

Frequently Asked Questions

***Question:* How do I apply for a marriage license?**

According to Massachusetts law, you must jointly file intentions to marry with the city or town clerk in any community in the state.

***Question:* Is there a waiting period?**

Yes, there is a mandatory 3 day waiting period.

***Question:* May we marry before the three day waiting period?**

Yes, if you obtain a court waiver.

***Question:* Is a blood test required?**

No, a blood test is not required.

***Question:* Is it necessary to have witnesses present at the ceremony?**

Massachusetts statute does not require that witnesses be present at your ceremony.

***Question:* At what age may a man and woman marry?**

A Massachusetts resident may marry if he or she is 18 years of age or older.

***Question:* How long is a marriage license valid?**

A marriage license, once obtained, is valid for 60 days from the date intentions are filed and may be used in any city or town in the Commonwealth.

***Question:* How does one become a Justice of the Peace?**

A Justice of the Peace is appointed by the Governor for a seven year term and confirmed by the Governors Council. Each city/town is allowed one Justice of the Peace for every 5,000 residents.

***Question:* How will I know if there is a vacancy in my town?**

To see if there is a vacancy in your town, you can check with the Secretary of States Office.

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