

Notice

The Civil Protection Act, Chapter 2, 2012, effective **January 1, 2013**, provides that a marriage between two individuals who are not otherwise prohibited from marrying is valid in this State. **Any Marriage performed in this State that is otherwise prohibited is void.** Under Maryland Law, an Individual may not marry the Individual's:

*Grandparent, Parent, Child, Sibling, Grandchild,
Grandparent's spouse, Spouse's grandparent, Parent's sibling,
Stepparent, Spouse's parent, Spouse's child, Child's spouse,
Grandchild's spouse, Spouse's grandchild, Sibling's Child*

Licenses for couples who are of the same sex may be issued and delivered starting December 6, 2012 as long as the effective date of the license is JANUARY 1, 2013 – **meaning the license may not be used prior to 12:01 am on January 1, 2013.** PLEASE ADVISE THE MARRIAGE CLERK IMMEDIATELY if you are applying for a marriage license subject to the Civil Marriage Protection Act, so that the effective date can be properly amended. Marriage returns for ceremonies performed prior to the effective date are void and will not be recorded.