

# North Dakota Marriage Officiant Guide

**Officiants:** Ordained ministers of the gospel and priests of every church, including those not residing in North Dakota, may perform marriages. No registration is required, but officiants must submit their credentials to any legal authority, as well as to the bridal couple, upon their request. Officiants must file a certificate of marriage with the county judge that issued the license within five days after the ceremony. A wedding certificate must also be provided to the married couple.

## MARRIAGE LICENSE INFORMATION

*Much of the information below is state law in North Dakota; however, this information can vary from county to county, and is subject to change. We recommend contacting your county clerk's office before applying for your marriage license.*

**ID Requirement:** Picture ID is required of each party to the marriage, i.e., driver's license or certified copy of birth certificate.

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

**If previously married:** State law requires that a certified copy of the divorce decree must be submitted with the marriage license application.

**If widowed:** State law requires that a plain copy of the death certificate of the deceased spouse be submitted with the marriage license application.



**Application Requirement:** Both parties to a marriage must appear in person to obtain the license.

**Under 18:** If a person is between sixteen and eighteen years of age, a marriage license may not be issued without the consent of the parents or guardian. Such consent must be provided in a notarized statement; the required form is available at any office that issues marriage licenses.

**NOTE:** A marriage license may not be issued to any person below the age of sixteen, notwithstanding the consent of the parents or guardian of said person.

**Fees:** \$35 (cash only).

**Waiting Period:** No waiting period is required.

**Blood Tests:** Not required.

**Common Law Marriage:** Not permitted.

**Cousin Marriage:** Not permitted.

**Same-Gender Marriage:** Permitted, following U.S. Supreme Court ruling of 26 June 2015.

**Valid:** A North Dakota marriage license is valid for 60 days. The marriage license can only be used (solemnized) within the State of North Dakota.

***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.*