**Marriage Information**

**Ransom County will accept marriage license applications by appointment only.**

**(Monday – Friday 8:30 - 11:30 / 1:30 – 3:30)**

| Marriage License Fees | Total Fees |
| --- | --- |
| Marriage License | $65 |
| Certified Copy of the Marriage LicenseNote: Additional copies ordered at the same time are $5.00 per copy. | $10 |
| Marriage CeremonyCeremonies are by appointment and conducted at the courthouse during business hours. (Monday – Friday: 8:30 to 11:30 & 1:30 to 3:30)  | $30 |

**North Dakota Century Code Chapter 14-03 defines the marriage contract and defines the laws regarding the issuance of marriage licenses in the State of North Dakota.**

**To apply for a marriage license both parties must apply together in person at the Courthouse:**

* Be at least 18 years of age (NDCC14-03-17.1a)
* If between the age of 16 and 18, you must have signed parental consent
* Parents must accompany the applicant and have proof of identity
* No one under the age of 16 will be issued a marriage license
* Have documentary evidence of age
* Such as a Driver’s License or Passport
* If one or both parties have been divorced, a CERTIFIED copy of divorce decree **must** be provided or in the case of a death, a Certified death certificate **must** be provided and both will be kept on file permanently with the application for the marriage license.
* Provide SSN on application
* Provided any surname or middle name changes at time of marriage
* Applicants may change their surname at time of marriage to:
* Surname of other spouse
* Former surname of either spouse
* A name combining into a single surname all or a segment of the pre-marriage surname or former surname of either spouse
* A combination name with or without a hyphen, provided that each part of the combination surname is the pre-marriage surname or former surname of either spouse
* Middle name may also be changed at time of marriage
* New middle name must consist of pre-marriage surname or former surname of that individual
* New middle name can be added to current middle name

In the state of North Dakota there is no waiting period after you apply for the license before the marriage may take place. The license must be used within 60 days and may be used anywhere in North Dakota. If the license is unused, it will be expired, and no refunds are available. If the couple still wishes to get married, they will have to purchase a new marriage license.

Marriage licenses date back to 1907. To request a certified copy, please send a letter to the Ransom County Recorder, PO Box 666, Lisbon, ND 58054 with the following information:

* Bride’s maiden name, Groom’s name and date of marriage and a check for $10.
* Make check payable to Ransom County Recorder.
* Please provide a phone number in the event of questions.