

## EDUCATOR'S STATEMENT

Minn. Stat. § 517.08 subd. 1b(b-c)

Minnesota law (Statute 517.08 subd. 1b (b)) provides for a reduced marriage license fee when a couple completes 12 hours of premarital education. "The premarital education must be provided by a licensed or ordained minister or the minister's designee, a person authorized to solemnize marriages under section 517.18, or a person authorized to practice marriage and family therapy under section 148B.33." Minn. Stat. § 517.08 subd. 1b(b). To obtain the reduced fee, applicants must provide a statement from the educator at the time of application. The statement must meet the following requirements:

1. Statement must be on the educator's letterhead.
2. Statement must be signed and dated by the educator, with the educator's signature notarized or marked with a church seal.
3. Statement must include legal names of both applicants, and these names must be identical to the names on the marriage application.
4. **Minnesota law (MN Statute § 517.08 subd. 1b(c)) specifically requires the following language to be used in the Educator's Statement:**

**"I, ..... (name of educator), confirm that ..... (names of both parties) received at least 12 hours of premarital education that included the use of a premarital inventory and the teaching of communication and conflict management skills. I am a licensed or ordained minister, a person authorized to solemnize civil marriages under Minnesota Statutes, section [517.18](#), or a person licensed to practice marriage and family therapy under Minnesota Statutes, section [148B.33](#)."**