

**DAWN OLNEY
BENZIE COUNTY CLERK**

448 COURT PLACE – BEULAH, MI 49617 – (231) 882-9671
www.benzieco.net

MARRIAGE LICENSE PROCEDURE
RESIDENTS OF BENZIE COUNTY

To apply for a marriage license, one of the parties must be a resident of Benzie County. The marriage may be performed anywhere within the State of Michigan.

Please type or print clearly in ink, the Affidavit for License to Marry. We need the surname (maiden) of both parents and the state only for the birthplace for each parent. Do not leave any spaces blank. Make every effort to print the correct information. If information is not known, print "Unknown." BOTH PARTIES' SIGNATURES MUST BE NOTARIZED.

The box regarding the educational materials should only be checked upon receipt of the materials by our office.

Return the Affidavit with **\$20.00** cash, check or money order, payable to Benzie County Clerk, to the above address. Also include a **copy of both driver licenses**. If mailing, allow enough time for preparation of the license.

The marriage license is valid for 33 days after the application is received in our office.

There is a three-day waiting period from the time the Affidavit is received in our office until the license is picked up.

You will be provided with two copies of the marriage license. Once the license has been filed with our office, you will be able to purchase certified copies to use for any purpose needed.

Please call us at 231-882-9671 if you have any questions. Our office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

AFFIDAVIT FOR LICENSE TO MARRY

No. _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN

County of _____

DAYTIME TELEPHONE: _____

WEDDING DATE: _____

The Undersigned, being duly sworn, depose(s) and say(s) that:

COUPLE	_____ and _____	
	FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last) <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last) <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE
	_____	_____
	SURNAME ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE, IF DIFFERENT	SURNAME ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE, IF DIFFERENT
	PRESENT AGE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____	PRESENT AGE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____
	_____	_____
	BIRTHPLACE - CITY AND STATE	BIRTHPLACE - CITY AND STATE
	RESIDENCE NO. _____ STREET _____	RESIDENCE NO. _____ STREET _____
	_____	_____
	CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE	CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE
PARENTS	RESIDENCE COUNTY _____ TIMES PREVIOUSLY MARRIED _____	RESIDENCE COUNTY _____ TIMES PREVIOUSLY MARRIED _____
	_____	_____
	FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)	FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)
	_____	_____
	SURNAME AT BIRTH _____ BIRTHPLACE _____	SURNAME AT BIRTH _____ BIRTHPLACE _____
	_____	_____
FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)	FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)	
_____	_____	
SURNAME AT BIRTH _____ BIRTHPLACE _____	SURNAME AT BIRTH _____ BIRTHPLACE _____	

intend to marry and that this affidavit is made for the purpose of obtaining a marriage license; that each of the above-named persons is of the age required by law, is not related to the other within the degree prohibited by statute and is of sufficient mental capacity to contract marriage; that said persons are acquainted with the laws of the State of Michigan relative to marriage; that there is no legal impediment to said marriage; and that to the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned all of the foregoing statements are true.

Educational materials regarding prenatal care and the transmission and prevention of venereal disease and HIV infection as well as information on the availability of tests for these diseases have been received.

Signature _____ Signature _____

Social Security Number _____ Social Security Number _____

Subscribed to before me: the County Clerk: a Notary Public of _____ County,
acting in _____ County, and whose commission expires on _____, 20____;
or other person authorized to administer oaths, and sworn to on _____, 20____.

Signature _____

GETTING MARRIED IN MICHIGAN? WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW....

Who can marry....

To be able to marry you must not be married to someone else. (MCL 551.5) *If you have been married before, you may be asked to document that the earlier marriage has ended due to death or divorce.*

To obtain a Michigan marriage license the couple must be 18 years of age or older and be able to enter into legal contracts. (MCL 551.103)

If 16 or 17 years of age, a person can apply for a license but must have parental consent or consent of their legal guardian to marry. If custody of a person applying for a license under the age of 18 has been awarded by the court, the consent must be from a custodial parent. (MCL 551.51 and 551.103)

Where to apply and where to marry....

If either of the couple are Michigan residents, they must apply with the county clerk where one or both have legal residence. Once the license is issued, Michigan residents can marry anywhere in the state. (MCL 551.101)

If neither of the couple lives in Michigan, they must apply with the county clerk where the marriage ceremony is to be performed. Once issued, the license can be used only in the issuing county. (MCL 551.101)

*In either case, a Michigan license is **not valid outside the state of Michigan.***

Who can you marry....

There are restrictions on who someone can marry. (MCL 551.3 and 551.4)

A man cannot marry his mother, sister, grandmother, daughter, granddaughter, stepmother, grandfather's wife, son's wife, grandson's wife, wife's mother, wife's grandmother, wife's daughter, wife's granddaughter, brother's daughter, sister's daughter, father's sister, mother's sister, or cousin of the first degree.

A woman cannot marry her father, brother, grandfather, son, grandson, stepfather, grandmother's husband, daughter's husband, granddaughter's husband, husband's father, husband's grandfather, husband's son, husband's grandson, brother's son, sister's son, father's brother, mother's brother, or cousin of the first degree.

The three day waiting period....

Generally, a marriage license is not issued for a period of three days, including the date of the application. Applicants can, however, request a waiver of the three day waiting period from the clerk issuing the license. (MCL 551.103a)

Special notice of perjury....

*Note that the application for a marriage license is a sworn affidavit. Making false statements in the marriage license affidavit is **an act of perjury** which is a prosecutable offense. (MCL 551.108)*