

**Priority:** Accountability  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating  
**Related Programs:** 72030, 72043

**Lead Agency:** County Management  
**Program Contact:** Randy Walruff

**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

The Marriage License and Domestic Partner program provides licenses, forms, information, and direct customer service for couples wanting to get married or register as Domestic Partners (DP) in either the State or County (Ordinance 948) program. It also maintains the permanent records of these transactions for the public.

**Program Description**

The Oregon Dept of Human Services (ODHS) supplies the marriage license (ML) and State Domestic Partnership (DP) forms to the counties and provides some technical assistance. Multnomah County makes all forms available to the public along with general information and customer service (telephone and counter). Staff reviews and approves the forms as representatives of the County, collects the fees, and forwards forms to the State for registration. This program provides direct customer service to approximately 10,000 walk-in customers and 15,000 telephone inquiries – issues approximately 6,400 marriage licenses and 100 County DP registrations annually. The number of registrations for the new State DP program is estimated at 2,000 annually.

**Program Justification**

This program contributes to the Accountability Priority by providing quality service in issuing marriage licenses and domestic partner registrations. It also contributes to Accountability by maintaining current and accurate public records.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY06-07)	Current Year Purchased (FY07-08)	Current Year Estimate (FY07-08)	Next Year Offer (FY08-09)
Output	Marriage Licenses Issued	6,383	6,500	6,400	6,400
Outcome	Percentage of Accurately Processed Licenses	99.6%	99.0%	99.0%	99.0%
Efficiency	Cost per Marriage License Issued (in Dollars)	14	20	15	15
Quality	Customer Service Satisfaction	99.2%	98.6%	99.0%	99.0%

**Performance Measure - Description**

The cost per license will fluctuate relative to the number of licenses issued. As DP activity becomes available measures can be updated to include both. The customer survey has been in place since May 2007.

## Legal/Contractual Obligation

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) Chapter 106 requires the County to process and issue marriage licenses. Multnomah County Ordinance 948 authorized and established a program for unmarried, committed couples to voluntarily register as domestic partners. The 2007 legislature passed HB 2007 establishing a statewide Domestic Partnership Registration program requiring the County to issue State DP registrations. The elimination of this program would leave the County unable to issue marriage licenses or register domestic partners.

## Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
<b>Program Expenses</b>	2008	2008	2009	2009
Personnel	\$62,927	\$0	\$65,866	\$0
Contracts	\$1,300	\$0	\$2,100	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$11,058	\$0	\$10,730	\$0
Internal Services	\$18,887	\$0	\$26,067	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$94,172</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$104,763</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Administration	\$6,541	\$22	\$6,974	\$12
Program Support	\$12,804	\$0	\$15,554	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$19,345</b>	<b>\$22</b>	<b>\$22,528</b>	<b>\$12</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$113,517</b>	<b>\$22</b>	<b>\$127,291</b>	<b>\$12</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$113,539</b>		<b>\$127,303</b>	
Program FTE	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$235,000	\$0	\$275,000	\$0
Program Revenue for Admin	\$7,491	\$0	\$5,764	\$0
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$242,491</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$280,764</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## Explanation of Revenues

This program is supported by General Fund revenues. A statutorily set \$60 fee is collected for each marriage license and for both State and County DP registration with the following allocation: \$25 to the County General Fund; \$25 to State Domestic Violence; and \$10 to Court Conciliation Services. Additionally, fees are charged for certified copies of licenses. The General Fund portion of marriage license and fee revenue has averaged approximately \$225K with the addition of the State DP registrations revenue is estimated at \$275K.

## Significant Program Changes

**Last year this program was:** #72030, A&T-Marriage License / Domestic Partner Registry  
HB 2007 provided for state-wide Domestic Partnership Registration that was to be implemented January 1, 2008. However, legal action has delayed its implementation providing no historical data for the 08/09 expenditure and revenue estimates.