

# **Can Undocumented Immigrants Marry in Minnesota?**

#### I am undocumented, can I get married in Minnesota?

Everyone in the United States has a right to get married. This is true regardless of immigration status. But, being married in the US or being married to a US citizen does NOT protect you from deportation.

## What if I don't have a social security number?

The Minnesota marriage license application has a place to fill in a social security number. If you don't have a social security number, you can still apply but you have to swear that you don't have one. There is a place to do this on the application form.



#### What makes a marriage legal?

To be legally married in Minnesota you apply for a marriage license and have to be married by someone authorized to perform marriages. Once you do these things, you get a marriage certificate.

## Can I get a marriage license?

In Minnesota, you must be over 18 and able to make your own decisions if you want to get married.

**Note:** Minnesota does not recognize marriages involving a minor who traveled out of state to get married.

# What marriages are not allowed in Minnesota?

- If you want to get married, you can't be married to anyone else.
- If you were married before, you must have a **valid** divorce from your previous spouse. A valid divorce is one that follows the divorce laws in the state or country where the divorce happened. In Minnesota, a divorce must go through the court systems and an order needs to be signed by a judge and filed with the court before it is a valid divorce.

- Minnesota doesn't let certain blood relatives get married. You can't marry:
  - Your biological or adopted children.
  - Your biological or adopted grandchildren.
  - Your brother or sister.
  - Your nieces or nephews if there is any blood relation.
  - Your first cousins. First cousins are the children of an aunt or uncle that you are related to by blood.



For information about getting a marriage license and having a ceremony, please see our factsheet *Marriage in Minnesota*.

Don't use this fact sheet if it is more than 1 year old. Ask us for updates, a fact sheet list, or alternate formats.