



Marriage Celebrants Programme

Updated April 2018

Application for exemption from the marriage celebrants registration application fee

Please read important information before completing the form

Under the Marriage Regulations 2017 (the Regulations), an aspiring marriage celebrant must pay a registration application fee of \$600.

The Regulations allow for an exemption to be granted by the Registrar of Marriage Celebrants where:

1. the applicant's principal residential address is in a remote or very remote area, and
2. there is not more than one marriage celebrant whose principal residential address is:
 - (a) in the remote, or very remote area, and
 - (b) has the same postcode as the applicant's principal residential address.

This is the only circumstance in which an exemption to the marriage celebrant registration application fee can be granted under the legislation.

You **must** use this form to apply for an exemption from the marriage celebrant registration application fee.

There is a non-refundable \$30 fee for applications seeking this exemption. Your application for exemption will not be considered until payment in full has been received. This application should be lodged with the Attorney-General's Department before you lodge your marriage celebrant's registration application.

The Marriage Law and Celebrants Section is responsible for processing applications for exemptions from the registration application fee. Please return the below form and supporting documentation to:

Registrar of Marriage Celebrants
Attorney-General's Department
3-5 National Circuit
BARTON ACT 2600

Email (scanned copy with signatures): marriagecelebrantssection@ag.gov.au

Please allow 21 days for the processing of your form. You will be advised in writing once processing is complete. Our preferred method of communication is via email. Please ensure that you provide your current email address on the attached form.

If you are granted an exemption from paying the celebrant registration application fee, you will automatically receive an exemption from paying the celebrant registration charge for that financial year. You do not need to apply to the Registrar of Marriage Celebrants to receive that exemption.

Guidance Note:

The remoteness exemption is designed to support the retention of access to celebrancy services in remote or very remote areas. You may be eligible for an exemption if you meet both of the following two criteria:

1. Your principal residential address is in an area that the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has defined as being remote or very remote. You can determine whether your principal address is in a remote or very remote area via the following website: <<http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au>>.
2. There are no more than two (including yourself) Commonwealth-registered celebrants living in your postcode. This includes both civil and non-aligned religious celebrants who are registered by the Commonwealth. You can check the Register of Marriage Celebrants, to see how many other Commonwealth-registered celebrants live in your postcode: <<http://marriage.ag.gov.au/marriagecelebrants/both>>

The following documents will provide evidence of your residential address:

- electoral enrolment
- rates notice
- lease
- utility bill (phone, electricity, gas etc), or
- bank statement (with the exception of your name and address, you may wish to blank out any financial information or other personal details on the copy of the document you provide).

These documents should be provided in the form of certified copies. Please note that if you post documents that are original documents, these will not ordinarily be returned by the department.

Further guidance is available on the Marriage Celebrant's page on the Attorney-General's Department website at: <<http://www.ag.gov.au/FamiliesAndMarriage/Marriage/Pages/Becomingamarriagecelebrant.aspx>>



Application for exemption from the marriage celebrants registration application fee

Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr/Reverend/Pastor/Other (please specify):

First name:

Family name:.....

Residential address:

.....

Postal address (if different from above):

.....

.....

Email address:

.....

Signature:

Date:

- I confirm that my principal residence is in an area defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as remote or very remote
- I have attached certified copies evidencing my principal residence
- I have consulted the Attorney-General's Department website at which time there was no more than one registered marriage celebrant within the postcode of my principal residence
- I understand the fee for this application is \$30 and an invoice will be sent to the email address provided above. [If no email address is provided, it will be sent to the postal address.]

PRIVACY NOTICE

The Attorney-General's Department [Privacy Policy](#) outlines our personal information handling practices, including details on how you can seek access to or correction of the personal information that we hold about you. The Privacy Policy also contains information about how you can contact us, and how you can make a complaint about a breach of our obligations under the [Privacy Act 1988](#).