

# Marriage Equality is here!

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## Converting a Civil Union into a Marriage

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### **What does “converting” mean?**

If you and your partner entered into a civil union in Cook County at any time since June 1, 2011, you may request to have your marriage effective from the date of your original civil union. In other words, if you had your civil union on Feb. 14, 2012, your new marriage certificate will list your wedding date as Feb. 14, 2012.

### **Who is eligible?**

Any of the 4,000+ couples who have applied for a civil union license and had a civil union ceremony in Cook County since June 1, 2011.

### **What does it cost?**

The license fee is waived for the first year of the new law, between June 1, 2014 and May 31, 2015. Standard marriage certificates cost \$15 for the first copy and \$4 for each additional copy. Wallet-sized and commemorative certificates are also available.

### **What else do I need to know?**

Couples must appear in person & present identification, such as a driver's license or passport. After updating your civil union application information – your home address may have changed, for example – your marriage certificate will be issued immediately.



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