



Persons who wish to solemnize a marriage in the State of Maine must be authorized to do so as specified by 19A MRS §655. Please make sure you meet the criteria specified below prior to solemnizing any marriage.

If a resident of this State:	If a resident or nonresident* of this State: (whether or not a citizen of the United States)
A justice or judge	An ordained minister of the gospel
A lawyer admitted to the Maine Bar	A cleric engaged in the service of the religious body to which the cleric belongs
A licensed officiant under Title 5, Section 90-G	A person licensed to preach by an association of ministers, religious seminary, or ecclesiastical body

*A nonresident of the State who has a temporary registration certificate issued by Data, Research and Vital Statistics office (vital records).

Before any marriage is solemnized in the State of Maine, a marriage license must be obtained by the parties who are intending to be married. Parties who reside in the State of Maine, must obtain the marriage license from DRVS or the municipality in which they reside. Parties who live out of State, may obtain the marriage license from DRVS or any municipality in the State of Maine.

It is the officiant’s responsibility to ensure the following is completed on the marriage license **before** the solemnization of the marriage:

- The marriage license has been signed/issued by DRVS or a municipal clerk authorizing the marriage to take place (box 26, please see paragraph above).
- The marriage license has not expired (box 24).
- Both parties’ signatures and printed names are on the license (box 19 & 21). If the license has not been signed by the parties intending to marry, the Officiant must obtain their signature

It is the officiant’s responsibility to ensure the following is completed on the marriage license **after** the solemnization of the marriage:

- The date of marriage is the actual date the marriage was solemnized (box 28).
- The place and county are where the marriage took place (boxes 29-30).
- The officiants signature, title, and printed name (boxes 31-33).
- The officiants date of ordination, commission, or expiration (box 34).
- The officiants residence and mailing address (boxes 35-44).
- Both the witness’s signatures and printed names (boxes 45-48).
- The marriage license does NOT contain a notary seal or stamp.

THE OFFICIANT MUST PERSONALLY MAIL OR BRING THE COMPLETED MARRIAGE LICENSE TO THE ISSUING AUTHORITY SPECIFIED IN BOX 27. DO NOT GIVE THE PARTIES THE COMPLETED LICENSE TO FILE.

The issuing authority will review the completed marriage license for any error or discrepancies and will sign in box 49 & 50. A marriage certificate may be obtained once the marriage license has been filed and registered in the Electronic Marriage Registration System (EMRS).