



**COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
HEALTH DEPARTMENT – DEMOGRAPHIC REGISTRY
(Puerto Rico Vital Records Office)**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE
BY ACT 127 OF AUGUST 11, 2010
DESTINATION WEDDINGS**

Prior to starting the preparations for the wedding, efforts should be made to obtain the documents required by the Demographic Registry, formalities necessary for our agency and the conclusion of the ceremony. We especially want to emphasize that people who have had previous marriages, must obtain all divorce decrees, and in case of widowhood, must obtain their spouse's death certificate.

LEGAL BASIS:

To amend sections 1 and 2 of Act No. 133 of May 14, 1937, as amended so that Puerto Rico will accept a medical certificate that meets all the tests required for marriage in their place of residence for men and women that are not residents of Puerto Rico wishing to marry in the island state, establishes that non-resident men and women who married in Puerto Rico may not request the action of nullity, when the cause of action is due to one party suffering from syphilis, or any sexually transmitted disease, and there is medical certification that they met all the required tests in their state or country of residence, and for any other related purposes.

The future spouses must both visit the Demographic Registrar's Office and submit the following requirements:

- a. Medical certification indicating that they met all the tests required for marriage in their place of residence. If in the case of the residence place of the parties does not require blood or medical tests for marriage may present a medical certificate that says so, or a document issued by the competent authority of the state, country or territory that certified it. The certification is valid for a period of ten (10) calendar days from the date of issue, after ten (10) days the certificate will not be valid and a new certificate will be required.
- b. Any person who is not a resident of Puerto Rico and wishes to get married on the island must present for Demographic Registry a copy of an affidavit stating that he/she: (1) are not residents of Puerto Rico, (2) that the purpose of your visit is for marriage, and if a foreign citizen, will not stay in Puerto Rico for more than what is specified in the permission documents to enter U.S. territory granted by the appropriate federal agency. If the affidavit is written in the United States, it must be accompanied by certification of the corresponding state's "county clerk". If written in a Republic/**Sovereign Country**, this must be accompanied by the Apostille seal of the Hague Treaty of 1961.
- c. Any person who is not a resident in Puerto Rico and wishes to get married on the island must submit to the Registry a valid photo ID issued by the government of the country, or state, where he/she lives in. This may be one of the following: driver's license, passport or state ID. Foreigners must present a valid passport, visa or green card.
- d. Internal Revenue Stamp of \$20.00 from the Puerto Rico Government.
- e. Birth certificate copies (the names of the parties shall be recorded as they appear on the certificate).
- f. Divorce decrees from each previous marriage and / or death certificate of spouse.
- g. The registrar shall examine the documents and all be annexed to the back of the marriage license. Otherwise complete, the licensing will be issued and signed if these meet the requirements, and in addition, be given the marriage certificate to present at the ceremony. Anyone under 21 must be accompanied by a parent.
- h. The celebrants will review all these documents and if they comply with the requirements of the Demographic Registrar's Office, must sign the certificate of marriage on all its parts, using **permanent black or blue ink**, or typewriter (**not with a ball point pen**), and officiate at the ceremony. Anyone under 21 must be accompanied by a parent, properly identified, who will sign the marriage certificate in the presence of the celebrant.
- i. The celebrant shall deliver the certificate, and marriage license, with all attached documents to the Demographic Registry of the municipality where the ceremony took place, **during the next ten (10) days after the marriage** (SEC. 1163, Title 24 L.P.R.A.).