

Appendix 2
Requirements for Marriages in Tennessee

What is the cost of a marriage license?

The marriage license fee is \$98.50. Couples who complete a four hour marriage counseling course by a qualified counselor or minister will be charged \$38.50. If either the county or counselor does not approve the session you must pay the full price.

What are the residency requirements for Tennessee?

None, you do not have to be a previous or current resident of Tennessee to obtain a marriage license that is valid statewide.

Is there a waiting period from the application date to the date the license is issued?

No, you will receive your license immediately.

Is there a waiting period from the date the license is issued to the date I am allowed to marry?

No, you can marry immediately after receiving your license.

What is the minimum age a man or woman may marry?

You must be 18 years old or older to marry without parental consent. A birth certificate may be necessary to show proof of age.

What if one or both of us is younger than 18?

If either partner is under 18, parents or legal guardians must be present. If a parent can not be present, due to death, separation, divorce or other circumstances, proper evidence must be presented for verification. You will need a certified copy of your birth certificate. If you are under 16 you can not marry without a court order.

Are blood tests and physical exams required?

No blood test or physical exam is required.

How long does a marriage license remain valid once it's been issued?

Your license will expire 30 days from the date it is issued.

What if one or both partners have been divorced or have had a spouse die?

If previously married, the date of divorce or date of spouse's death must be provided. Bring a certified copy of the divorce decree or death certificate. A copy of your divorce records or spouse's death certificate can be ordered online.

**Carter County Clerk
Elizabethton, TN
423-542-1814**