

## APPLICATION FOR LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

### PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING APPLICATION

- When you sign the marriage application form, you are stating under penalty of perjury that the information you have provided is true and correct, that you are currently an unmarried couple, and that there is no legal objection to the marriage.
- If you are using a regular public marriage license, you may be married anywhere in California. If you are using a confidential marriage license, you must be married in the same county that issues the license. Check the license to see what the requirements are for witnesses and solemnization.
- Marriage licenses are valid for 90 days from the date of issuance. You must be married on or after the issuance date, and on or before the expiration date of the license. Licenses not used within this timeframe are void.
- The appropriate fee may be paid in cash or by check, payable to the county clerk.
- No refunds are given for marriage licenses purchased in error.
- Please check the type of marriage license you would like to apply for:
  - License and Certificate of Marriage (VS 117)** — This is the standard type of marriage license. This type of marriage license requires the signature of at least one witness and one person solemnizing the marriage.
  - License and Certificate of Marriage for Denominations Not Having Clergy (VS 115)** — This type of license is used for the recording of marriages for members of religious societies or denominations that do not have clergy for the purpose of solemnizing a marriage.
  - License and Certificate of Declaration of Marriage (VS 116)** — This type of license is used for the recording of a marriage that was licensed and occurred over one year ago; however, no official record exists.
  - Confidential License and Certificate of Marriage (VS 123)** — Confidential marriage licenses may only be issued to unmarried parties who are at least 18 years old and have been living together as spouses. Since the confidential marriage license requires the signature of a marriage officiant, they are not available to members of religious denominations not having clergy. Certified copies of the marriage license and certificate may only be issued to the couple. Confidential marriage licenses may not be available in all counties. The signatures of the parties in fields 23 and 24 affirm that they meet the requirements to receive a confidential marriage license.

### INFORMATION REGARDING THE NAME EQUALITY ACT OF 2007

The Name Equality Act of 2007 (AB 102, Chapter 567, Statutes of 2007, amended by AB 1143, Chapter 412, Statutes of 2009) allows one or both applicants to a California marriage to elect to change the middle and/or last names by which each party wishes to be known after they are married by entering the new name in fields 29A thru 30C, as applicable, on the marriage license application. This must be done **at the time the applicants are applying for the marriage license.**

Each party to the marriage **may** adopt any of the following **last names** (Family Code Section 306.5(b)(2)):

- ◆ Current last name of the other spouse
- ◆ Last name of either spouse given at birth
- ◆ A name combining into a **single last name all or a segment** of the current last name or the last name of either spouse given at birth
- ◆ A hyphenated combination of last names

Each part to the marriage may adopt any of the following middle names (Family Code Section 306.5 (b)(3)):

- ◆ Current last name of either spouse
- ◆ The last name of either spouse given at birth
- ◆ A hyphenated combination of the current middle name and the current last name of the person or spouse

**NOTE:** Parties to the marriage **may not** change their **first name** on the marriage license. Parties to the marriage may not add or amend this information after the marriage license is issued **unless** it is a **clerical error** and the amendment is signed by the county clerk and one of the parties to the marriage.

**Parties to the marriage are not required to change their name, nor, are they required to have the same name.**

**If one or both parties do not wish to identify a new name on the marriage license, the fields on the marriage license will be completed using two single dashes. You may not change the information on the marriage license after it has been issued by the County Clerk.**

The marriage certificate is used by multiple local, state, federal and private agencies, each of which have different requirements regarding what documents are acceptable to change your name on their records following marriage. It is recommended that you contact these agencies to verify their requirements **prior to applying for your marriage license.**

County Clerk staff cannot provide you information on how to complete the marriage license application as it relates to the entry of a new name or retention of your former name on the marriage license application. For your protection, if you have **any** questions regarding whether you should or should not list your new name on the marriage license application, and/or how the Name Equality Act of 2007 may affect you, please consult with a private attorney **prior to applying for your marriage license.**

**APPLICATION FOR LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE  
MUST BE LEGIBLE**

<input type="checkbox"/> Groom <input type="checkbox"/> Bride FIRST PERSON DATA	1A. FIRST NAME				1B. MIDDLE						
	1C. CURRENT LAST				1D. LAST NAME AT BIRTH (IF DIFFERENT THAN 1C)						
	2. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/CCYY)		3. STATE/COUNTRY OF BIRTH		4. # PREV. MARRIAGES / SRDP		5A. LAST MARRIAGE / SRDP ENDED BY: <input type="checkbox"/> DEATH <input type="checkbox"/> DISSO <input type="checkbox"/> ANNULMENT <input type="checkbox"/> TERM SRDP <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		5B. DATE ENDED (MM/DD/CCYY)		
	6. ADDRESS				7. CITY			8. STATE / COUNTRY		9. ZIP CODE	
	10A. FULL BIRTH NAME OF FATHER / PARENT						10B. STATE OF BIRTH (IF OUTSIDE U.S., ENTER COUNTRY)				
	11A. FULL BIRTH NAME OF MOTHER / PARENT						11B. STATE OF BIRTH (IF OUTSIDE U.S., ENTER COUNTRY)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Groom <input type="checkbox"/> Bride SECOND PERSON DATA	12A. FIRST NAME				12B. MIDDLE						
	12C. CURRENT LAST				12D. LAST NAME AT BIRTH (IF DIFFERENT THAN 12C)						
	13. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/CCYY)		14. STATE/COUNTRY OF BIRTH		15. # PREV. MARRIAGES / SRDP		16A. LAST MARRIAGE / SRDP ENDED BY: <input type="checkbox"/> DEATH <input type="checkbox"/> DISSO <input type="checkbox"/> ANNULMENT <input type="checkbox"/> TERM SRDP <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		16B. DATE ENDED (MM/DD/CCYY)		
	17. ADDRESS				18. CITY			19. STATE / COUNTRY		20. ZIP CODE	
	21A. FULL BIRTH NAME OF FATHER / PARENT						21B. STATE OF BIRTH (IF OUTSIDE U.S., ENTER COUNTRY)				
	22A. FULL BIRTH NAME OF MOTHER / PARENT						22B. STATE OF BIRTH (IF OUTSIDE U.S., ENTER COUNTRY)				
AFFIDAVIT	WE, THE UNDERSIGNED DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA THAT WE ARE UNMARRIED AND THAT THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF. WE FURTHER DECLARE THAT NO LEGAL OBJECTION TO THE MARRIAGE NOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE IS KNOWN TO US. WE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY FAMILY CODE SECTION 358 AND HEREBY APPLY FOR A LICENSE AND CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.										
	23. SIGNATURE OF PERSON LISTED IN FIELDS 1A-1D ▶					24. SIGNATURE OF PERSON LISTED IN FIELDS 12A-12D ▶					
	25. ISSUE DATE		26. EXPIRES AFTER (MM/DD/CCYY)		27. MARRIAGE LICENSE NUMBER			28. CLERK ISSUING LICENSE			
	NEW MIDDLE AND LAST NAME OF PERSON LISTED IN 1A-1D (IF ANY) FOR USE UPON SOLEMNIZATION OF THE MARRIAGE										
NEW NAMES IF ANY	29A. FIRST – MUST BE SAME AS 1A			29B. MIDDLE			29C. LAST				
	NEW MIDDLE AND LAST NAME OF PERSON LISTED IN 12A-12D (IF ANY) FOR USE UPON SOLEMNIZATION OF THE MARRIAGE										
	30A. FIRST – MUST BE SAME AS 12A			30B. MIDDLE			30C. LAST				