

Janet T. Mills
Governor

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Commissioner



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PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO SOLEMNIZE MARRIAGES IN MAINE

Maine law, 19-A MRS §655 specifies persons authorized to solemnize marriages in Maine. The following persons are authorized to solemnize marriages in Maine:

If a resident of this State:

- ✓ A justice or judge;
- ✓ A lawyer admitted to the Maine Bar; or
- ✓ A notary public under Title 4, chapter 19;

Whether a resident or nonresident of this State and whether or not a citizen of the United States:

- ✓ An ordained minister of the gospel;
- ✓ A cleric engaged in the service of the religious body to which the cleric belongs; or
- ✓ A person licensed to preach by an association of ministers, religious seminary or ecclesiastical body; and
- ✓ A nonresident of the State who has a temporary registration certificate issued by the Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ's)

1. *How do I find a Maine Notary Public?*

A online search may be made by individuals looking for a Maine Notary at the Department of the Secretary of State website at https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/notary/search/search_index.pl

2. *Can a person become ordained through an online process?*

Yes, a person ordained through an online process is still a minister, at least for the purpose of marrying a couple in the State of Maine.

3. *Can a nonresident who is authorized to perform a marriage in their State perform a marriage in Maine?*

Yes, a nonresident may apply for a one-time temporary registration certificate to perform a marriage in Maine. The application and instructions on how to apply may be found on Data, Research, and Vital Statistics website at <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/data-research/vital-records/forms/index.shtml>.

Questions?

Please contact Data, Research, and Vital Statistics at 1-888-664-9491 or (207) 287-3181 or email questions to edrs.dhhs@maine.gov.