

# **Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report**

## **KANSAS**

## **Summary of Legislation**

House Bill No. 2178, "Granting Professional Licenses to Nonresident Military Spouses," was enacted in 2012. House Bill No. 2154 was enacted in 2015. Both bills state that occupational licensing boards can issue a license by reciprocity, reinstatement, or endorsement within 60 days of a completed application. If the board does not have licensure by reciprocity, reinstatement, or endorsement, the board may issue a license on probationary status to a spouse who has a current license in good standing from a state with equivalent requirements, has practiced the occupation for two of the previous five years, pays the application fee, and provides a signed affidavit. This license is valid for six months. If spouses' licenses are determined to be non-equivalent, the board may issue a temporary license while they complete additional requirements for licensure.

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:

House Bill 2178 - http://www.kslegislature.org/li\_2012/b2011\_12/measures/documents/hb2178\_00 \_0000.pdf

House Bill 2154 - http://www.kslegislature.org/li\_2016/b2015\_16/measures/documents/hb2154 enrolled.pdf

#### **Results from Data Collection**

## **General Findings**

- Most occupational boards expedite military spouse applications.
- Most occupational board staff were unaware of any new or upcoming changes to legislation.
- No information was available about how many military spouses have transferred their licenses in the last year.

#### Findings Specific to Each Board

## Cosmetology

- Spouses with an active license in another state with at least 1,500 training hours are required to take a 20-question, open book state exam. Spouses without an active license who have completed 1,500 training hours must take the board's written and practical exams.
- Spouses must provide license and training verification, a copy of a government-issued photo identification card, and verification of a high school education or equivalent (unless they have practiced for 10 or more years).
- Completed applications are typically processed within one week; military spouses' applications are expedited and may be issued in less than a week.





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## **Results from Data Collection (continued)**

## Dental Hygiene

- The application process is similar for all applicants. However, fees are waived for military spouses if they provide a copy of their military orders.
- Spouses must provide a copy of their educational transcripts with degree conferred, national and clinical exam scores, license verification, current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification, verification of continuing education credits, and a criminal background check.
- Completed applications are typically processed within seven to ten business days.

#### Massage Therapy

- There is no statewide board for massage therapy. Military spouses must contact the city clerk's office for each city in which they want to work to inquire about city licensing requirements.
- To transfer their licenses, spouses must submit a certified transcript showing proof of education and training. Spouses must also complete in-person training for both first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).
- Completed applications are typically processed within 30 days.

### Mental Health Counseling

- Spouses must have "substantially equivalent" clinical contact and supervisory hours or have a minimum of five years of experience to receive licensure by reciprocity. If spouses do not meet these requirements, they must complete the application process as a new applicant.
- Completed applications are typically processed within 30 days or less.

## Occupational Therapy

- Spouses must provide educational transcripts with degree conferred, proof of completing supervised training, passing scores on the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam, and license verification.
- Spouses licensed in another state may have the national exam, education, or experience requirements waived, which is determined on an individual basis.
- Completed applications are typically processed within one week; spouses' applications may be expedited and issued in less than a week if they indicate their military status to the board.

## Real Estate Commission

- Military spouses must complete the Kansas Practice Course and pass the Kansas real estate exam.
- Spouses must also undergo a criminal background check and submit license verification.
- Completed applications are typically approved the same day or the next business day.





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## Recommendations

## Future efforts could:

- Encourage occupational licensing boards to post information on their websites regarding military spouse licensure requirements.
- Advocate for legislation that would allow occupational licensing boards to waive initial application fees for military spouses.

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