



Requirements for Obtaining a Marriage Licence in Barbados

Application for a marriage licence must be made by **both** parties in person at the office of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- (a) Valid Passport and the original or certified copies of the applicants' birth certificates, and identification cards;
- (b) If either party was married previously and widowed, an original or certified copy of the marriage certificate **and** death certificate in respect of the deceased spouse;
- (c) If either party was divorced, an original Decree Absolute or Final Judgement.
The Decree Nisi is not accepted.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Persons who have been granted Barbadian citizenship – either by Descent, Registration or Naturalisation, Immigrant Status or Permanent Residence, are required to produce the **original** document issued by the Immigration Department of Barbados or the passport in which the relevant information has been stamped.

Non-nationals who have been granted work permits must produce the passport showing that a work permit was issued to them, or the relevant document issued by the Immigration Department, **not** the application form or receipt.

Please note that a work permit does not confer status and should be valid at the time of application.

Also note that no marriage licences will be issued for a date which is beyond the expiry date of any visitor's stay in Barbados.

N.B. *All documents not in English **must** be accompanied by an official translation..*

MARRIAGE OF MINORS

Persons under the age of sixteen (16) years cannot be legally married in Barbados. Persons eighteen (18) years of age and older do not require parental consent.

For persons between the ages of sixteen (16) and eighteen (18) years, the consent of both parents must be obtained and both parents must be present at the time of application. Failing this, a Judge in Barbados, on application being made to him, may exercise his discretion to dispense with consent.

FEES

1. Bds\$200.00 cash and a \$25.00 stamp –
If neither party is a citizen or resident of Barbados.
2. Bds\$45.00 cash and a \$10.00 stamp –
If either party is a citizen of Barbados.

Separate fees are payable to the Court and to the Magistrate in respect of civil marriage ceremonies.

PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS

Arrangements should be made with a Marriage Officer (a Magistrate or a Minister of Religion authorized to be a Marriage Officer in Barbados) prior to the completion of an application form for the marriage licence. **A letter from the Marriage Officer who has consented to perform the marriage ceremony should be presented at the time of making the application.**

A non-resident Minister of Religion who is requested to solemnize a marriage in Barbados must first obtain a temporary Marriage Officer's Licence in Barbados. Information outlining this procedure can be obtained by contacting the Ministry of Home Affairs.

A marriage may be solemnized immediately after the issuance of the licence.

BUSINESS HOURS

Applications for marriage licences must be made between the hours of 8.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

The offices of the Ministry of Home Affairs are closed on weekends and public holidays.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

The following fees are payable upon application for a copy of the marriage certificate which is obtainable from the Registration Department.

Bds \$20.00 - If neither party is a citizen of Barbados
Bds \$10.00 - If either party is a citizen of Barbados

The Registration Department is located at the below address:

Registrar of the Supreme Court
Registration Department
Coleridge Street
Bridgetown
BARBADOS

Telephone No. (246) 426-3461

Fax No. (246) 426-2405

Office hours of the Registration Department are Monday to Friday, 8.15 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. Applications for a Marriage Certificate must be made between the hours of 8.30 a.m. and 3.15 p.m.