

# Marriage Licence Requirements

**Description:** Anyone wishing to be married in the Bahamas must first request a license from the Registry.

The legal age of marriage in the Bahamas is eighteen (18).

A marriage license is valid for three months.

**Prerequisite: Non-Bahamians:**

- must prove that they have been in the Bahamas at least 24 hours.
- They are required to present their Immigration cards as proof of entry.
- Picture identification may take the form of a driver's license accompanied with a birth certificate or a passport.
- If divorced, Certified copies of final divorce decrees
- If widowed, death certificates
- Applicants are required to submit an affidavit of marital status. The affidavit must be sworn in the Bahamas. United Kingdom and Canada applicants may bring affidavits from their countries.

**Attachments:**

- Widowers and divorcees see instructions below.
- All persons must have proof of identification

**Instructions:**

1. Both individuals must be present and complete the application form
2. Provide proof of identity along with necessary documents
3. Interview:
  - A **Bahamian marrying another Bahamian** is not required to be interviewed and the person performing the ceremony can sign the declaration.
  - A **Bahamian marrying a non-Bahamian** must be interviewed by the Registrar General. The Registrar has to sign the declaration in this instance.
  - Non-Bahamian** applicants are interviewed by either the Registrars or any of the five designated Marriage Officers. Once approved, a license is issued with the applicable payment.
4. If either person is **under the age of 18** they require a [Certificate of consent to Marriage By A Minor](#) (Section 19. Chapter 88.)
5. **Divorcees.** Certified copies of final divorce decrees and certified copies of death certificates must be attached to the application if necessary.
6. **Widower.** Certified copy of the [death certificate](#) of the deceased spouse.
7. Bahamians **over the age of 40**, who do not present a certified copy of a divorce decree or death certificate of a spouse, must wait for a search to be

conducted of the records of marriage to ensure that they have not been married before. The search may take up to two week.

8. A license is valid for three (3) months from the issued date.

**Fee:** \$100.00

**Contact:** REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT  
SHIRLEY HOUSE  
50 SHIRLEY STREET, SHIRLEY & CHARLOTTE STREET  
P. O. Box N-532  
NASSAU, BAHAMAS  
[registrargeneral@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:registrargeneral@bahamas.gov.bs)  
<http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/r>

