

# Application for Marriage License

## *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.
- The marriage license must be used within the State of California. 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:
  - Public 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 (Assembly Bill 102, Chapter 567, Statutes of 2007) allows one or both applicants to a California marriage to elect to change the middle 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 combination of last names

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

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

**NOTE:** Parties to the marriage **may not** change their **first name** on the marriage license.

**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, unless there is a clerical error.**

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**.

**NOTE:** 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**.

**FIRST PERSON DATA** GROOM BRIDE

1A. First Name		1B. Middle Name	
1C. Current Last Name		1D. Last Name at Birth (if different than box 1C.)	
2. Date of Birth	3. State/Country of Birth		4. # of Previous Marriages or State Registered Domestic Partnerships <input type="text"/>
5A. Last Marriage/State Registered Domestic Partnership ended by: (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Death <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution (Divorce) <input type="checkbox"/> Annulment <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated SRDP			5B. Date ended: (mm/dd/yyyy)
6. Address	7. City	8. State/Country	9. Zip Code
10A. Full Birth Name of Father/Parent (First, Middle, Last)		10B. State of Birth (if outside of U.S. enter Country of birth)	
11A. Full Birth Name of Mother/Parent (First, Middle, Last)		11B. State of Birth (if outside of U.S. enter Country of birth)	

**SECOND PERSON DATA** GROOM BRIDE

12A. First Name		12B. Middle Name	
12C. Current Last Name		12D. Last Name at Birth (if different than box 12C.)	
13. Date of Birth	14. State/Country of Birth		15. # of Previous Marriages or State Registered Domestic Partnerships <input type="text"/>
16A. Last Marriage/State Registered Domestic Partnership ended by: (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Death <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution (Divorce) <input type="checkbox"/> Annulment <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated SRDP			16B. Date ended: (mm/dd/yyyy)
17. Address	18. City	19. State/Country	20. Zip Code
21A. Full Birth Name of Father/Parent (First, Middle, Last)		21B. State of Birth (if outside of U.S. enter Country of birth)	
22A. Full Birth Name of Mother/Parent (First, Middle, Last)		22B. State of Birth (if outside of U.S. enter Country of birth)	

***If you want to change your name using this Marriage License, you must enter the new name below. If you decide to change your name after this license is issued, then you will have to go to court for a court ordered name change.***

*See Information on Reverse Outlining Options for Changing your Name.*

First – <b>MUST BE SAME AS 1A.</b>	Middle Name	Last Name
First – <b>MUST BE SAME AS 12A.</b>	Middle Name	Last Name

*We, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury that all the information above is true and correct to the best of our knowledge. We also declare that we have read and understood the information on the reverse side of this form.*

**Signature (1A—1D):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature (12A—12D):** \_\_\_\_\_