

Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

MICHIGAN

Summary of Legislation

Act 299, Section 339.213 became effective in 2014. This bill requires occupational licensing boards to provide military spouses with a temporary license if they have a current license in good standing, provide proof of marriage to a Service member assigned to a duty station in Michigan, and pass a criminal background check. A temporary license is valid for six months and may be renewed once if spouses need additional time to fulfill the licensing requirements.

Location of Bill:

Act 299, Section 339.213 - http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx? mcl-339-213

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

Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- The Board of Cosmetology waives the initial application fee for military spouses.
- The Boards of Dental Hygiene, Massage Therapy, and Occupational Therapy offer expedited procedures for military spouse applications.
- Occupational board staff were unaware of any new or upcoming changes to legislation.

Findings Specific to Each Board

Cosmetology

- Spouses who provide proof of military status may have application fees waived.
- Spouses must have graduated from an accredited program with at least 1,500 hours of training or completed a two-year apprenticeship, passed the theory and practical exams, and submitted a notarized affidavit with education and employment history.
- Completed applications are typically processed within a couple of weeks.

Dental Hygiene

- Spouses licensed in another state who have been practicing for at least three years must submit license verification that contains no disciplinary action and complete a criminal background check.
- Spouses licensed in another state who have been practicing for less than three years must submit license verification that contains no disciplinary action, official transcripts, passing scores on the National Dental Hygiene Examination, passing scores on a clinical examination, and complete a criminal background check.





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Results from Data Collection (continued)

- Military spouses can apply for a temporary license if they provide proof they are married to an Active Duty Service member assigned to Michigan, have a current license in good standing, and pass a criminal background check.
- Completed temporary applications are reviewed by the board every other month and military spouse applications are expedited. Completed military spouse applications typically take between four to six weeks to be processed.
- No spouses have applied for a temporary military license within the last year.

Massage Therapy

- Military spouses licensed in another state with at least five years of experience must provide license verification and proof of passing the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx) exam. Spouses will also need to pass a criminal background check.
- Spouses licensed in another state for less than five years must also provide proof of education.
- Completed applications are typically processed within four weeks, and the board may expedite military spouses' applications, if necessary.

Mental Health Counseling

- Spouses with a current license with a minimum of five years of experience can apply for licensure by endorsement with license verification and a background check.
- If spouses have less than five years of experience, they must also provide official transcripts from an accredited program (with at least 48 semester hours and 600 hours of supervised internship practicum experience), a certification of education form, proof of passing the National Counselor Examination (NCE), and proof of work experience.
- Spouses can apply for a limited license if they meet the educational and exam requirements but do not have enough client contact hours for full licensure.
- Temporary licenses are available for military spouses but are rarely given.
- Spouse applications are not expedited and staff at the board reported that the typical length of time to issue a license is unknown.

Occupational Therapy

- Spouses who have practiced for a minimum of five years must provide license verification,
 National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam scores, a criminal background check, and jurisprudence exam scores.
- Spouses with less than five years of experience must also provide proof of graduating from an accredited program.
- Completed applications are typically processed within four weeks, and the board may expedite military spouses' applications if necessary.





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Results from Data Collection (continued)

Real Estate Commission

- Military spouses must apply for full licensure, complete the required pre-licensure education courses, and pass a jurisprudence exam.
- Completed applications are processed within three weeks.

Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Encourage legislation that expedites licensing procedures for military spouses licensed in another state.
- Provide more training for board staff regarding the temporary license for military spouses as board staff were aware of legislation that supports temporary licenses but could not provide detailed information.

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