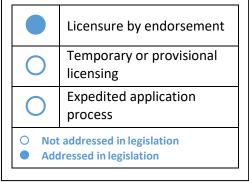


CONNECTICUT

Summary of Legislation

General Statutes of Connecticut, Title 20, Professional and Occupational Licensing, Certification, Title Protection and Registrations Examining Boards lists licensing requirements for each occupation/ profession (year of enactment varies by profession). There is currently no legislation regarding licensure portability specifically for military spouses in the state of Connecticut. Effective in 1993, Section 20-332-21a entitled, Reciprocity of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies allows occupational licensing boards to enter into agreements with other states to provide reciprocal licenses without examination. Legislation Meets Best Practices Guidelines for Military Spouse Licensure Portability by:



Location of Statute: Connecticut Statute: https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/title_20.htm

Location of Bill: Section 20-332-21a - http://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal /Browse/RCSA?id=Title%2020|20-332|20-332-21a|20-332-21a

Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- There is no unique process or point of contact for military spouses among any occupational board.
- Occupational Therapy board offers a 120-day temporary licenses for all applicants; however, none of the other five boards offer temporary or expedited application process for spouses.
- No information was available from any board about how many spouses have transferred their licenses in the last year.

Findings Specific to Each Board

Cosmetology

- To be eligible for reciprocity, spouses must have a valid license in another jurisdiction that was issued by examination.
- If spouses acquired the previous licenses without examination but have practiced cosmetology for more than five years, they can also be issued a Connecticut license without examination.
- Staff indicated that the average processing time cannot be estimated because it varies from case to case.





Results from Data Collection (continued)

Dental Hygiene

- To be eligible for licensure, spouses must have graduated from an American Dental Association (ADA) associated dental hygiene program, successfully completed the National Board Exam, and passed one of the eligible clinical performance exams.
- Once an application is submitted, it takes four to six weeks to have applications processed.

Massage Therapy

- Military spouses must have graduated from an accredited massage therapy program and passed the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx) or the Board Certification (BCETMB) exam.
- Spouses who are currently licensed to practice massage therapy in another jurisdiction for at least one year may qualify for licensure by reciprocity. They will need to provide verification of the MBLEx or BCETMB exam.
- Once an application is submitted, it takes seven to ten days to process applications.

Mental Health Counseling

- Besides education requirements, military spouses must complete 3,000 hours of postgraduate supervised experience.
- If spouses are currently licensed or certified as professional counselors in other states, they may substitute three years of licensed or certified work experience in lieu of the 3,000 hours of supervised experience.
- Staff indicated that the average processing time cannot be estimated because it is determined on an individual basis.

Occupational Therapy

- Besides education requirements, military spouses must have at least 24 weeks of supervised work experience and passed the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam.
- Once an application is submitted, the average processing time is two weeks.

Real Estate Commission

- To be eligible for reciprocity, military spouses must hold active licenses from another jurisdiction with substantially equivalent requirements as Connecticut such as meeting the education requirements and passing a national licensing exam. In addition, spouses must submit the license history report from the jurisdiction in which they are currently licensed.
- Once an application is complete, the average processing time is one to two weeks.





Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Collaborate with state legislators to draft bills that support licensure portability for military spouses by facilitating endorsement of a current license, providing a temporary license, and expediting application procedures.
- Raise awareness of the importance of licensure portability for the financial and personal wellbeing of military families and the retention of Service members.

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