

# Montana Marriage Laws

**ID Requirement:** Certified copy of birth certificates.

**Residency Requirement:** Do not have to be a resident of Montana.

**Application Requirement:** License applications can be obtained from the Clerk of the District Court in any Montana county. Complete applications cannot be filed by mail; both parties must be present in front of the Clerk. If both parties are non-residents of Montana, obtain the license application from the Clerk in the county in which the ceremony will be performed. If one party is a non-resident, his/her part can be sworn to or affirmed in the county and state in which he/she resides.

**Waiting Period:** Montana law allows you to get married immediately after officially receiving your marriage license. No waiting period is necessary unless under the age of 18.

**If Divorced:** A certified copy of the divorce decree is required.

**Fees:** \$53.00 - cash only.

**Other Tests:** The bride is required to take a blood test for rubella.

**Under 18:** If you are 16 or 17 years old, you must have the consent of both parents unless only one parent has legal custody of you. Proof of age must be in the form of a certified copy of your birth certificate. Both of you, as a couple, will also have to attend at least two counseling sessions that are at least 10 days apart. This has to be done with a designated counselor who will then have to provide a letter that states the names of the couple, their ages, the dates of the counseling sessions, and what the counselor thinks about their possible marriage. Then judicial consent signed by a district court judge must be given for the Clerk of court's office to issue a marriage license. No one 15 years of age or younger may marry in Montana.

**Proxy Marriages:** Yes.

## **Copy of Certificate of Marriage:**

Department of Health and Human Services  
Vital Statistics Bureau  
111 N. Sanders, Room 205  
Helena, MT 59620  
(406) 444-4228

**Miscellaneous:** License is valid for 180 days. Marriage licenses are like cream; if you don't use it straight away, eventually it will go sour. Montana marriage licenses expire after 6 Months. If your license expires before you wed, you can reapply for another license.

While the record that a marriage occurred is public in Montana, the personal information about the bride and groom contained in the marriage license application is confidential and generally available only to immediate family members. Ministers of the gospel of any denomination may perform marriages. Ministers must complete and return a marriage certificate to the clerk of the district court within 30 days after the marriage. Also the minister must provide marriage certificates to the bride and groom upon request.

**Please verify all information for accuracy with the appropriate State department.**

**For questions contact the Clerk of the District Court with jurisdiction in the county where you plan to marry.**

**Please Note:** State and county marriage license requirements often change. The above information is for guidance only and should not be regarded as legal advice.

## Montana County Clerks' Offices

Big Horn County  
Harden, MT  
406.665.1504

Blaine County  
Chinook, MT  
406.357.3109

Broadwater County  
Townsend, MT  
406.266.3418

Carbon County  
Red Lodge, MT  
406.446.1225

Cascade County  
Great Falls, MT  
406.454.6892

Chouteau County  
Fort Benton, MT  
406.622.5024

Custer County  
Miles City, MT  
406.232.7800

Dawson County  
Glendive, MT  
406.365.2666

Deer Lodge County  
Anaconda, MT  
406.563.4040

Fallon County  
Baker, MT  
406.778.2883

Flathead County  
Kalispell, MT  
406.758.5660

Gallatin County  
Bozeman, MT  
406.582.2165

Garfield County  
Jordan, MT  
406.557.6254

Glacier County  
Cut Bank, MT  
406.873.5627

Golden Valley County  
Ryegate, MT  
406.568.2231

Granite County  
Philipsburg, MT  
406.859.3712

Hill County  
Havre, MT  
406.265.5481

Jefferson County  
Boulder, MT  
406.225.4042

Lake County  
Polson, MT  
406.883.7254

Lewis & Clark County  
Helena, MT  
406.447.8205

Liberty County  
Chester, MT  
406.759.5615

Lincoln County  
Libby, MT  
406.293.7781

Madison County  
Virginia City, MT  
406.843.4235

Meagher County  
Whitesulpher Springs, MT  
406.547.3941

Mineral County  
Superior, MT  
406.822.3538

Missoula County  
Missoula, MT  
406.523.4780

Musselshell County  
Round Up, MT  
406.323.1413

Park County  
Livingston, MT  
406.222.4110

Phillips County  
Malta, MT  
406.654.1023

Pondera County  
Conrad, MT  
406.278.4026

Powder River County  
Broadus, MT  
406.436.2320

Powell County  
Deer Lodge, MT  
406.846.3680

Prairie County  
Terry, MT  
406.637.5575

Ravalli County  
Hamilton, MT  
406.375.6214

Richland County  
Sidney, MT  
406.482.5939

Roosevelt County  
Wolf Point, MT  
406.653.1590

Rosebud County  
Forsyth, MT  
406.356.7322

Sanders County  
Thompson Falls, MT  
406.827.4316

Sheridan County  
Plentywood, MT  
406.765.2310

Silver Bow County  
Butte, MT  
406.723.8262

Stillwater County  
Columbus, MT  
406.322.5332

Sweet Grass  
Bigtimber, MT  
406.932.5154

Teton County  
Choteau, MT  
406.466.2909

Toole County  
Shelby, MT  
406.434.2271

Treasurer County  
Hysham, MT  
406.342.5547

Valley County  
Glasgow, MT  
406.228.8221

Wheatland County  
Harlowton, MT  
406.632.4893

Yellowstone County  
Billings, MT  
406.256.2869