

## WISCONSIN DIVORCE CERTIFICATE APPLICATION

**PENALTIES:** Any person who illegally possesses any vital record with knowledge that the vital record has been illegally obtained 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 Wis. Stat. § 69.24(1)].

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION	CURRENT NAME - First		Last		MAIL TO NAME - First (if different)		Last	
	YOUR STREET ADDRESS ( <b>CANNOT</b> be a P.O. Box address) Apt. No.				MAIL TO ADDRESS (if different than street address) Apt. No.			
	City		State	ZIP Code	City		State	ZIP Code
	DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER ( )				EMAIL ADDRESS			
	TYPE OF CURRENT VALID PHOTO ID (See item 3 on page 2.)		PHOTO ID NUMBER		STATE OF ISSUANCE		EXPIRATION DATE	
II. APPLICANT'S RELATIONSHIP TO PERSON(S) NAMED ON THE CERTIFICATE	Per Wis. Stat. § 69.20(1), a <b>CERTIFIED copy of a divorce certificate is only available to those with a "direct and tangible interest."</b> (A-E)							
	<b>CHECK ONE box which indicates YOUR RELATIONSHIP to one of the PERSONS NAMED on the divorce certificate.</b>							
	A. <input type="checkbox"/> I am <b>one of the persons named</b> on the divorce certificate. B. I am a <b>member of the immediate family</b> of one of the persons named on the divorce certificate. <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Brother / Sister <input type="checkbox"/> Maternal Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Paternal Grandparent C. <input type="checkbox"/> I am the <b>legal custodian or guardian</b> of one of the persons named on the divorce certificate. D. <input type="checkbox"/> I am a <b>representative authorized</b> by any person in categories A - C, including an attorney. Specify the person you represent: _____ E. <input type="checkbox"/> I can demonstrate the divorce certificate is necessary for the <b>determination or protection of a personal or property right</b> . Specify your interest: _____ F. <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above. I am requesting an <b>uncertified</b> copy. (Copy will not be valid for identity or legal purposes.) NOTE: Grandchildren, stepparents, stepchildren, stepbrothers / stepsisters may only obtain certified copies as categories C – E.							
III. FEES	<b>PURPOSE FOR WHICH CERTIFICATE IS REQUESTED:</b>							
	First Copy Fee ..... \$ 20.00 _____ Additional copies of the same certificate issued at the same time as the first copy _____ X \$ 3.00 _____ Number of Additional Copies Fee must be money order or cashier's check. Personal checks will be returned. <b>TOTAL</b> _____							
Submit your application materials and fee to: <b>Register of Deeds / 212 6th St N Rm 1400 / La Crosse, WI 54601</b>								
Be sure to include: <input type="checkbox"/> completed form, <input type="checkbox"/> acceptable identification, <input type="checkbox"/> payment, <input type="checkbox"/> self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope, and <input type="checkbox"/> any additional proof or authorization required								
Make money order payable to: <b>Register of Deeds</b>								
IV. DIVORCE INFORMATION	PARTY "A" BIRTH NAME - First		Middle		BIRTH Last Name			
	PARTY "B" BIRTH NAME - First		Middle		BIRTH Last Name			
	LOCATION OF DIVORCE - County				DATE OF DIVORCE (MM/DD/YYYY)			
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.								
SIGNATURE (Applicant)					Date Signed (MM/DD/YYYY)			

**Important: Signature and payment are required for processing.**

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

**A CERTIFIED COPY:**

- Is printed on security paper, has a raised seal, and shows the signature of the State Registrar or Local Registrar.
- Can be used for legal purposes.
- Can only be obtained with a direct and tangible interest as defined in Wis. Stat. § 69.20(1).

**AN UNCERTIFIED COPY:**

- Is printed on plain paper and marked “uncertified.”
- Is for information purposes only and cannot be used for identity or legal purposes.
- Contains the same information as a certified copy.

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

Requests for certified and uncertified copies of divorce certificates may take up to 2 weeks plus mail time to complete.

**3. What identification is required when applying for a divorce certificate?**

Requests for certified copies require proof of identification. A **photocopy** of the applicant’s ID is required.

**Expired cards or documents will not be accepted.**

Examples of acceptable forms of identification include:

**One of these:**

- State issued driver’s license or ID card
- US Government issued photo ID
- US or Foreign passport
- Tribal or Military ID card

**OR**

**Two of these:**

- Bank/Earnings statement
- Current, dated, signed lease
- Health insurance card
- Utility bill or traffic ticket
- Vehicle registration/title

**If you have questions regarding this form, please call 608-785-9644  
or visit our website at <http://www.lacrossecounty.org/>**