

For Family Law Legal Services in Missouri, contact:

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- **What are the rules in the 50 states for Fault and No-fault Divorces?**

What are the rules in the 50 states for Fault and No-fault Divorces?

The following table shows the type of divorce for which you can file in each of the 50 states, whether or not a separation period is required (for no-fault divorces) and what the separation period is, if applicable.

Grounds for Divorce by State				
State	Fault Grounds	No-fault Grounds	Separation Required?	Length of Separation
Alabama	•	•	•	2 years
Alaska	•	•		
Arizona		•		
Arkansas	•	•	•	18 months
California		•		
Colorado		•		
Connecticut	•	•	• ¹	18 months
Delaware	•	•		
District of Columbia		•	•	6 months
Florida		•		
Georgia	•	•		
Hawaii		•	•	2 years
Idaho	•	•	•	5 years
Illinois	•	• ²	• ²	2 years
Indiana		•		
Iowa		•		
Kansas		•		
Kentucky		•		
Louisiana		•	•	180 days
Maine	•	•		
Maryland	•	•	•	1 year
Massachusetts	•	•		
Michigan		•		
Minnesota		•	•	180 days
Mississippi	•	•		
Missouri		•		

Montana		•		
Nebraska		•		
Nevada		•	•	1 year
New Hampshire	•	•		
New Jersey	•	•	•	18 months
New Mexico	•	•		
New York	•	•	•	1 year
North Carolina	•	•	•	1 year
North Dakota	•	•		
Ohio	•	• ³	•	1 year
Oklahoma	•	•		
Oregon		•		
Pennsylvania	•	•	•	2 years
Rhode Island	•	•	•	3 years
South Carolina	•	•	•	1 year
South Dakota	•	•		
Tennessee	•	•	• ⁴	2 years
Texas	•	•	•	3 years
Utah	•	•	•	3 years
Vermont	•	•	•	6 months
Virginia	•	•	• ⁵	1 year
Washington		•		
West Virginia	•	•	•	1 year
Wisconsin		•		
Wyoming		•		

¹Separation-based divorce must also allege incompatibility.
²Must allege irretrievable breakdown and separation for no-fault; if both parties consent, two years may be reduced to six months.
³Divorce will be denied if one party contests ground of incompatibility.
⁴Separation-based divorce allowed only if there are no children.
⁵May be reduced to six months if there are no children.