



Proxy Marriages



What is a Proxy Marriage?

A proxy marriage, or marriage by proxy, is when somebody stands in place of either the bride or groom, when either the bride or groom could not be physically present for the ceremony. Only four states allow proxy marriages: California, Colorado, Montana, and Texas. With the exception of Montana, each of these states require one of the parties to appear before the civil authorities. Montana, however, allows a “Double Proxy” marriage, where proxies may appear, in place of both the bride and groom.

Will my State recognize a proxy marriage?

Yes. A marriage valid in one state is valid in all states. A proxy marriage would be valid even if proxy marriages could not be performed under the laws of the state granting legal recognition.

Will the Army recognize my proxy marriage?

Yes, the Army will recognize your proxy marriage. You and your spouse will enjoy all of the benefits of a married couple.

Proxy Marriage in Montana require ...

- At least one person to the marriage must be a Servicemember on Active Duty or a resident of Montana.
- Either one spouse or someone representing one of the spouses must appear before the clerk of court and pay the marriage license fee.
 - Several online companies provide proxy weddings in Montana. The packages range in price from \$350 to over \$1,000.

Proxy Marriage in California is...

- Limited to members of the Armed Forces who are deployed for conflicts of war. This **does not** include Soldiers stationed in South Korea.

Proxy marriage in Colorado is...

- Allowed only if the bride or groom is out of the state, incarcerated, or unable to appear due to illness.

Proxy Marriage in Texas requires...

- At least one member must to be in the State and the absent member must provide an affidavit of absence.

* *If you need additional help obtaining a proxy marriage, stop by and see us!*

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