

# Louisiana Marriage Officiant Guide

**Marriage Officiants:** Legally licensed and/or ordained ministers of the gospel or priests of any denomination in regular communion with any religious society may perform marriage ceremonies. **Officiants must register with the Clerk of the District Court of the parish, or with the Health Department if in New Orleans (Orleans Parish), prior to performing marriage ceremonies in Louisiana.**

After performing the marriage ceremony, the Officiant must complete the marriage certificate and return it to the issuing clerk's office.

## MARRIAGE LICENSE INFORMATION

*Much of the information below is state law in Louisiana; however, this information can vary from parish to parish, and is subject to change. We recommend contacting your local District Court office before applying for your marriage license.*

**ID Requirement:** Picture ID such as a driver's license along with a certified copy of your birth certificates. You should know your Social Security numbers. You should both also know your parents' full names, mother's maiden name, and the state in which you were born.

**Application Requirement:** Both parties to the marriage must appear in person at the time of applying.

**Residency Requirement:** You do not have to be a resident of Louisiana.

**Waiting Period:** 72 hours. The waiting period can be waived by a judge.

**Covenant Marriage:** Both parties must apply in person for this license, and premarital counseling is required.

**If Divorced:** If previously married, you will need to show proof of how the marriage ended, i.e., a divorce judgment or a death certificate. These must be certified copies.

**Fees:** \$25+ (varies from parish to parish). Some parishes will only accept payment in cash.

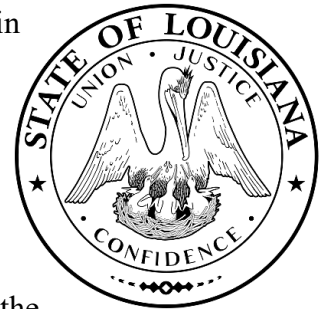
**Other Tests:** No blood test requirement.

**Under 18:** If either party to the marriage is between the ages of 16 and 18, the presence and signatures of both parents are required. If a parent has legal custody in a divorce, a certified copy of the judgment must be presented. If either party is under the age of 16, a court order is required in order to obtain a license.

**Proxy Marriages:** Both parties need not be present (unless contracting a covenant marriage), but one of the parties must be present to apply for a marriage license. That party must present identification, for the absent party, in the form of a certified birth certificate.

**Same-Gender Marriages:** Permitted following U.S. Supreme Court decision of 26 June 2015.

**Valid:** A Louisiana marriage license is valid for 30 days. The marriage license can only be used within the State of Louisiana.



***For additional information, please visit [FirstNationMinistry.org](http://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.*



## Louisiana Marriage Officiant Registration Affidavit

Parish Where Marriages Principally Performed \_\_\_\_\_

BEFORE ME, the undersigned notary, personally came and appeared

\_\_\_\_\_, who being first sworn by my deposed and stated:

That he/she is a priest, minister, rabbi, clerk of the Religious Society of Friends, or any

clergyman of First Nation Church (Interfaith; Modesto, California),

(Name of church, denomination, and location)

that he/she is a resident of \_\_\_\_\_,

(Street Address)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

(City)

(State)

(ZIP)

And, that he/she makes this affidavit for the purpose of registering as a person authorized

to celebrate marriages in the State and Parish as required by LSA-R.S. 9:204.

Signature of Officiant: \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

My Notary State Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_ expires on \_\_\_\_\_.

Notary State (if not Louisiana): \_\_\_\_\_.

### REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

- Photocopy of ID or Driver's License
- Photocopy of Ordination Certificate

Return completed form by mail to Clerk of Court in parish where marriages will be principally performed. If Orleans Parish, return form to:

**Center for Records and Statistics ATTN: Marriage Office**  
**P.O. Box 60630 New Orleans, LA 70160**