



Dan Jones
1245 Cardenas Lane El Prado NM 87529
720 849 5967 EmbracingCeremony.com
Dan@EmbracingCeremony.com

Marriage Procedure in Colorado

A marriage license may be issued in any county and used in any county in the State of Colorado. The license must be used within 30 days from the date of issue. The license is issued the day it is applied for and may be used immediately.

Fee for a marriage license is \$30 and may vary by county. Cash Only. No Credit Cards or Checks Accepted.

Age Requirements: The legal age without parental consent is 18 years of age. Ages 16 and 17 require parental consent from both parents. If one parent is sole custodian of the minor; a divorce decree stating custody rights or a death certificate must be presented at the time of applying for the license. If one or both of the parents cannot appear at the time of applying for the license, an absentee application may be completed and notarized ahead of time. This is to be presented when the marriage license is issued. If these do not apply, judicial approval is then required. Applicants 15 years of age or younger, must obtain a court order granting judicial approval as well as complying with the above requirements. The court order must be obtained in the county where judicial approval has been granted.

Identification: Acceptable forms for proof of age are as follows: Driver's License, Passport, Visa, Birth Certificate, Military ID, or state issued ID Card.

Social Security Number: Must be given when applying for a license. If either party does not have a social security number, they must sign an affidavit when applying for the license.

Application Form: Both male and female applicants must appear in person to complete and sign the marriage application. If one party cannot appear due to illness, is out of state, or incarcerated, he or she must obtain an ABSENTEE APPLICATION from the Clerk and Recorder's office. The party applying must bring the absentee application along with identification for the absent party. Applicants need not be residents of Colorado. ABSENTEE APPLICATIONS MUST BE NOTARIZED.

Previous Marriages: If either party has finalized a divorce within 30 days of applying for the marriage license, the final decree must be produced. This decree must be signed by the judge or court referee. If the divorce has been final more than 30 days, divorce information must be given regarding date of divorce, place of divorce and court in which the divorce was finalized.

Ceremony: A marriage may be solemnized by a judge of a court of record, a public official whose powers include solemnization of marriages, or in accordance with any mode of solemnization recognized by any religious denomination or Indian nation or tribe. A couple can solemnize their own marriage, *but friends or relatives may not perform the ceremony*. Both the bride and groom need to sign the license exactly as their names are printed on the form. Note! Brides sign your maiden name. Once the license has been registered with the county they will return your Marriage Certificate and that becomes the foundation for starting the name change process.

Filing License: It is the responsibility of your officiant to promptly file the license with the county in which you obtained the license. It will be returned to you once it has been recorded.