

MINNESOTA

Summary of Legislation

House Bill 3172, effective in 2014, allows licensing boards to issue a temporary license or expedite applications for military spouses of Active Duty Service members. Spouses must have a current, valid license with no disciplinary action and pass a criminal background check. Temporary licenses are valid for a length of time determined by each board.

Location of Bill:

House Bill 3172 - <http://wdoc.house.leg.state.mn.us/leg/LS88/HF3172.3.pdf>

Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- The current transfer of license process is similar for all new residents to Minnesota.
- The Boards of Cosmetology, Counseling, and Occupational Therapy offer temporary licenses to military spouses.
- There is no statewide Massage Therapy Board.
- Occupational board staff were unaware of any 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

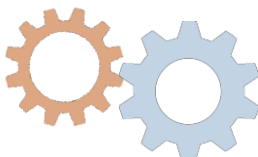
- Spouses can apply for a temporary license by completing an application, providing proof of military status, and submitting a copy of their current license. A temporary license is valid for one calendar year and cannot be renewed.
- Spouses must apply for licensure through the standard application process prior to the temporary license expiring.
- Temporary license applications are processed within five business days.

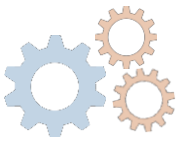
Dental Hygiene

- Spouses who have at least 2,000 hours of experience within the previous 36 months must provide proof of passing a clinical exam and complete a criminal background check. Spouses must also interview with the Credentials Committee of the board.
- If spouses do not meet the experience requirement, they may complete a board approved re- entry course.
- Interviews with the Credentials Committee are held monthly. Licenses approved by the committee are issued immediately following the interview.

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

<input type="radio"/>	Licensure by endorsement
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Temporary or provisional licensing
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Expedited application process
<input type="radio"/> Not addressed in legislation <input checked="" type="radio"/> Addressed in legislation	





Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

Results from Data Collection (continued)

Massage Therapy

- There is no statewide board for massage therapy. Spouses need to contact the city clerk to inquire about specific city requirements. An inquiry was made with the city clerk's office of a major metropolitan city in the state of Minnesota regarding the requirements necessary to practice massage therapy within the city. This city only required an application for a permit to set up practice and did not have specific licensing requirements.
- The Office of Unlicensed Competency and Alternative Health Care Practice oversees disciplinary actions when required.

Mental Health Counseling

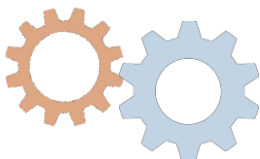
- Spouses who indicate their military status can be issued a temporary license while they apply for permanent licensure. Currently, no specific application or process is in place.
- Spouses must have graduated from an accredited program (minimum of 48 credit hours) with 700 supervised field experience hours and have 2,000 hours of post-degree supervised experience.
- Requirements for the criminal background check are changing and the board was unsure how this would affect the application processing time. Currently, licenses are reviewed and approved on an ongoing basis and are issued the first of each month.

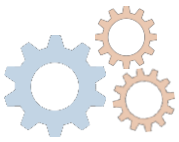
Occupational Therapy

- Military spouses must have graduated from an accredited program, passed the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam, and provided license verification.
- Temporary licenses are available for spouses licensed in another state who have passed the NBCOT exam if the spouse submits a signed affidavit affirming they have an unrestricted license. A Temporary license is valid for 90 days and can be renewed for one additional 90-day term.
- Completed applications are typically processed within 5 to 30 business days. Temporary licenses are typically processed within five to ten business days.

Real Estate Commission

- Spouses licensed in a reciprocal state (Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Oklahoma) must submit an application, pay the application fee, and provide license verification.
- If licensed in a non-reciprocal state, spouses will need to take 30-hours of pre-licensing courses, pass the state portion of the law exam, complete an application, pay the licensing fee, and provide license verification.
- Completed applications are typically processed within 10 business days.





Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Encourage boards to establish processes for granting temporary licenses as only one board currently has a specific application for military spouses seeking a temporary license.
- Advocate for legislation that allows boards to reduce or waive the initial licensing fee for military spouses.

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