

New Mexico Marriage Law Guide

Much of the information below is state law; however, this information can change from county to county. We recommend contacting your County Clerk's Office before applying for your marriage license.

Officiant: Any person credentialed by a religious society can perform a marriage in the State of New Mexico. A Justice of the Peace (normally a Magistrate Judge, Municipal Judge or Probate Judge) may also perform a ceremony, including a District Judge upon request. The marriage license must be recorded with the County Clerk's Office by the person solemnizing the marriage within 90 days from the date of marriage.



If you hold complete ordination, and as long as your ordination remains in good standing, you are permitted to perform wedding ceremonies and other rites in all First Nation Western Council states, including California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Arizona, Idaho and New Mexico. You are not required to register with any of these states, but must hold a valid ministerial license from the church prior to performing a ceremony in any of these states. *(You may not legally perform ceremonies in Nevada or Hawaii without an additional endorsement from the church and approval from the respective states.)*

MARRIAGE LICENSE INFORMATION

By law in New Mexico, the County Clerk's office is the only agency permitted to issue marriage licenses. All marriage license applications are permanently filed, as are marriage records. The marriage license hotline is 505-768-4314.

Fee: The cost of a marriage license is \$25 - \$40, which must be paid in cash.

Applicants: Both applicants need to be present for the license to be issued.

Age: Both applicants need to be at least 18 years of age.

Identification: Both applicants must have current legal picture ID, or birth certificate, and must show proof of Social Security number. Applicants from foreign countries must show a passport.

Parental Consent: Required if applicant is 16 or 17 years of age. A court order must be obtained if an applicant is 15 years of age.

Previous Marriage: If previously married, the date of divorce or date of spouse's death must be supplied.

Witnesses: The marriage license must be brought to the ceremony, where it must be signed by two witnesses (who are of legal age) and the minister.

Proxy Marriage: Not permitted.

Common Law Marriage: Not permitted.

Cousin Marriage: Permitted in New Mexico.

Same-Gender Marriage: Permitted.

Miscellaneous: A marriage license is valid for one year, and is issued and valid immediately. A marriage license purchased in any New Mexico county can be used (solemnized) anywhere within the state. No medical exam or waiting period is required.

For additional information, please visit FirstNationMinistry.org

The above information is believed to be correct, but does not purport to be legal advice, is not all-inclusive and shall be used only as a guide. Under the terms specified in your ordination, you are solely responsible for becoming familiar with and complying to all current laws and regulations in effect within the jurisdiction in which you will conduct ceremonies.