

Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

INDIANA

Summary of Legislation

House Enrolled Act No. 1116 became effective in 2012. This bill allows professional licensing boards to issue a license to military spouses with a current equivalent license in good standing from another jurisdiction. Spouses must demonstrate competency through continuing education credits or work experience for two of the preceding five years. In addition, spouses may need to complete additional training to meet state licensing requirements and undergo a criminal background check. Boards may issue a temporary practice permit or provisional license while spouses complete additional licensing requirements. Senate Bill No. 253 was proposed in 2012 and is similar to House Enrolled Act No. 1116. Senate Enrolled Act No. 219, which became effective in 2016, allows boards to expedite military spouse applications.

Legislation Meets Best Practices Guidelines for Military Spouse Licensure Portability by: Licensure by endorsement Temporary or provisional licensing Expedited application process Not addressed in legislation Addressed in legislation

Location of Bills:

Senate Bill No. 253 - http://www.in.gov/legislative/bills/2012/SB/SB0253.1.html

House Enrolled Act No. 1116 - http://www.in.gov/pla/files/HE1116_Military_Licensing.pdf

Senate Enrolled Act No. 219 - https://iga.in.gov/legislative/2016/bills/senate/219#document-2e6050c8

Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- The application process is similar for all applicants although military spouses may indicate on their application that they are seeking licensure based on their military status.
- Boards do not issue temporary licenses to military spouses.
- Occupational board staff were unaware of any upcoming changes to legislation.
- Only the Real Estate Commission was able to provide information about how many military spouses have transferred their licenses in the last year.

Findings Specific to Each Board

Cosmetology

- To transfer their license, military spouses must have at least a tenth grade education, completed 1,500 training hours, and passed a written and practical exam. In addition, spouses must submit license certification from each state in which they have held a previous license and provide proof they are a military spouse.
- Applications are reviewed once a month by the board, and the typical application processing time is unknown.



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Results from Data Collection (continued)

Dental Hygiene

- Spouses who have been practicing for five or more years must submit license verification, three letters of recommendation, and have completed 19 continuing education hours.
- Spouses with less than five years of experience will also need to provide official transcripts with proof of conferred degree. All spouses must take a jurisprudence exam.
- Once the completed applications are submitted, licenses are typically issued within one to two months.

Massage Therapy

- Spouses must have graduated from an accredited program and submit an application with
 official transcripts, exam scores from one of the national exams, and license verification(s).
 Spouses must also provide proof of liability insurance and pass a criminal background check.
- Once the completed applications are submitted, licenses are issued within six months.

Mental Health Counseling

- Spouses who have practiced for at least three of the five previous years must provide official transcripts, license verification(s), and proof of passing the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination (NCMHCE). Spouses must also pass a jurisprudence exam.
- Once the completed applications are submitted, licenses are issued in one to three months.

Occupational Therapy

- Military spouses must provide official transcripts with degree conferred, proof of passing scores on the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam, and license verification(s). They must also pass a criminal background check.
- Once completed, licenses are typically issued in two to four weeks.

Real Estate Commission

- Spouses must send license verification from their previous state with documentation of that state's licensing requirements, license verification from any state in which a license was held, and information about the broker or broker company with whom they will work. This information will be reviewed by the board for approval or denial of licensure by reciprocity.
- If the board does not approve licensure by reciprocity, spouses must complete a 90-hour prelicensing course and pass the state portion of the exam. The national portion of the exam may be waived.
- Only one military spouse transferred their licenses in the last year. Military spouse applications
 are expedited, but because only one application has undergone this process, the average
 processing time is unknown.





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Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Encourage boards to consistently issue temporary license for spouses while they complete the full licensing requirements as most boards do not offer this option even though it is stated in the law.
- Advocate for legislation that waives initial application and licensing fees for military spouses applying for a license in Indiana.

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