

# Information Sheet For Ordering Marriage Documents

#### READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

# Applicants applying from within Alberta

If you are applying from within Alberta, you must complete this application and apply in person at an authorized Alberta registry agent office. Applications sent directly to Vital Statistics WILL NOT be processed. To locate an Alberta registry agent office, visit our website at <a href="http://www.servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/find-a-registry-agent.cfm">http://www.servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/find-a-registry-agent.cfm</a>

- You must present acceptable proof of identity to the registry agent in person.
- Ensure you are eligible to apply. (See Eligibility Information for details)
- There is a government fee of \$20.00 for each document, plus a registry agent service fee.

# Applicants applying from outside of Alberta

If you are not in Alberta and cannot apply in person, you may apply by mail however additional requirements confirming your identity are required before your application can be approved for processing. To order marriage documents for events that occurred outside of Alberta, contact the province/territory/country where the event took place.

# **Applying by Mail**

If you are located outside of Alberta and need to apply for marriage documents, you must include the <u>Proof of Identity</u> document with your application. All applications for people applying from outside of Alberta must be submitted directly to <u>Registry Connect</u> or <u>AMA</u> for AMA members only. All documents submitted must have original signatures. Applications sent directly to Vital Statistics WILL NOT be processed.

NOTE: All correspondence (if applicable) will be mailed directly to the applicant at the address provided on the application regardless of the certificate delivery options available with registry agent.

# Proof of identity is required

When ordering documents, you must present an acceptable proof of identity document. This document must be issued by a provincial or federal government. It must contain a recognizable photograph, your full name and a distinctive identification number. If the document has an expiry date, the document must currently be valid. If the document has no expiry date, it must have been issued within the last 5 years. If the document is in a language other than English, you must provide a notarized English translation including an affidavit from the translator stating the translation is accurate.

# **Using a Designated Agent**

If you do not have acceptable proof of identity or you cannot apply in person, you may be eligible to provide your consent to another person to act on your behalf as a designated agent - see Eligibility Information. When designating another person to apply on your behalf, you are still the applicant. You are required to complete the application form and enter your personal information, your relationship to the person listed on the certificate, the event information and sign the application form. You must also complete the Applicant's Consent to Designated Agent section. The designated agent must have known you for at least 1 year; they must complete the Designated Agent's Statutory Declaration on the application, and must present their own acceptable proof of identity in person.

### **Type of Marriage Documents**

Alberta Vital Statistics only maintains records for marriages that occur in Alberta. Ensure you are ordering the correct document.

#### Certificates

A marriage certificate is a certified extract of the original Registration of Marriage. The marriage certificate will show the name(s) of both parties to the marriage, date of marriage, place of marriage, the birthplace of both parties to the marriage (province/country only), registration number, registration date and date issued.

# **Certified Copy of the Registration of Marriage**

A photocopy of the original Registration of Marriage certified by Vital Statistics.

# Application processing time

Under normal circumstances when the application has been completed correctly and there are no further requirements, documents are usually processed within 3 business days after the registry agent submits your request to Vital Statistics.

#### **Delivery options for Marriage Documents**

- By mail to the address provided on the application No extra charge.
- To the registry agent office, if they offer call box service. Arrangements must be made with the registry agent office A registry agent service fee may apply.
- To the Government call box in Edmonton or Calgary for rush or emergency situations only No extra charge.

**NOTE:** Documents cannot be picked up without acceptable proof of identity (see above). Documents will <u>ONLY</u> be released to you as named on the application. If someone else is picking up your document on your behalf, you must provide them with a written letter of authorization and they will provide their own acceptable proof of identity. If you have used a Designated Agent, they will also require a letter of authorization to pick up your document(s). **There are no exceptions**.

