



FACTS

about
Connecticut
Women

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Civil Union Law in the State – The basics (PA 05-10 and PA 05-288 §§225, 227, 228, 240)

When can you enter a civil union?

1. If you are not married or in another civil union;
2. If you are of the same sex as the other party of the civil union;
3. If you are at least eighteen years old
 - a. Exception: an emancipated minor is deemed to be 18 and can enter a civil union without parental consent.

Who can't enter civil unions together?

Any combination of parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, siblings, 1st generation aunts, uncles, nieces, or nephews (e.g. mother's sister or brother's son)

Who must perform the civil union?

- Judge
- Family support magistrate
- State referee
- Justice of the peace
- Clergy (ordained or licensed)
- any of these people may refuse to perform a civil union

What do you have to do to enter a civil union?

1. apply for a license with the registrar of vital statistics
2. if the person is under the supervision or control of a conservator, must file the conservator's written consent with the registrar of vital statistics
- Must be done in the town where celebrated, or where either person resides

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Does CT recognize civil unions from another state or foreign country?

Yes, if:

1. each party would have had the legal capacity to contract a civil union in CT (all of the above); and
2. the civil union is celebrated (one of the below):
 - according to the law of the other state or country, or
 - in the presence of the US ambassador or minister to that country, or
 - in the presence of a U.S. consular officer, at a place within his or her consular jurisdiction, or
 - by an ordained or licensed clergy member who is engaged in the work of ministry in any US state or foreign country

What rights do parties to a civil union have?

All the same benefits, protections and responsibilities that are granted to married spouses under the law (statutes, administrative regulations, court rules, policy, common law, or civil law).