

## DELAWARE

### Summary of Legislation

Delaware Statute Chapter 329, enacted in 2014, states that military spouses may apply for provisional licenses that are valid for six months and cannot be renewed. In addition, spouses may apply for endorsement of their licenses. In order to receive a provisional license or endorsement, spouses need to provide an official verification that they are married to an Active Duty or National Guard and Reserve Service member who is reassigned to a duty station in Delaware. Spouses need to hold active licenses or permits in good standing in another jurisdiction with requirements substantially similar to Delaware.

#### Location of Statute:

*Delaware Statute, Volume 79, Chapter 329:*

<http://delcode.delaware.gov/sessionlaws/ga147/chp329.shtml#TopOfPage>

### Legislation Meets Best Practices Guidelines for Military Spouse Licensure Portability by:

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Licensure by endorsement
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Temporary or provisional licensing
<input type="radio"/>	Expedited application process

Not addressed in legislation  
 Addressed in legislation

### Results from Data Collection

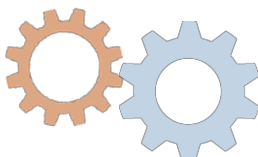
#### General Findings

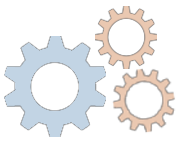
- The Division of Professional Regulations website indicates that spouses may apply for provisional professional licenses to practice in Delaware for up to six months while their applications for Delaware professional licenses are pending.
- All boards allow licensure by reciprocity; spouses must have a current license from another jurisdiction with similar licensure standards and at least two years of experience to be eligible.
- The average processing time of applications is not indicated on board websites nor was it provided by board staff.
- 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 provide copies of current licenses that they hold in another jurisdiction and arrange for the board office to receive license verification from each jurisdiction where they currently hold or previously held a license.
- If the jurisdictions of spouses' current licenses require fewer classroom or apprenticeship hours than Delaware requires, the applicants also need to prove that they have a total of three years of experience in the five years immediately preceding their application in Delaware.
- The average processing time of applications is not indicated on board websites nor was it provided by board staff.





## Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

### Results from Data Collection (continued)

#### *Dental Hygiene*

- Licensure by reciprocity requires spouses to hold a current license from another jurisdiction and to have practiced for at least three of the past five years.
- When submitting their application, spouses also need to submit the National Dental Hygiene Board Examination score report as well as the completed, signed, and notarized Jurisprudence Examination for Dental Hygienist Candidates.
- The average processing time of applications is not indicated on board websites nor was it provided by board staff.

#### *Massage Therapy*

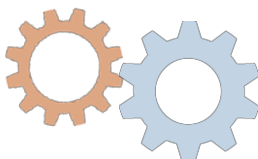
- To be eligible for reciprocity, military spouses must be licensed in another jurisdiction and have practiced continuously in that jurisdiction for at least two years before applying in Delaware.
- Spouses must submit the full application and arrange for an official score report to be sent directly from either the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) or the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) to the board office.
- The average processing time of applications is not indicated on board websites nor was it provided by board staff.

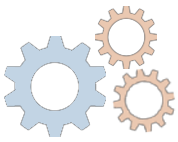
#### *Mental Health Counseling*

- To be eligible for reciprocity, military spouses must complete the full application and submit current certification from the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), Academy of Clinical Mental Health Counselors (ACMHC), or other certifying mental health organization acceptable to the Board.
- If spouses have been licensed for less than five years, the board also needs to determine whether the previous jurisdictions have similar requirements as Delaware. If not, more supporting documents are needed.
- The average processing time of applications is not indicated on board websites nor was it provided by board staff.

#### *Occupational Therapy*

- Spouses must complete the full application, submit verification of licensure directly from the jurisdictions where they are currently licensed, and pass the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam to receive licensure by reciprocity.
- The average processing time of applications is not indicated on board websites nor was it provided by board staff.





# Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

## Results from Data Collection (continued)

### *Real Estate Commission*

- To be eligible for reciprocity, spouses must complete the full application, submit a signed copy of Sale or Lease Transaction Listing form (a form that lists at least 20 sales or lease transactions completed by the applicant in the past three years), licensure history, and passing scores from the Delaware law portion of the salesperson's exam.
- Spouses must also provide one of the following: certification of completing the Delaware law portion of the salesperson's pre-licensing course, certification of completing another jurisdiction's pre-licensing course of at least 99 hours, or proof of being licensed continuously for the three years immediately preceding the application.
- The average processing time of applications is not indicated on board websites nor was it provided by board staff.

## Recommendations

### Future efforts could:

- Collaborate with state legislators to modify HB 296 to include that occupational boards shall facilitate the process of transfer by expediting the application process and prolonging the valid period of provisional licenses from six months to one year.
- Advocate for the Division of Professional Regulation to have a point of contact for military spouses to facilitate the process of license transfer.

### **For additional information, please contact:**

Lynne M. Borden, Ph.D.

*Department of Family Social Science*

The University of Minnesota

lmborden@umn.edu



Developed in collaboration with the Department of Defense's Office of Family Policy, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture under The University of Minnesota Award No. 2016-48788-25895.

