

What to ask an officiant ...

1. Will you be able to create a personalized ceremony? You bet! I am completely at your discretion. Ceremonies should be personalized and I will help you as much as you need. I have a *planner* to give you a start.
2. Do you have any restrictions on the type of ceremony or requirements to officiate my wedding? (Some ministers or officiants will only do a "traditional" wedding.) Are you supportive of interfaith, secular and same-sex marriages? I fully support individual beliefs. I encourage you to share your beliefs with me so that your ceremony truly reflects who you are.
3. Can we write our own vows? Of course!
4. Will you be scheduling other ceremonies on the same day as ours? I will not schedule more than one ceremony in a day. I do not want anything to interfere with being on time for your wedding.
5. What is your fee? Are there any extra fees for mileage, attending the rehearsal, etc.? How do I pay? I charge a flat fee. There will be no hidden charges of any kind. To pay, I ask for a non-refundable \$50 to hold your date. The rest is to be paid at least 7 days prior to the ceremony. My fee is \$250 plus \$2 times the number of miles to your wedding. (If your ceremony is in Geneva, the mileage is 0)
Example: Getting married 42 miles from me would be $\$250 + 2 \cdot 42 = \$250 + 84 = \$334$
You can pay by cash, check or PayPal (BrendaCalabria@gmail.com)
6. Can we meet with you in person before the ceremony? How many pre-wedding sessions do we get with you? I would like to meet *at least once* in person. The rest can be completed through email and phone calls if you prefer. However, I love to meet several times. I want to know you well and on a personal level. Knowing each other will create a better wedding ceremony.
7. Are there opportunities for friends or family members to participate in the ceremony to add a personal touch? Can I have readers? Of course, you can. We will talk about the possibilities ~ they are endless.
8. How long do your ceremonies last? 15-20 minutes is the usual length. It will adjust as you add readings, unity candles, sand ceremonies, etc
9. Will you attend rehearsal? Of course!
10. Will you attend rehearsal dinner and wedding reception? I believe that your dinner and reception are a time for you to celebrate with friends and families and, as such, I will not be attending.
11. Will you take care of the marriage license for us? Yes! You can get it to me at the rehearsal. I will take care of having your witnesses (usually the best man and maid of honor) sign it after the ceremony and then mail it to the appropriate place.
12. How will you be dressed? I will wear a black cassock or black suit unless you request otherwise.
13. Do you have reviews? Yes. Please check my web page or my FB page at www.BlueKryptonite.org or www.facebook.com/BlueKryptoniteWeddings/
I am a 7th grade math teacher in Geneva. I officiate weddings because I thoroughly enjoy helping you create a perfect ceremony. My favorite part is pronouncing you as a married couple. No one ever forgets that moment.

14. Do you offer any guidance on how to apply for marriage license? Obtain a marriage license within 60 days of your wedding at any town or city clerk's office but at least 24 hours before hand. The license will be issued immediately. I believe, it costs \$40. This fee includes the issuance of a Certificate of Marriage. This certificate is automatically sent by the issuing clerk to the newlyweds within 15 calendar days after the completed license is returned.
15. Can we be creative and have a theme wedding? That sounds fantastic!
16. When I need to reach you, how do I contact you and if I don't reach you right away then how soon can I expect you to respond? BrendaCalabria@gmail.com or 315-719-4096, call or text. I am a 7th grade math teacher. I may or may not have time to respond during the school day. The best time to reach me is between 7:00-7:30am and 3:00-9:00pm on weekdays. Anytime on the weekend. You should hear from me within an hour or two.
17. How are you licensed to perform weddings? I am ordained through Universal Life Church. I can provide proof of ordination. This does not mean that I require you to have a religious ceremony.
18. Are you a confident and loud speaker? I am a middle school math teacher and have performed many weddings, I speak confidently and project well to an audience.

Tips & Tricks:

Read:

<https://www.weddingwire.com/wedding-ideas/how-to-find-a-wedding-officiant>

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