

Getting Married in Ocean City, New Jersey

When should you apply for a marriage license in Ocean City?

- (1) If the bride is a **resident** of Ocean City. Bride must provide proof of Ocean City residency.
- (2) If the bride is a **non-resident** of New Jersey, but the groom is a resident of Ocean City. Groom must provide proof of Ocean City residency.
- (3) If **only** the groom is a **resident** of New Jersey, the license must be obtained from the Registrar in the municipality in which the groom resides.
- (4) If both the bride and the groom are **non-residents** of New Jersey, but would like to be married in Ocean City. Please note that in this instance, the marriage license **MUST BE** obtained from the Municipality in which the couple will be married and the license will only be valid in that municipality.
- (5) AT LEAST 72 hours before the wedding! It may be longer, as an application is valid for up to 6 months. Keep in mind that if you are getting married on a Saturday or Sunday, you must apply by the previous Tuesday to allow for the 72 hour waiting period and since the Clerk's office is not open on weekends, the license must be picked up on Friday.

What you must bring to APPLY for the marriage license:

- (1) Birth certificates, baptismal certificates or passports, proof of residency
- (2) A **WITNESS** that knows both the bride and groom and is at least 18 years old. If the bride and groom are unable to apply at the same time, they may apply separately; however the **same witness** must be present during both.
- (3) If either party was previously married and is either divorced or widowed, you must bring a copy of the divorce decree which shows the name of the judge and the date and place of the final decree or a certified copy of a death certificate.
- (4) Social Security Numbers must be provided
- (5) If an applicant is under the age of 18, consent of both parents is required.
- (6) If an applicant is under the age of 16, both parental consents **AND** judicial approval of such consents are required.
- (7) \$28.00 for the license fee.

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Other information you need to know:

- (1) **BLOOD TESTS ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED!!!**
- (2) Once the license is issued, it is valid for 30 days
- (3) According to State law, the following individuals can perform a marriage:
 - (a) Judges of a Federal District Court
 - (b) United States Magistrates
 - (c) Judges of Municipal Courts, Superior Courts or Tax Courts
 - (d) Mayors or Deputy Mayors
 - (e) County Clerks
 - (f) Clergyman - every minister of every religion
- (4) **TWO (2)** witnesses are required at the ceremony. The witnesses must be at least 12 years old.
- (5) After the marriage, the license is recorded in the municipality in which the marriage took place. You must **contact** that municipality in order to receive a certified copy. With the new laws concerning 9-11, identification must be presented at time of request for a certified copy. A Request Form must be filled out and identification presented. The purchase price of a certified copy is \$4.00.
- (6) If for some reason, the 72 hour waiting period cannot be met, the applicants must appear before a Superior Court judge to have it waived and that signed waiver must be presented to the Registrar prior to the license being issued.

If you have additional questions, you may contact :

Registrar of Vital Statistics
City Clerk's Office
Room 1, City Hall
9th & Asbury Avenue
Ocean City, New Jersey 08226
8:45 am to 4:30 p.m.
(609) 525-9328, 9325 or 9326

Rita Fulginiti, Cape May County Clerk 465-1010
Richard Russell, O.C. Municipal Judge 398-1900
Beach Permits – O.C. Community Services
Dept..... 525-9294

August 15, 2006
MARRIED in Ocean City