

## Appointments & Commissions

### Applying for a 1-Day Designation Certificate

**Purpose:** A one-time designation certificate allows an individual to officiate a marriage ceremony on a specific date. The application must be approved by the Governor's office before the Secretary's office can issue the certificate. The application is valid only for ceremonies within Massachusetts, and by a person who is not otherwise authorized to officiate a marriage ceremony. To learn about marriage requirements, visit [getting married in Massachusetts](#).

Clergy and others who are authorized to solemnize marriages in other states should obtain the Non-Resident Clergy Petition. [Obtain this form](#) from the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

**Deadline for submitting an application:** You can apply 6 months in advance of the wedding date, and up until 2 weeks before the ceremony. If you have an urgent request, contact the Commissions office at 617-727-2836 for assistance.

#### **Ceremony and residency requirements:**

- \* The ceremony must be performed in a city or town within Massachusetts.
- \* There is no residency requirement for the applicant, or either party.

#### **Two ways to file this application:**

**Submit online:** The fee is \$20.00, plus a \$3.50 expedited fee. Once your request is approved, your certificate will be expedited in 5 business days.

**Submit by mail:** Complete the application online, then print and mail it with a check or money order. The fee is \$25.00 and will be processed in 4 to 6 weeks.

**Correcting a certificate:** \*\*You can make a correction to a certificate that has already been mailed to you. Select "Update certificate" to submit a correction and request a new certificate.

**Questions about a 1-day designation?** Contact a member of the Commissions office at 617-727-2836 for assistance.