

Marriage registration checklist — Tamil Nadu

Print this page and carry it to the Sub-Registrar office · prepared 31 August 2026

Which route applies to you

- ☐ **Hindu Marriage Act, 1955** — the wedding has already been performed by custom, and both parties are Hindu, Buddhist, Jain or Sikh. No waiting period.
- ☐ **Special Marriage Act, 1954** — a civil marriage, including interfaith. A 30-day public notice period applies, so allow five to six weeks.

Before you apply

- ☐ Bride has completed 18 years, groom has completed 21 years
- ☐ Both parties are marrying freely
- ☐ Neither party has a living spouse
- ☐ Correct Sub-Registrar office identified (place of marriage, or where one of you lives)
- ☐ Witnesses arranged, each with photo ID

Documents — originals plus one self-attested copy of each

For both parties

- ☐ Age proof (birth certificate, school leaving certificate or passport)
- ☐ Identity proof (Aadhaar, voter ID, passport or driving licence)
- ☐ Address proof (ration card, utility bill or Aadhaar)
- ☐ Passport-size photographs — carry several
- ☐ Affidavit in the prescribed format

Depending on your situation

- ☐ Wedding invitation card
- ☐ Marriage photograph showing the ceremony
- ☐ Priest or temple certificate (Hindu marriage)
- ☐ Divorce decree, if previously divorced
- ☐ Death certificate, if widowed
- ☐ Photo ID of each witness
- ☐ Extra papers for an NRI or foreign national spouse

The procedure

1. Create a free account on the TNREGINET portal (tnreginet.gov.in).
2. Fill the marriage registration application under the correct Act. Check every name and date against your documents — a mismatch is the commonest reason for rejection.
3. Upload the documents and pay the fee. It is modest — of the order of #100 under the Hindu Marriage Act and #150 under the Special Marriage Act. Confirm the current fee.
4. Attend the Sub-Registrar office once, with both parties, the witnesses and all original documents.
5. Collect the certificate, and take several certified copies while you are there.

Confirm before you rely on this. Forms, fees, timelines and the number of witnesses vary between Sub-Registrar offices and change over time. Check the current requirements on tnreginet.gov.in or with your local Sub-Registrar. This is general guidance, not legal advice.