



British Embassy
Manila

MARRIAGE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Explanatory Notice to British Nationals Planning to Marry in the Philippines **(checklist of supporting documents is on the next page)**

The Consular Section administers affirmations or affidavits of marital status. These replace the old-style Certificate of No Impediment (CNI). Customers must prepare an affirmation or affidavit of marital status, typed on a computer and printed, before visiting the consular section.

Affirmations and affidavits are solemn declarations of personal information—both are legally binding. The affidavit involves taking an oath on a Bible or Koran, while an affirmation has no religious element. You will be asked to prepare either an affirmation or an affidavit; you need not do both. You are free to choose according to your beliefs and preferences.

Please bring documents to support each statement made in your affirmation or affidavit. You may refer to the checklist on the next page for this. **Once all supporting documents are complete**, please set an appointment with the consular section via this link: https://www.consular-appointments.service.gov.uk/fco/#!/british-embassy-manila/oaths-affirmations-and-affidavits/slot_picker. Applicants are required to see us in person.

We will not administer your affirmation or affidavit if you fail to book an appointment or fail to provide complete supporting documentation.

As long as you can provide all supporting documentation, we aim to administer the affirmation or affidavit within the same day.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

-Under the Perjury Act (1911) it is a criminal offence to knowingly make a false declaration. Offenders face the possibility of a fine and/or a jail sentence.

-You should apply for a marriage licence from the Philippine local civil registrar once the affirmation/affidavit has been completed. The process normally takes 10 working days.

-Please fulfil all other requirements set by the Philippine authorities. If your fiancé/e was previously married, s/he may be asked to submit complete divorce/annulment documents.

-If your fiancé/e was previously married in the Philippines but a divorce was finalised elsewhere, you may want to seek legal advice. Certain restrictions may apply to Philippine nationals who were divorced overseas.

-An affirmation or affidavit does not make your marriage valid under UK or foreign law. You may wish to seek legal advice on this. Consular staff are not legally trained and are unable to comment on this matter.

CHECKLIST OF DOCUMENTS: AFFIRMATION/AFFIDAVIT of MARITAL STATUS
You will not be seen by consular staff if you fail to provide complete documentation

These documents are mandatory:

- Affirmation or affidavit of marital status **typed and printed off a computer on A4 size paper. Everything must fit on one page.** Please download the relevant template found in <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/marriage-in-the-philippines>. You may adjust font size or margin size as needed.

Please do not sign the affirmation or affidavit before your appointment. You will sign this in the presence of consular staff.

- Original British passport
- Proof of address (e.g. utility bill, bank/credit card statements, driving licence)
- Payment of consular fee #4 for administering an affidavit or affirmation. Please refer to the [table of consular fees](#). We accept payment by Visa/Mastercard in Pounds Sterling (£) or cash in Philippine Peso (=P=) on the day of the appointment.

You may be asked to present these additional documents:

- If you are divorced: original or certified copy of divorce decree absolute. If you have lost the original and need a certified copy, visit <https://www.gov.uk/copy-decree-absolute-final-order>

If your divorce document is in a foreign language: the original divorce decree document and an official English translation

- If you are widowed: original or certified copy of death certificate. If you have lost the original death certificate and need a certified copy, visit <https://www.gov.uk/order-copy-birth-death-marriage-certificate>

If death certificate is in a foreign language: the original death certificate and an official English translation

- If your previous marriage was annulled in the Philippines: original marriage certificate from the Philippine Statistics Authority (formerly known as the National Statistics Office) with an annotation stating that the annulment has been made final, Advisory of Marriage and court documents (if the previous marriage was annulled in the Philippines)
- If your supporting documents show a different name from what is on your passport: original name change deed poll