

Fact Sheet – Section 3 – Domestic Status

Marriage is an established legal union for either same or opposite sex couples that require a license.

Civil union is an established legal union for same sex couples that require a license.

Application for License

- In State residents - Apply in the local municipality where either applicant resides (proof required)
- Out of State residents - Apply in the municipality where the ceremony will be held
- Ceremony outside of NJ - Comply with the laws of that State, territory or Country

Application Requirements

- Proof of identity in the form of current, valid, government (not necessarily US government) issued photo identification.
- SSN – For all US citizens
- A witness 18 years of age or older
- A fee of \$28.00 – due at the time of application

The License

- Issued after the mandatory 72 hour waiting period lapses or a waiver obtained
- Calculate the expiration date
 - 30 days from the date of issuance including weekends and holidays

For example: If a license is issued on December 4th at 2PM, then December 5th at 2PM is day 1.

- Printed and signed names of licensing registrar must match

Individuals who wish to establish a legal union in NJ are permitted to do so with a first cousin but are prohibited in doing so with a relative of either half or whole blood for any relationship such as:

- Any ancestor or descendant
- Sibling
- Biological child
- Niece or Nephew
- Mother
- Father

Domestic partnership is a registered event, not a licensed event, for couples who are same or opposite sex, both 62 years of age or older.