

**WISCONSIN DECLARATION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION**

**TYPE or PRINT.**

**PENALTIES:** Any person who willfully and knowingly makes a false application for a declaration of domestic partnership shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than 90 days, or both, per s. 69.24(2), Wis. Stats. Any person who willfully and knowingly obtains a declaration of domestic partnership for fraudulent purposes 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 s. 69.24(1), Wis. Stats.].

<b>I. DECLARATION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP</b>	PARTNER A NAME (as listed on declaration of domestic partnership) - First	Middle	Last Name
	PARTNER B NAME (as listed on declaration of domestic partnership) - First	Middle	Last Name
	COUNTY (where the declaration of domestic partnership was filed)		DATE FILED (Month/Day/Year the declaration was filed at the Register of Deeds Office)

<b>II. APPLICANT'S RELATIONSHIP TO PERSON(S) NAMED ON THE DECLARATION</b>	<p>According to Wisconsin Statute, a <b>CERTIFIED</b> copy of a declaration of domestic partnership is only available to those with a "direct and tangible interest" (categories A – E below.) You may select to receive an uncertified copy if you just need a copy for informational purposes OR if you do not meet the criteria for categories A – E. In that case, you may check category F below. (See item 1 on page 2 for more details.)</p> <p><b>Check one box which indicates YOUR RELATIONSHIP to one of the PERSONS NAMED on the declaration of domestic partnership.</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A. I am one of the PERSONS NAMED on the declaration of domestic partnership.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> B. I am a <b>member of the immediate family</b> of one of the PERSONS NAMED on the declaration of domestic partnership. (Only those listed below qualify as immediate family. NOTE: Grandchildren, step-parents, and step-children may only obtain certified copies as C – E.) CHECK ONE. <input type="checkbox"/> Parent (whose name is on either domestic partner's birth certificate and whose parental rights have <u>not</u> been terminated) <input type="checkbox"/> Current Domestic Partner (registered in the Wis. State Vital Records System) <input type="checkbox"/> Current Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Brother / Sister <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> C. I am the <b>legal guardian</b> of one of the PERSONS NAMED on the declaration of domestic partnership. (Legal proof is required. See item 1 on page 2.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> D. I am a <b>representative authorized</b>, in writing, by any of the aforementioned (categories A - C). (The written, <b>NOTARIZED</b> authorization must accompany this application. See item 1 on page 2.) Specify whom you represent. _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E. I can demonstrate that the information from the declaration of domestic partnership is necessary for the <b>determination or protection of a personal or property right</b> for myself/my client/my agency. (Proof is required.) Specify interest. _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> F. Uncertified copy (information purposes only; not valid for legal purposes) – Persons not in categories A – E above OR who do not need a copy for legal purposes. (See item 1 on page 2.)</p>
	<b>PURPOSE FOR WHICH DECLARATION IS REQUESTED</b> (Specify. This information will assist us in processing your request.)

<b>III. FEES</b>	<b>FEE IS NOT REFUNDABLE IF NO RECORD IS FOUND. CANCELLATION REQUESTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.</b>		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search Fee (includes one copy, if found) .....	\$ 20.00	<u>20.00</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Each additional copy of the same record, issued at the same time as the first copy .....	Number of Copies	X \$ 3.00	_____
	<b>TOTAL</b>		_____

If you wish to receive your certificate by mail please complete this form and return it to the following address with a self-addressed stamped envelope and a cashier's check or money order (NO PERSONAL CHECKS) payable to:  
**Register of Deeds – Vital Records, 901 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Milwaukee WI 53233. 414-278-4003**

<b>IV. APPLICANT INFORMATION</b>	<b>THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS ABOUT THE PERSON COMPETING THIS APPLICATION.</b>					
	YOUR CURRENT NAME - First			Middle	Last	YOUR DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER
						( )
	YOUR STREET ADDRESS (CANNOT be a P.O. Box address)			Apt. No.	MAIL TO ADDRESS (if different)	
City, Village, or Township			State	Zip Code	City or Village	
					State	
					Zip Code	

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 declaration of domestic partnership in accordance with the categories listed above.	
SIGNATURE - Applicant (Person Completing Application)	Date Signed (Month / Day / Year)

<b>VITAL RECORDS OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	Certificate Number
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**1. What is the difference between a “certified” and an “uncertified” copy of a declaration of domestic partnership?**

A **certified** copy of a declaration of domestic partnership issued by the State Vital Records Office will have a raised seal, will show the signature of the State Registrar, and will be printed on security paper. A certified copy may be required to assert legal rights that apply to domestic partners.

State law restricts who may obtain a **certified** copy of a declaration of domestic partnership certificate. A **certified** copy can only be issued to those people with a “direct and tangible interest” (section II, categories A – E) which means the following people:

- One of the partners named on the declaration of domestic partnership (section II, category A).
- An immediate family member, defined as domestic partner (current partner of one of the partners), current spouse, child, parent (whose name is on one of the domestic partner’s birth certificates and whose parental rights have not been terminated), brother/sister, or grandparent of a subject of the record (section II, category B).
- NOTE: Grandchildren, step-parents, and step-children can only obtain certified copies as C – E.
- The legal guardian of a partner named on the declaration of domestic partnership. Legal proof, e.g., a court order of guardianship, is required. (section II, category C).
- A person authorized in writing by one of the above. Written authorization with NOTARIZED signatures must accompany the application and the authorization must clearly state the relationship of the authorizing party to the subject of the record (section II, category D).
- A person who can demonstrate that the declaration of domestic partnership is required to determine or to protect a personal or property right (section II, category E). Proof is required.

If you do not meet one of the above criteria, you cannot receive a **certified** copy of a declaration of domestic partnership.

An **uncertified** copy will contain the same information as a certified copy but it is **not** acceptable for legal purposes, such as claiming insurance benefits (section II, category F).

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

Copies of declarations of domestic partnership are available from the Register of Deeds in 7 to 10 days from the date of filing the declaration of domestic partnership at the Register of Deeds Office.

• **Applying in Person**

In-person requests for certified or uncertified copies of declarations of domestic partnership are usually completed within 15 minutes of application, if the declaration of domestic partnership is already on file. If the applicant brings in the declaration of domestic partnership to be filed in the Register of Deeds and requests to purchase a copy the same day, an additional expedite fee of \$20 will be charged for same-day processing (as per state statutes).

• **Applying by Mail**

Requests for certified or uncertified copies of declarations of domestic partnership may take up to two weeks to complete.

**3. How will the certificate be sent?**

Declarations of domestic partnership are mailed in one of three ways:

- a self-addressed, stamped envelope provided by the applicant
- a pre-paid carrier envelope provided by the applicant (e.g., express carriers)
- first-class mail

**NOTE:** It is illegal to FAX declarations of domestic partnership.

**4. What identification is required when applying for a certified or uncertified copy of a declaration of domestic partnership?**

A current valid photo ID (e.g., Wisconsin Driver’s License, Wisconsin State Identification Card, passport, Military Identification Card) is required when applying in person.) A photocopy of the applicant’s current valid photo ID must accompany all mail applications.

**If you have questions regarding this form, please call 414-278-4003  
or visit our website at <http://county.milwaukee.org/display/router.asp?docid=9855>**