

## FAX APPLICATION FOR A WISCONSIN DIVORCE CERTIFICATE

Personally identifying information requested on this form, including credit card information and your signature, will be used to process your application and payment for the requested copies. Failure to supply this information may result in denial of your request for copies of any Wisconsin Divorce Certificate. Your credit card number and expiration date are required. The credit card number and expiration date will only be used to process payment for the fees specified in SECTION III – FEES below on this FAX Application for a Wisconsin Divorce Certificate.

**PENALTIES:** Any person who willfully and knowingly makes a false application for a divorce certificate shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than 90 days, or both, per s. 69.24(2), Wis. Stats. Any person who willfully and knowingly obtains a divorce certificate for fraudulent purposes is guilty of a Class I felony [a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment of not more than 3 years and 6 months, or both, per s. 69.24(1), Wis. Stats.].

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please complete this form and **FAX to 608-255-2035**. **All FAX applications are charged an expedited service fee.**  
**See Page 2 of this form for valid photo ID requirements for processing the application.**

<b>SECTION I – SHIP TO INFORMATION (Print or type.) (You must complete this section for the application to be processed.)</b>			
1. NAME – First	Middle	Last	2. DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER (      )
3. STREET ADDRESS OR P.O. BOX (You must provide a street address if you are requesting shipping by UPS.)			APT. NUMBER
4. CITY	5. STATE	6. ZIP CODE	

<b>SECTION II – APPLICANT'S RELATIONSHIP TO ONE OF THE PERSONS NAMED ON THE DIVORCE CERTIFICATE (CHECK ONE)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> A. I am <b>one of the persons named</b> on the divorce certificate. <input type="checkbox"/> B. I am a <b>member of the immediate family</b> of one of the persons named on the divorce certificate. <i>(Only those listed below qualify as immediate family.)</i> NOTE: Grandchildren, step-parents, step-children and step-brothers/step-sisters may only obtain certified copies as section II, categories C – E. CHECK ONE. <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Brother / Sister <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> C. I am the <b>legal custodian or guardian</b> of one of the persons named on the divorce certificate. <i>(Legal proof is required. See item 1 on page 2.)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> D. I am a <b>representative, authorized</b> in writing, by any of the above checkboxes (categories A - C). <i>(The written and notarized authorization must be attached to this application. See item 1 on page 2.)</i> Specify the person you represent: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> E. I can demonstrate that the information from the divorce certificate is necessary for the <b>determination or protection of a personal or property right</b> for myself/my client/my agency. <i>(Proof is required.)</i> Specify your interest: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> F. None of the above. I am requesting an uncertified copy. Copy will not be valid for legal identity or benefit purposes. See Item 1 on page 2.	

**I hereby attest that the information provided on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I am entitled to copies of the requested divorce certificate in accordance with the categories listed above.**

<b>SIGNATURE</b> (Applicant)	Date Signed ( Month / Day / Year )
➤	

<b>SECTION III – FEES FEES ARE NOT REFUNDABLE IF NO RECORD IS FOUND. CANCELLATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.</b> Mandatory fees are already filled in. Please fill in additional fees for extra copies or UPS delivery, if applicable.	
1. Search Fee (includes one copy of the divorce certificate, if found) .....	\$ 20.00 <u>20.00</u>
2. Additional copies of the same certificate issued at the same time as the first copy _____ X \$ 3.00 _____ Number of Additional Copies	
3. Expedited Service Fee .....	\$ 20.00 <u>20.00</u>
4. Credit Card Processing Fee .....	\$ 6.00 <u>6.00</u>
5. Shipping <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Mail - No additional cost; mailed within five business days .....	\$ 0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> UPS Next Day - \$19.00 in the continental U.S.A.; shipped within two business days .....	\$ 19.00
<b>UPS packages require a signature for delivery.</b>	
<b>NOTE:</b> If no shipping box is checked, the copy will be sent by regular mail.	<b>TOTAL</b> _____

<b>SECTION IV – CREDIT CARD INFORMATION</b> We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover.	
CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____	EXPIRATION DATE _____
➤ <b>SIGNATURE</b> - Credit Card Holder _____	DATE SIGNED _____

<b>SECTION V – DIVORCE CERTIFICATE INFORMATION</b>		
SPOUSE A'S BIRTH NAME – First	Middle	BIRTH Last Name
SPOUSE B'S BIRTH NAME – First	Middle	BIRTH Last Name
COUNTY OF DIVORCE	DATE OF DIVORCE (Month / Day / Year)	

**1. What is the difference between a “certified” and an “uncertified” copy of a divorce certificate?**

A **certified** copy of a divorce certificate issued by the State Vital Records Office will have a raised seal, will show the signature of the State Registrar, and will be printed on security paper. A certified copy may be required to change your last name or to marry.

State law restricts who may obtain a **certified** copy of a divorce certificate. A **certified** copy can only be issued to those people with a “direct and tangible interest” (section II, categories A – E) which means the following people:

- A person named on the divorce certificate (section II, category A).
- An immediate family member defined as a parent (whose name is on one of the parties birth certificates and whose parental rights have not been terminated), brother, sister, grandparent, or child of the subject of the record (section II, category B).
- NOTE: Grandchildren, step-parents, step-children, step-brothers and step-sisters can only obtain certified copies as section II, categories C – E.
- The legal custodian or guardian of a person named on the divorce certificate. Legal proof, e.g., a court order of custody or guardianship, is required (section II, category C).
- A person authorized in writing by one of the above. A written and notarized authorization must be attached to this application and the authorization must clearly state the relationship of the authorizing party to the subject of the record (section II, category D).
- A person who can demonstrate that the divorce certificate is required to determine or to protect a personal or property right (section II, category E). Proof is required.

If you do not meet one of the above criteria, you cannot receive a **certified** copy of a divorce certificate.

An **uncertified** copy will contain the same information as a certified copy but it is **not** acceptable for legal purposes, such as remarriage. (section II, category F)

**2. How long will it take to process my request?**

Copies of divorce certificates are available from the State Vital Records Office no less than 3 weeks from the date of the divorce.

▪ **Applying by Fax requesting Regular Mail Shipping**

Requests for copies of divorce certificates may take up to 5 business days plus mail time to complete.

▪ **Applying by Fax requesting UPS Shipping**

Requests for copies of divorce certificates are usually completed and shipped within two business days.

**3. What identification is required when applying for a certified or uncertified copy of a divorce certificate?**

A **photocopy** of the applicant’s ID as listed below must be submitted with **all** fax applications.

**At least one form of ID must show your name and address. Expired cards or documents will not be accepted.**

Acceptable forms of identification are:

**One of these:**

- Wisconsin driver’s license
- Wisconsin ID card
- Out-of-state driver’s license or ID card

**OR**

- US government issued photo ID
- Passport
- Check book/bank statement

**Two of these:**

- Health insurance card
- Current, dated, signed lease
- Utility bill or traffic ticket
- Paycheck or earnings statement

**If you have questions regarding this form, please call 608-266-1373  
or visit our website at <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/vitalrecords>**