

## Marriage Certificate Authentication

Updated: 8/1/2014

1. A completed application form.
2. Valid original passports for both parties (returned after the initial inspection) as well as a photocopy of each. If applying by mail, passports must be certified as true copies by their related government/embassy or consular office, in order to be accepted.
3. The original Certificate of Marriage Registration, as well as one photocopy, issued from one of the governments of the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut is needed. It must contain the names of both parties, as well as the dates of birth (the English names and dates of birth on the certificate must match those found on the passport, if the names are spelled differently, please contact the issuing authority for a correction, otherwise it will not be accepted). For those married within the state of Pennsylvania, please file the appropriate records with the district court (or the Orphans Court) to obtain the **MARRIAGE RECORD**, to ensure a complete marriage registration; this office does not accept certificates that have only been signed by a priest or similar clergy. If the marriage certificate (or marriage record) is too old or damaged to a point that it has become illegible, please apply for a new copy from the original issuing authority. Otherwise, the document will be sent to the issuing authority for verification before it can be authenticated.
4. If the marriage certificate is used for household registration in Taiwan and one of the parties is not a Taiwanese passport holder, please sign with a self-created Chinese name. The signature must be verified, in person, in order to be certified true by an overseas office. The “Declaration to Use Chinese Name” can be obtained from this office or downloaded at our website: [www.taiwanembassy.org/us/nyc](http://www.taiwanembassy.org/us/nyc). The fee for each document is 15 USD. If applying through mail or through an agent, the “Declaration to Use Chinese Name” shall be sent to a notary public, the specific date and time of signing must also be stated (applicants must sign both in Chinese and English), which, after being verified by a notary public, shall be sent to this office.