**Marriage Information**

**Carson County Clerk’s Office**

**Where do you get a Marriage License?**

Answer: A couple that intends to be married in Texas MUST apply in person for a marriage license any Texas County Clerk’s Office. Both applicants must sign the application for license in the presence of the County Clerk.

**How and where do I obtain the marriage education certificate and what is the cost?**

**Answer:** Texas now encourages free marriage education classes around the state for premarital couples. The classes are at least 8 hours long and after completing the class, you will get a certificate that you can take to your County Clerk when applying for your marriage license. To find a class log onto <http://www.twogetherintexas.com> or <http://thehappy-family.com>

**What is the fee for the License?**

**Answer:** There is a $22.00 fee if a marriage education certificate is presented otherwise there is an $82.00 fee without the certificate that is payable in cash, check or credit card. (3% is charged on all credit card transactions)

**How long must I wait between the time I get my license and the actual ceremony?**

**Answer:** There must be at least 72 hours between the time of issuance of a license and at the time the ceremony occurs unless one applicant is on active duty in the armed forces; or completion of a marriage education class; or a waiver is granted. A waiver may only be granted by a County Judge or a District Judge.

 A marriage license is valid for 90 days, so with the 72 hour waiting period, there is an 87 day period in which the marriage ceremony can take place. The license is valid in any county in Texas.

**What are the requirement to obtain a license?**

* Proof of identity and age (Drivers’ License, State Identification card, or other document issued by this state or another state, United States or a foreign country, or certified copy of applicants birth certificate
* If required, the documents establishing parental consent, should the applicant be under the age of 18
* the information to complete the license application
* a divorce by either party must be final 30 days prior to the marriage license application
* verbalize the oath printed on the application and sign the application before the County Clerk
* there is not law requiring a blood test

**After the wedding, what do I need to do with the license?**

**Answer:** The license will need to be mail or brought by to the County Clerk’s Office. The person who performed the ceremony usually returns the license. The License will be recorded into the records and returned to you within a few days.

**For additional information please call 806-537-3873**

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