



*Kim Carter*  
*Terry County Clerk*

**REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING A MARRIAGE LICENSE**

*Both applicants must appear*

- \*Submit proof of identity and age
- \*Certified copy of birth certificate, if age 16 or 17 only
- \*Pay fee of \$82.00

18 years of age and over present photo identification issued by this state or another state, the U.S. or a foreign government. Drivers license, military ID or passport are acceptable forms of identification.) We will not accept an expired document.

- \*Both parties must be 18 years or older (ages 16 or 17 applicants must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Parent or guardian must provide valid identification and proof of parentage)
- \*Both parties must provide their social security number or state that they have none
- \*Both parties must provide all information as required on the application
- \*Both parties must take the oath printed on the application and sign in the presence of the Clerk
- \*If an applicant is unable to appear personally before the Clerk, any adult person or the other applicant may apply on behalf of the applicant. *The person applying on behalf of the absent applicant shall provide the clerk with a properly executed absent applicant affidavit.* A copy of the absent applicant's ID should be brought in along with the proxy form.

Effective September 1, 2013 - A person who is incarcerated may apply for a marriage license using an ABSENT APPLICATION form. **However, they MUST be present for the marriage ceremony. A proxy cannot be appointed.**

If either applicant is divorced the divorce must have been final for 30 days prior to obtaining a new marriage license unless the applicant has a court order waiving the 30 day period.

There is a 72 hour waiting period once a couple has obtained a marriage license. This means that the couple cannot get married until that 72 hour waiting period is over. The only way to waive the 72 hour waiting period is per a Judge's order or if one of the applicants is on active military duty or the couple completes the "Twogether in Texas" program and presents the certificate of completion.

**"Twogether in Texas" Program**

Couples completing the State Approved Pre-marital Education Course may have the formal license fee reduced to \$22.00 and the 72-hour waiting period waived by presenting the state-issued course completion certificate when applying for the license. Please visit [www.twogetherintexas.com](http://www.twogetherintexas.com) to locate classes in your area.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR DECLARATION AND REGISTRATION OF INFORMAL MARRIAGES**

\*Both parties must be present, no exceptions.

\*Proof of identity and age must be presented.

\*Both parties must be 18 years or older, a person under 18 may not be party to an informal marriage. The declared date of marriage must be a date in the past that both parties agreed to be married and after that lived together as husband and wife and in this state represented to others that we were married.

\*Both parties must supply all information and take the oath as required on the form prescribed by the Bureau of Vital Statistics and provided by the County Clerk.

\*Each party will sign the declaration in the Clerk's presence.

\*The Clerk may not issue or record the declaration if either party checks "false" in response to the statement of relationship to the other party.

\*The cost of the declaration is \$47.00 and there is no provision to waive the fee.

### **Certified Copies of Marriage Licenses**

Marriage Licenses are public records and anyone wishing to obtain a copy may do so. *Only certified copies may be issued.* A request for a copy may be made in person or by sending payment along with the party's names and date of marriage to: Terry County Clerk, 500 W. Main Rm 105, Brownfield, TX 79316.