

Can a marriage licence expire?

A marriage licence is valid for three months from date of issue and will expire if not used. After that you must obtain a new one.

How much does a marriage licence cost?

Please contact the RGD for further information on the current fees.



Registry Weddings

The RGD offers private weddings at its offices islandwide. It is ideal for couples who want a simple and intimate wedding ceremony at an affordable price. A Civil Registrar or Marriage Officer performs the ceremony and you get a marriage certificate within express service time after the registry wedding for Head Office ceremonies, and within seven to ten working days for all other offices. Ceremonies are held Mondays to Fridays between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, and by special appointments on Saturdays.

A marriage certificate is a legal document which proves by law that a union between husband and wife is legitimate.

In the event that a spouse dies the marriage certificate is needed to process claims such as inheritance, pension, or insurance.

**Register your marriage today and
secure your future!**



Contact Us

If you have any questions on marriage registration,
please email us at information@rgd.gov.jm

or

call between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm

Mondays-Fridays at

1-876-749-0550 or 1-876-619-1260

Call and use our interactive Voice Response

System to check on your applications

Visit our website: www.rgd.gov.jm

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Head Office

Twickenham Park

St. Catherine, Jamaica

See also 9 other locations islandwide.

Marriage Registration Matters





Congratulations! You're getting married! Well, not until you get your marriage licence. Whether it's a grand affair or a simple ceremony, your marriage will not be legal without it.

How to get a marriage licence?

One or both of you may visit any one of the Registrar General's Department's (RGD's) ten offices located islandwide. You may also visit any Marriage Officer or Civil Registrar islandwide. The type of ceremony you choose determines which marriage licence to get.

Marriage Officer's Certificate: This is often used for church ceremonies.

The parties to be married must complete the "Notice For Banns (**I or We Form**)". Use the "**We**" form when both parties give notice, and the "**I**" form when only one person gives notice. The Notice for Banns form must be signed by two witnesses and then submitted to the Marriage Officer.

The Marriage Officer will then publish the Banns by reading the Banns during the main church service and placing the "Public Notice" on the church's main notice board. The Public Notice must be displayed for no less than a clear seven days.

Civil Registrar's Certificate: This certificate is used only by Civil Registrar's. The parties must give fifteen days notice.

Minister's Licence: Commonly used for **tourist marriages** because of its convenience, this licence is obtained from the Ministry of Justice. The marriage can be performed (Immediate Marriage) as soon as you get the licence. Both Civil Registrars and Marriage Officers use this licence.

In Articulo Mortis: Known as **Death Bed Marriage**, this ceremony is performed by Civil Registrars and Marriage Officers only when either the bride or groom is near death. It requires the presence and signature of two witnesses.

Special Marriage Licence: This type of licence is only used when both parties are well known to the Marriage Officer. Both parties must complete a Notice for Marriage by licence form and the Marriage Officer complete a Statutory Declaration. Both completed forms are then delivered to a Justice of the Peace or a Clerk of Court who will then sign the Special Marriage Licence. A postage stamp (lowest value) must be affixed to the licence.



What is the minimum age to get married in Jamaica?

Both parties must be 18 years or older to be married without parental consent. If you are 16 or 17, parental consent is required.



What does the RGD need from you?

- Proof of citizenship-Notarized copy or original birth certificate.
- Official photo identification for both parties (any valid government issued identification).
- Proof of divorce (if applicable) - Notarized copy or original Certificate of Divorce (Decree Absolute or Final Dissolution).
- Notarized copy or original Death and Marriage Certificate in the case of widow/widower.
- Parent's written consent if under 18 years.
- Occupation of bride and groom.
- The relevant fees.

