

NO.	FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
1.	<p>What are the types of marriages recognized in Uganda? There are five types of marriages recognized in Uganda. These include Civil, Customary, Church, Moslem and Hindu marriages.</p> <p>Civil marriages are marriage transactions conducted by an authorized Officer or Marriage Registrars.</p> <p>Religious Marriages (Church, Moslem or Hindu) are marriages officiated in accordance with the rites and usages of marriage observed in that religion i.e. recognized clergy or Imam.</p> <p>Customary Marriages are marriages conducted according to the rites of an African community (Uganda) and one of the parties to which is member of that community.</p>
2.	<p>What is a Civil Marriage? It is a legal marriage celebrated before a Registrar of Marriages appointed for that purpose.</p>
3.	<p>Is a Civil marriage a Contract marriage?</p> <p>A civil marriage is a binding monogamous marriage.</p>
4.	<p>How does one access the online marriage notice board? Visit www.ursb.go.ug</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Go to e-services and from the drop down click on civil registration Go to online news bulletin and click on Marriage Notice Book Click on name and enter the details to search <p><i>*Please note, the physical notice board of Notices of marriage is located at the URSB head office on Plot 1 Baskerville Avenue in Kololo</i></p>
5.	<p>The advantages or benefits of a Civil marriage?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is a legal and binding ceremony Issues one with a certificate as proof of marriage The certificate can be used to access social services
6.	<p>What are the requirements for a church to acquire a license to celebrate marriages and the fees?</p> <p>The church should among others have;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Proof of ownership of land Legality of the church

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Permanent building structure d) Recognised marriage celebrants e) Inspection report from the Registrar of Marriages f) Any other document as maybe required in unique circumstances <p>Fees are ugx 200,000/=</p>
7.	<p>What will happen to the marriages that were celebrated before the churches were licensed to celebrate marriages?</p> <p>The marriages are non-registrable given that they were conducted in a non-licensed place of worship. They stand null and void until legally rectified or redone.</p>
8.	<p>Why is it that the URSB website says marriage celebration is 200,000 and we issue a list of requirements with 260,000 + 60,000?</p> <p>The celebration of the marriage in itself costs 200,000/=, notice of marriage is 10,000/=, issuing of marriage certificate is 25,000/= and the registration of the marriage is 25,000/= bringing the total cost to 260,000/=. However, there is a requirement for attachment of Affidavits for the Bride and Groom. Affidavits are registered with the Business Registry and attract a fee of 30,000/= each.</p>
9.	<p>If my husband married me in church and comes with another woman at URSB to get married how can URSB help?</p> <p>The notice of marriage is supposed to run for 21 days. In the instance that the man is already married, the wife may enter a caveat against the issuance of the certificate of marriage. In the event that such a marriage is erroneously solemnized at URSB, it is invalid.</p>
10.	<p>Is it possible to submit an application for a civil marriage from Residents outside Kampala to the URSB head office?</p> <p>No, it is not possible. Civil Marriages outside Kampala are conducted at the offices of the Chief Administrative Officers who are authorized Registrars of Marriages for their respective districts.</p>
11.	<p>Is it possible to register a marriage after the death of a spouse yet the marriage certificate was not signed by the spouse on the day of the marriage?</p> <p>Marriage certificates should be signed on the day the marriage is conducted alongside the witnesses. Late registration is possible if the church marriage was duly solemnized; it is however impossible in instances of customary marriages' as both spouses must appear with witnesses in person before the registrar of customary marriages i.e. Sub county chief or Town clerk as the case may be.</p>

12.	<p>Does URSB provide marriage Counseling like in Church?</p> <p>No, we do not provide marriage counselling. However, our team is available for consultation on matters they are competent about.</p>
13.	<p>Does URSB register marriages celebrated outside Uganda?</p> <p>No, URSB does not register marriages conducted outside Uganda.</p>
14.	<p>Does URSB provide Rings to couples in civil marriages?</p> <p>No, couples turn up with their own rings.</p>
15.	<p>How long should a couple wait to get married if they are not in position to wait through the 21 days' notice?</p> <p>All applications to get married filed at URSB have a requirement of the marriage notice running for 21 days. Once the notice expires, a date is set for when the marriage can be celebrated.</p> <p>In the event that a couple might not be in position to wait for 21 days, a formal request is made in writing to the Hon.Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs requesting for a waiver of the 21 days. Once granted, the marriage can then be celebrated before the 21 days elapse.</p>
16.	<p>What are Civil vows?</p> <p>Civil vows are vows provided by law that the couple undertake in affirming their commitment to the marriage being solemnized. Some clients request a copy of vows to read through and practice due to language barriers especially people from non-English speaking countries.</p>
17.	<p>Some religious people feel that a civil marriage lacks God's blessings so they ask if they can come with their Reverends or pastors</p> <p>There are five recognized marriages in Uganda and these include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Civil Marriage b) Church Marriage c) Muslim Marriage d) Hindu Marriage e) Customary Marriage <p>Everyone is at liberty to choose a marriage type that appeals to their beliefs and faith.</p> <p>Note A couple is free to choose who attends their wedding in the civil set up.</p>

18.	<p>Why does our marriage notice have space for one person to sign yet they are two people getting married?</p> <p>Either of the couple is free to sign on the marriage notice.</p>
19.	<p>Are Civil marriages only conducted for Foreigners?</p> <p>Civil marriages are conducted for all people within the Borders of Uganda.</p>
20.	<p>Does URSB also handle divorce registration?</p> <p>URSB only registers Hindu and Muslim divorces in accordance with the provisions of their respective laws.</p>
21.	<p>How is the privacy of couples protected especially for those who do not want to appear on the notice board?</p> <p>Publication of a marriage notice is a legal requirement to safe guard against bigamy.</p>
22.	<p>What is the requirement for registering a customary marriage like a Kwanjula or Kuhingira?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.A cover letter from the Sub County Chief 2.Signed FORM B by the Sub county chief with passport photographs affixed 3. Copies of Couple and Witnesses Identification. 4. Proof of Payment of the prescribed fee. Ugx 20,000/ and Ugx 40,000/= respectively
23.	<p>How do I lodge a caveat to stop a civil marriage or church marriage where there is proof of a subsisting marriage?</p> <p>A Caveat can be lodged with the respective registrar of marriages in any District in the marriage notice book and the same is filed with the High Court to show cause why the notice should not proceed to be published of the intended marriage.</p>
24.	<p>Does a civil or church marriage have better legal status over a customary marriage?</p> <p>All the marriages have the same legal status under their respective statutory legislations.</p>
25.	<p>How do I get my customary marriage registered with URSB, if my husband passed on yet it is a legal requirement to process letters of administration as a spouse in case he died without drafting a Will?</p> <p>Upon death of a spouse, the Customary marriage can only be registered if the same was earlier registered with the Sub county Chief (Registrar of Customary Marriages).</p>

	<p>In the event that the same was never registered, such cannot be registered. Such a marriage though valid, is non-registrable.</p>
26.	<p>Is it relevant to have both Civil and church marriage registered?</p> <p>Other than marriages occurring at different times, one need not register a customary marriage when a church marriage has also been performed.</p>
27.	<p>Is a foreign marriage recognized in Uganda?</p> <p>Foreign marriages are recognized and valid only if they conform to marriage as understood in Uganda under the Ugandan law.</p>