

# Guidelines for: Reduced Marriage Fee Educator's Statement

(MS 517.08 subd 1)

Requirements of Educator's Statement are set out in statute and are as follows:

- a. Must be on the Educator's Letterhead
- b. Educator's signature must be notarized
- c. Must have completed 12 hours of education not completing or are taking
- d. Educator's Statement must be presented at time of application, No refunds given
- e. Education must be provided by a licensed or ordained minister or designee authorized to solemnize marriages under MS 517.18 or licensed to practice marriage and family therapy under MS 148B.33
- f. Local Registrar must retain Educator's Statement for 7 years
- g. Full legal names of both applicants must be on Educator's Statement and these names must be identical to the names on the marriage application

## **517.08 APPLICATION FOR LICENSE. – Reduced fee**

(c) The marriage license fee for parties who have completed at least 12 hours of premarital education is \$40. In order to qualify for the reduced license fee, the parties must submit at the time of applying for the marriage license a statement that is signed, dated, and notarized or marked with a church seal from the person who provided the premarital education on their letterhead confirming that it was received. The premarital education must be provided by a licensed or ordained minister or the minister's designee, a person authorized to solemnize marriages under section [517.18](#), or a person authorized to practice marriage and family therapy under section [148B.33](#). The education must include the use of a premarital inventory and the teaching of communication and conflict management skills.

(d) The statement from the person who provided the premarital education under paragraph (c) must be in the following form:

"I, ..... (name of educator), confirm that ..... (names of both parties) received at least 12 hours of premarital education that included the use of a premarital inventory and the teaching of communication and conflict management skills. I am a licensed or ordained minister, a person authorized to solemnize marriages under Minnesota Statutes, section [517.18](#), or a person licensed to practice marriage and family therapy under Minnesota Statutes, section [148B.33](#)."

The names of the parties in the educator's statement must be identical to the legal names of the parties as they appear in the marriage license application. Notwithstanding section [138.17](#), the educator's statement [2004 Subd. 1](#) Amended [2004 c 273 s 9](#)

## **517.18 MARRIAGE SOLEMNIZATION. Subdivision 1. Friends or Quakers.**

All marriages solemnized among the people called Friends or Quakers, in the form heretofore practiced and in use in their meetings, shall be valid and not affected by any of the foregoing provisions. The clerk of the meeting in which such marriage is solemnized, within one month after any such marriage, shall deliver a certificate of the same to the local registrar of the county where the marriage took place, under penalty of not more than \$100. Such certificate shall be filed and recorded by the court administrator under a like penalty. If such marriage does not take place in such meeting, such certificate shall be signed by the parties and at least six witnesses present, and shall be filed and recorded as above provided under a like penalty.

Subd. 2.**Baha'i.** Marriages may be solemnized among members of the Baha'i faith by the chair of an incorporated local Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is, according to the form and usage of such society.

Subd. 3.**Hindus; Muslims.** Marriages may be solemnized among Hindus or Muslims by the person chosen by a local Hindu or Muslim association, according to the form and usage of their respective religions.

Subd. 4.**American Indians.**Marriages may be solemnized among American Indians according to the form and usage of their religion by an Indian Mide' or holy person chosen by the parties to the marriage.

Subd. 5.**Construction of section.**Nothing in subdivisions 2 to 4 shall be construed to alter the requirements of section [517.01](#), [517.09](#) or [517.10](#).

#### **148B.33 REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE.**

Subdivision 1.Documentary evidence of qualifications.

An applicant for a license shall furnish evidence that the applicant:

- (1) has attained the age of majority;
- (2) is of good moral character;
- (3) is a citizen of the United States, or is lawfully entitled to remain and work in the United States;
- (4) has at least two years of supervised postgraduate experience in marriage and family therapy satisfactory to the board;
- (5)(i) has completed a master's or doctoral degree in marriage and family therapy from a program in a regionally accredited educational institution or from a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy; or (ii) has completed a master's or doctoral degree from a regionally accredited educational institution in a related field for which the course work is considered by the board to be equivalent to that provided in clause (5)(i);
- (6) will agree to conduct all professional activities as a licensed marriage and family therapist in accordance with a code of ethics for marriage and family therapists to be adopted by the board; and
- (7) has passed an examination approved by the board by rule.

Subd. 2.Fee.Each applicant shall pay a nonrefundable application fee under section [148B.17](#).