

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
11 State House Station
220 Capitol Street
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel; (207) 287-3181; Toll Free: (888) 664-9491
TTY: Dial 711 (Maine Relay); Fax (207) 287-1093

PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO SOLEMNIZE MARRIAGES IN MAINE

Maine law, 19-A MRS §655 specifies persons authorized to solemnize marriages in Maine. The following persons are authorized to solemnize marriages in Maine:

If a resident of this State:

- ✓ A justice or judge;
- ✓ A lawyer admitted to the Maine Bar; or
- ✓ A marriage officiant under [Title 5, section 90-G](#);

Whether a resident or nonresident of this State and whether or not a citizen of the United States:

- ✓ An ordained minister of the gospel;
- ✓ A cleric engaged in the service of the religious body to which the cleric belongs; or
- ✓ A person licensed to preach by an association of ministers, religious seminary, or ecclesiastical body; and
- ✓ A nonresident of the State who has a temporary registration certificate issued by the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)

1. *How do I find a marriage officiant in Maine?*

An online search may be made for a marriage officiant who is licensed in the State of Maine on the Secretary of State's website at <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/notary/marriage/marriageofficiant.html>.

2. *Can a person become ordained through an online process?*

Yes, a person ordained through an online process is still a minister, at least for the purpose of marrying a couple in the State of Maine.

3. *Can a nonresident who is authorized to perform a marriage in their State perform a marriage in Maine?*

Yes, a nonresident may apply for a one-time temporary registration certificate to perform a marriage in Maine. The application and instructions on how to apply may be found on Data, Research, and Vital Statistics website at <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/data-research/vital-records/forms/index.shtml>.

Questions?

Please contact Data, Research, and Vital Statistics at 1-888-664-9491 or (207) 287-6490 or email questions to Rebecca.Ashley@maine.gov.