

## MCCGP Islamic Marriage Guidelines

MCCGP (Muslim Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh) enforces the following procedures and policies for an **Islamic marriage**:

1. The bridegroom must be a Muslim.
2. The couple must obtain a marriage license/record from their county of residence prior to the ceremony. Each county has its own department where a license and record can be obtained. If you are a resident of Allegheny county, a marriage license/record can be obtained from the address below:

Department of Court Records,  
Wills/Orphans' Court Division  
Marriage License Bureau  
414 Grant Street,  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, City-County Building  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Website: <http://www.alleghenycounty.us> (look for marriage license link)

3. The couple should schedule an appointment in advance of their marriage ceremony/Nikah with MCCGP imam. For appointments, please email [mccgpinfo@gmail.com](mailto:mccgpinfo@gmail.com) or call 412.373.0101 (if you get the answering machine, please leave a message stating the purpose and proposed date of Nikah).
4. Before performing the ceremony, the couple may be required to attend up to three premarital counseling sessions. This will be determined by the Imam after speaking with the couple.
5. All issues, reservations, conditions of the marriage, including an amount of dowry, need to be discussed prior to the Nikah ceremony.
6. The bride, bridegroom, and two witnesses must be present for the ceremony/Nikah with their photo IDs ready.
7. For those who can afford it, there is a **\$250.00** processing fee in form of a donation. Checks should be made payable to MCCGP.
8. If the imam is required to attend an outside ceremony and/or the marriage is performed at a location other than MCCGP, then the fee required would be **\$500.00**.

Please be advised that the procedures and requirements above apply to all, and under no circumstances can a ceremony/Nikah be documented without a marriage license/record.

For further questions and/or explanations please contact MCCGP office (via email or phone).

MCCGP wishes you happiness with your marriage.