

THURSTON COUNTY MARRIAGE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older; if an applicant is 17, then one parent or guardian must sign the consent section on the county application in the presence of the (deputy) auditor or a notary public; if an applicant is 16 or younger, a court order from juvenile court is required.
- One piece of valid identification is required of each applicant. This identification must contain the birth date, signature and picture of the applicant. Driver's licenses (any state) state identification (any state), passports (any country) and military identification are all common and acceptable forms of identification. It is not a requirement to be a resident of this state to apply and be married here.
- The fee required in Thurston County is \$68.00. We accept cash, check, money order, Visa, American Express and MasterCard. Payment is due at the time of application. We charge all card transactions a \$2.00 or 2.35% service fee, whichever is highest.
- No blood test is required in Washington State. Thurston County's application contains a signed affidavit and verbal oath stating that **if** either applicant is afflicted with any contagious sexually transmitted disease, the condition is known to the co-applicant.
- If either applicant is divorced, proof is not required. It is the responsibility of the applicant to be sure that their divorce is legal and final before applying to be married again. The county application must be appropriately marked divorced rather than single.
- A 3 day waiting period (RCW 26.04.180) exists in Washington State which begins the day the application forms are in the possession of the Auditor - completed, signed and fee paid, and ends after 3 calendar days have passed. (The couple does not have to return to pick up the certificates. They are given the certificates to take to their officiant at the original time of application, however they cannot use them for marriage for 3 days.) For example, an application completed and paid for on the 1st day of the month is valid on the 4th day of the month. The license is valid for 60 days after the 3-day waiting period and will expire if not used by the applicants to be married. A new application would have to be completed and signed and the fee would have to be paid again. **Therefore, a couple must apply - application forms complete, signed and fee paid - a minimum of 3 days prior to their marriage date, but not more than 63 days prior.**
- The Thurston County Auditor is open 8:00 am – 4:30 PM, Monday - Friday. Please arrive no later than 4:15 PM to apply, as the application process can take up to 15 minutes.
- Please keep in mind that an application is a public record. The local newspaper generally publishes each applicant's name and city of residence.

