Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

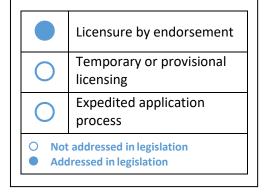


# NEVADA

# **Summary of Legislation**

House Bill 89 was enacted in 2015; occupations that are covered by the bill are not specified. To benefit from HB 89, spouses must be married to an Active Duty Service member or a Veteran, or be a surviving spouse of a Veteran. The bill indicates that an occupational board can issue a license to a military spouse by endorsement but is not required to do so. The bill also indicates that if additional information is needed from spouses after they submit their application, boards shall provide written notice no later than 15 business days after receiving a spouse's application. Further, the bill states that the board *shall* approve or deny the application within 45 days of receiving the application and all supplemental materials or 10 days after receiving results from a criminal background check when applicable.

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



### Location of Bill:

House Bill 89 - https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/78th2015/Bill/1319/Text

## **Results from Data Collection**

### General Findings

- Occupational board staff were aware of state legislation related to military spouse licensure portability, but only Dental Hygiene, Mental Health Counseling, and Occupational Therapy boards had specific procedures that eased the process of transfer for military spouses.
- The Occupational Therapy board is the only board to grant a temporary license while waiting for all pertinent information to be submitted.
- No information was available from any board about how many military spouses have transferred their licenses in the last year.
- No board had a specific person who served as a point of contact to help military spouses with the application process.

### Findings Specific to Each Board

### Cosmetology

- To transfer their licenses, spouses must submit verification of their license that was issued in another state and pass a 25-question exam based on Nevada laws for the practice of cosmetology.
- Once spouses submit their license verification form and pass the state exam, they are issued a license the same day.





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

### Dental Hygiene

- Spouses must have graduated from an accredited program and passed a clinical examination to be eligible to transfer their license to Nevada.
- Spouses' applications are "fast-tracked." Once they submit an application, they are given a permanent license and have 90 days to submit their supplemental information (e.g., transcripts, proof of clinical exam).

### Massage Therapy

- To transfer their license, spouses must have graduated from an accredited program, passed a national exam, submitted verification of licenses from all states in which they were previously licensed, and submitted a criminal background check.
- After spouses submit their applications and supplemental materials, a permanent license is granted in three to five months as this is about the length of time necessary to verify spouses have met all the requirements.
- There is no temporary license granted while spouses wait for their supplemental materials to be verified.

### Mental Health Counseling

- Spouses must have a graduate degree from an accredited program and passed the national exam as well as have two years of postgraduate work and 3,000 hours of supervised experience.
- The board expedites spouses' applications by prioritizing the review of their applications.

### Occupational Therapy

- Spouses must submit verification of all licenses they have held for the previous five years.
- Spouses' applications are expedited and application fees are reduced. They must submit a separate form indicating their spouses' military status in order for their application to be expedited.
- Upon submitting their applications, spouses are granted a temporary license until their application and supplemental materials are verified. The temporary license lasts six months and may be renewed for an additional six months.
- Once spouses' materials are submitted and verified, it takes an average of three days to issue their permanent license.

#### Real Estate Commission

- Spouses must submit proof that they hold a real estate license in good standing in another jurisdiction as well as pass a national and Nevada state jurisprudence exam.
- Nevada requires 90 hours of pre-license education credits, and the board accepts education credits from previous states.





### Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Collaborate with state legislators to modify HB 89 to read that occupational boards shall facilitate the process of transfer by endorsement, temporary license, or expedited application.
- Encourage broader dissemination of the contents of HB 89 to occupational boards to improve staff's understanding and application of the bill.

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