California Marriage Licenses

Requirements

- The couple must appear together in person
- Valid photo ID is required
- The license is valid immediately and for 90 days of issuance
- Applicants do not have to be residents of the state of California
- For a partner divorced within 90 days, verification papers are required

Public License

- The license is a public record
- The ceremony can take place anywhere within the state of California

Confidential License

- The license is private information available only to the couple
- The ceremony must take place in the county of issuance
- The couple must be living together
- No witnesses are required

Where to Go

Laws and specific county requirements vary and change. Please visit the county website in which you plan to obtain your license for the most accurate information.

Ventura County: http://recorder.countyofventura.org/marriage.htm

The Ventura County Recorder does not confirm receipt of the license or issue a certificate, so if you want a copy of your marriage certificate, you need to contact them a few weeks after the wedding and request one (and pay \$14 for it). You can check with them by phone at (805) 654-2295.

Santa Barbara County: http://www.sbcvote.com/ClerkRecorder/MarriageLicenses.aspx

Los Angeles County: http://www.lavote.net/clerk/marriages.cfm

