

MARRIAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1. Both groom and bride must appear with acceptable and valid identification such as Driver's License, Passport, Florida State ID Cards, Military Identification Card, Resident Alien Card, Naturalization Certificate, Visa, or Citizenship Certificate (picture needs to look like the person applying).
2. No blood test is required.
3. United States citizens will need to know their Social Security Number.
4. Couples who are Florida residents must wait three days after applying for the license to be married or take a premarital course and the license will be valid the same day as application is made.

If couple decides to take the premarital course they can obtain the list of providers from the Clerk's Website www.polkcountyclerk.net, contact one of those providers and take the course before they apply for their license. After taking the course, they will need to obtain a certificate from the provider to present when applying for their license. They do not have to take the course together; it can be taken separately, and each will present a certificate. If the couple takes the course, they will get a \$32.50 reduction on the cost of the license. Each provider sets their own costs and the couple will pay the provider for the course.

If one party is a Florida resident and one is not, the Florida resident will need to take the course to obtain the fee reduction and waive the three day wait. If both are non-Florida residents they will be exempt from these requirements and there is no waiting period.

There is also a handbook that has been created by the Family Law Section of the Florida Bar that the couple will need to read before obtaining their license. This handbook can be viewed on our website www.polkcountyclerk.net, or read when applying for the license. All applicants are required to sign an affidavit stating they did or did not take the premarital course and did read the handbook.

5. The marriage license is good for 60 days after the effective date.
6. Age limitations: 18 years of age is the legal age to marry in the State of Florida. Anyone under the age of 18 will need to contact our office.
7. Previous Marriages: If either party has ever been married before they will need to know the month, day, and year of the divorce or death.
8. Cost of the marriage license without course is \$93.50 in cash or credit card.
9. Marriage License with proof of course is \$61.00 cash or credit card.
10. Certified copy of License is \$3.00 with no record search, \$5.00 with a record search.
11. Marriage License for Framing is \$7.00 with no record search, \$9.00 with a record search.
12. Marriage Ceremony performed at the Clerk's Office by a Deputy Clerk is \$30.00 cash or credit card.

NOTE: Currently, our office accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. There is a nonrefundable charge of \$5.00 per transaction to provide the credit card service. This service fee is charged by our financial services provider. The Clerk's Office does not receive any part of this fee.

You may obtain your license from the Bartow Courthouse, Lakeland Branch Office, or Winter Haven Branch Office - Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The following are the addresses for the Bartow, Lakeland, and Winter Haven offices:

Bartow Court House
255 N. Broadway Ave.
Bartow, FL 33830
863-534-4516

Lakeland Government Center
930 E. Parker St., Rm 240
Lakeland, FL 33801
863-603-6412

Northeast Polk County Government Center
3425 Lake Alfred Road
#7 Gill Jones Center
Winter Haven, FL 33881
863-401-2400