DVS11165M Rev. 2020-02 Public (when completed) Page 1 of 3



# Eligibility Information For Ordering Marriage Documents

- 1) The person whose marriage is registered (spouse 1 or spouse 2).
- 2) A guardian, trustee for a person described in 1). A copy of the guardianship order or legal document showing the applicant's name must be attached to the application.
- 3) A person with power of attorney for the person described in 1). A copy of the legal document showing the applicant's name must be attached to the application.
- 4) A person who is designated by a personal directive as an agent of the person described in 1). A copy of the legal document showing the applicant's name must be attached to the application. The registry agent will submit the application and legal document to Vital Statistics for review and approval before the application can be processed.
- 5) A person with an order from a court in Alberta. A copy of the order authorizing the applicant must be attached to the application.
- 6) A lawyer for a person described in 1) to 5) or 7) to 10). A copy of the lawyer's valid Law Society card must be attached to the application (this is in addition to the ID requirement). Documentation showing proof of eligibility must also be attached to the application.

#### When a person who was a party to the marriage is deceased:

# A death certificate must first be provided to show the applicant is eligible in this category

- 7) A next-of-kin\* of a deceased person described in 1). Proof of death and proof of relationship must be attached to the application.
- 8) An executor, personal representative or estate administrator for the deceased person's estate described in 1). Proof of death and a copy of the legal document showing the applicant's name must be attached to the application.
- 9) A relative of a deceased person described in 1) when there are no living next-of-kin\*. Proof of death and proof of Relationship must be attached to the application.
- 10) A public trustee for the deceased person's estate. Proof of death and a copy of the trusteeship document showing the applicant's name must be attached to the application.

# **Designated Agent:**

When an eligible applicant does not have acceptable ID to make an application, a designated agent may be used by the above: 1) to 4), 7) and 9). The consent and statutory declaration on the application form must be completed.

\*Next-of-kin: parent, sibling, children, spouse or adult interdependent partner of the deceased. This does not include in-laws, grandparents, grandchildren, step relatives, children of siblings. Persons who have been adopted or who have placed their child for adoption are not "next-of-kin" to biological relations.

#### **Historic Records:**

Anyone may apply for a photocopy of a Registration of Marriage when the marriage record is 75 years old or older. Applications are made through the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

### **Provincial Archives of Alberta**

Website: http://provincialarchives.alberta.ca

Email: paa@gov.ab.ca

For questions regarding this application, please contact Vital Statistics at 780-427-7013. For toll free dialing within Alberta, first dial 310-0000, then dial 780-427-7013. For more information on Vital Statistics products and services visit our website <a href="http://www.servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/family-and-life-events.cfm">http://www.servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/family-and-life-events.cfm</a>

DVS11165M Rev. 2020-02 Public (when completed) Page 2 of 3



# **Application for Marriage Documents**

This information is collected in accordance with the Vital Statistics Act and Regulations. It is required by Vital Statistics to complete the request and may be used for statistical purposes or delivering joint provincial and federal programs. Collection is authorized under s. 33(a) and (c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Questions about the collection can be directed to Vital Statistics at vs@gov.ab.ca or 780-427-7013 (toll free 310-0000 within Alberta).

Applications cannot be faxed or emailed to the agents. Applications mailed directly to Vital Statistics will NOT be processed.

**IMPORTANT:** To avoid delays, read the Information Sheet and Eligibility Information <u>BEFORE</u> completing this application.

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Applicant's Address   Alternate Address   Date Signed   Signature of Applicant   X  Applicant's Address   Alternate Address   Applicant   X  ALTERNATE MAILING ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE (If this section applies, please complete in full)  20 Name (If different from applicant)  Suite/Apt No.   Complete Street Address   City/Town/Village/Hamlet   Province/Country   Postal/Zip Code   Phone Number    Authority   Applicant   Applicant   X  Applicant's Address   Applicant   X  Applicant's Address   Applicant   X  Applicant's Address   Applicant   Applicant   Applicant    Applicant's Address   City/Town/Village/Hamlet   Province/Country   Postal/Zip Code   Phone Number    Applicant's Address   Applicant   Applicant   Applicant    Applicant's Address   Applicant   Applicant    Applicant   Applicant   Applicant    Applicant   Applicant   Applicant    Applicant   Applicant   Applicant    App	p Code
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DVS11165M Rev. 2020-02 Public (when completed) Page 3 of 3