

Much of the information below is state law in Utah; however, this information can vary from county to county, and is subject to change. We recommend contacting your county clerk's office before applying for your marriage license.

ID Requirement: Valid picture ID such as a passport, birth certificate, driver's license, or state ID card must be presented.

- Either bring your Social Security card or know your Social Security number.
- If you want to use your maiden name on the license bring a certified copy of your birth certificate or a certified copy of your divorce decree that states name is to be changed to maiden name.

Residency Requirement: You do not have to be residents of Utah.

Application Requirement: Both parties to the marriage must appear in person at the time of applying. For those wishing to be married, a marriage license is necessary. *In order to obtain a marriage license, you must contact a county clerk within thirty days of your scheduled wedding.*

Proxy Marriages: Not permitted. Both parties must be present when applying for their license.

Fees: A license fee or \$45 (or more) is applicable in most counties. The fee will include two certified copies of the license. Please note: In some counties, there is no fee, but an additional charge for the certified copies may be applied. If you wish to be married by a county clerk, call your local county clerk office to set up an appointment. Additionally, you must bring two witnesses over the age of 18, and pay an additional fee for the ceremony.

Waiting Period: No waiting period is required.

Blood Tests: No blood test requirement.

Under 18: Utah law states that marriage at the age of 18 years and above does not require parental consent. For those ages 16 or 17, parental consent is necessary. For those 15 years old, the following requirements must be met:

- Parental consent must be obtained.
- Approval from Juvenile Court is necessary. The court must conclude that the marriage is voluntary and in the best interests of the minor.
- The court may require premarital counseling where and when appropriate.

Common Law Marriage: Permitted. A common law marriage is a situation where a man and woman have never had a formal wedding ceremony but may be declared husband and wife. Filing for common law marriage will allow the court to assist in matters such as custody or the division of property. In order for a common law marriage to be filed, the following qualifications must be met:

- Both parties must be competent and able to give consent.
- Both must be able to be married.
- Both must be living together as spouses.
- Both have assumed marital responsibilities and duties.
- Both must have "held themselves out" as husband and wife such that others perceived them to be married.

Cousin Marriage: Permitted, if both cousins are over the age of 65, or over the age of 55 and can prove sterility. (This is a very important exception, as many cousins do get married in their senior years.)

Same-Gender Marriage: Permitted.

Valid: A Utah marriage license is valid for 30 days. The marriage license can only be used within the State of Utah.



For additional information, please visit FirstNationMinistry.org/us/utah

The above information is believed to be correct, but does not purport to be legal advice, is not all-inclusive and shall be used only as a guide. Under the terms specified in your ordination, you are solely responsible for becoming familiar with and complying to all current laws and regulations in effect within the jurisdiction in which you will conduct ceremonies.