

HORRY COUNTY PROBATE COURT  
HORRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND JUSTICE CENTER  
1301 SECOND AVENUE, P. O. BOX 288  
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA 29528  
PHONE (843) 915-5370 FAX (843) 915-6371  
probatecourt.horrycounty.org

*Deirdre W. Edmonds, Judge of Probate*  
*Kathy G. Ward, Associate Judge*  
*Dundee W. Carter, Associate Judge*

SATELLITE OFFICE  
9630 SCIPIO LANE, SUITE F  
MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29588  
PHONE: (843) 915-5371  
FAX: (843) 205-6373



SATELLITE OFFICE  
107 HWY 57 NORTH, BOX 8  
LITTLE RIVER, SC 29566  
PHONE: (843) 915-5372  
FAX: (843) 399-4374

Dear Applicant:

Enclosed is the Application for Marriage License that you requested. A marriage license must be issued by the Probate Court prior to a marriage ceremony being performed in South Carolina. In 1996, South Carolina enacted legislation prohibiting marriages between persons of the same sex on the basis that such marriages are against the public policy of this state. Therefore, when an Application for a marriage license is submitted by mail, both applicants (bride and groom) must personally appear in the Probate Court to pick up the marriage license.

After the Application has been properly completed, both applicants (bride and groom) must sign the Application in the presence of a Notary Public. If the Application is signed in a state other than South Carolina, the Notary Public must affix his or her seal. Please return the Application to this office, along with a money order or cashier's check payable to the "Horry County Probate Court". The fee for the marriage license is as follows: All County Residents: \$50.00, All State Residents: \$75.00, Out-of-state and Others: \$100.00. Couples with mixed residents will be charged the lesser fee. Please be advised that no personal checks will be accepted.

South Carolina law requires a twenty-four (24) hour waiting period before the issuance of a marriage license. Upon the Court's receipt of an Application by mail, the Court will review the Application and all accompanying documentation for compliance with the necessary requirements for issuance of a license. All Applications received by mail that have been properly submitted with all necessary documentation and the appropriate fee will be entered into the Court's computerized marriage license system on the business day following the Court's receipt of the Application. The twenty-four (24) hour waiting period will not commence until the Application is entered into the Court's computerized system.

In order to avoid confusion or problems, we strongly recommend that you call the Court to confirm our receipt of your application by mail and the commencement of the 24-hour waiting period. Please be aware that the twenty-four (24) hour waiting period will not begin until all necessary requirements have been met and the Application information entered into the Court's computerized system.

In addition to the above requirements, the following requirements should be carefully noted and adhered to when applicable:

**AGE REQUIREMENTS:** Both applicants must be at least sixteen (16) years of age for the issuance of a marriage license. Parental consent is necessary for any applicant under eighteen (18) years of age. The only exception to the age and consent requirements is if the female applicant is pregnant, in which event special instructions should be obtained from the Probate Court prior to submitting an Application by mail.

**PARENTAL CONSENT:** Any applicant under the age of eighteen (18) years of age must include written parental consent to the marriage by at least one (1) of the minor applicant's parents or legal guardians. A consent form is located at the bottom of the enclosed Application and must be signed by the parent or other legal guardian in the presence of a Notary Public. If the consent form is signed in a state other than South Carolina, the Notary Public must affix his/her seal. No consent is necessary for an applicant over eighteen (18) years of age.

**PROOF OF AGE:**

**Applicant under Eighteen (18) Years of Age:** In addition to the Application for Marriage, any applicant under eighteen (18) years of age must file with the Court one (1) of the following documents as evidence of the applicant's age:

- (1) A certified copy of the applicant's birth certificate; or
- (2) A hospital or baptismal certificate that has been issued and dated within one (1) year after the applicant's birth.

If an original birth, baptismal or hospital certificate is presented to the Court, a copy will be made for the Court's records and the original returned to the applicant. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your Application for the return of the original document by the Court. Certified copies of birth certificates will not be returned to the applicant. The Court will not accept birth records with erasures or alterations as proof of age.

**Applicant Over Eighteen (18) Years of Age but Less than Twenty-Five (25) Years of Age:** In addition to the Application for Marriage, any applicant over eighteen (18) years of age but less than twenty-five (25) years of age must file with the Court a copy of one (1) of the following documents as evidence of the applicant's age:

- (1) Driver's license;
- (2) Military identification card;
- (3) Selective service identification card;
- (4) Passport or visa; or
- (5) Certified copy of birth certificate.

No proof of age is required of an applicant twenty-five (25) years of age or over.

**SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS:** Each applicant must include his or her social security number on the Application. An applicant who is a resident alien may use his or her alien identification number (Green Card identification number) in lieu of a social security number. **In addition, each applicant must submit a copy of their social security card or, if applicable, their alien identification card with their Application. We cannot process your application for marriage license without this information.**

The Horry County Probate Court is open for business Monday through Friday from 8:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. Due to time constraints, please arrive at the Court no later than 4:00 P.M. to pick up your marriage license and/or be married. **Ceremonies will not be conducted after 4:30 P.M.** The Probate Court is located in the Horry County Government and Justice Center, 1301 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Conway, South Carolina. The Probate Court also has two (2) satellite offices, one located in Little River, South Carolina, and the other in Surfside Beach, South Carolina. You may choose to submit your Application to any one of the Probate Court offices and/or pick up your license at any one of the Probate Court offices. The satellite offices are closed daily from 12:30 to 1:30, and also on Monday at 4:00.

Upon request, the Probate Court will perform the marriage ceremony for you between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM. The fee for a marriage ceremony is Fifty and No/100 (\$50.00) Dollars and is payable in cash at the time the marriage ceremony is performed.

Please mail your completed application and money order or cashier's check in with the appropriate amount (County Residents: \$50.00, State Residents: \$75.00, Out-of-state and Others: \$100.00), along with all other necessary documents concerning proof of age, parental consent and social security number (or alien identification number) to the following address: Horry County Probate Court, PO Box 288, Conway, South Carolina 29528.

Please include your telephone number when you return your Application so that if there are any problems with your application we can contact you by phone. In the event that you have any questions, please contact the Probate Court at (843) 915-5370 or you may visit the Probate Court website at [probatecourt.horrycounty.org](http://probatecourt.horrycounty.org) for additional information.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you in this manner. With warmest regards,  
I remain

Sincerely yours,

Deirdre W. Edmonds  
Judge of Probate  
Horry County, South Carolina