

## OREGON

### Summary of Legislation

Enacted in 2013, House Bill 2037 indicates that occupational boards shall issue a license or certification to military spouses and that boards may issue temporary licenses. The bill applies to military spouses or “domestic partners” of Active Duty Service members who have been assigned to a duty station in Oregon. Military spouses may meet criteria to transfer their licenses if they provide verification that they have provided services or “taught the subject matter regulated by the board” for at least one year in the preceding three years.

Location of Bill:

House Bill 2037 - <https://legiscan.com/OR/text/HB2037/2013>

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

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Licensure by endorsement
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Temporary or provisional licensing
<input type="radio"/>	Expedited application process

Not addressed in legislation  
 Addressed in legislation

### Results from Data Collection

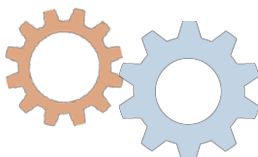
#### General Findings

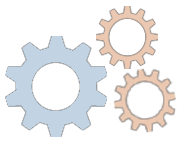
- Staff at the Cosmetology board were aware of legislation related to portability of military spouses’ licenses; staff at the other occupational boards were not aware.
- The Cosmetology board provides spouses with a temporary license while they are collecting their application materials; no other board issues temporary licenses.
- No board had a specific person who served as a point of contact to help military spouses with the application process.
- Staff at the Occupational Therapy board indicated one military spouse applicant in the last year. No other occupational boards had information about how many military spouses have transferred their licenses in the last year.

#### Findings Specific to Each Board

##### *Cosmetology*

- Military spouses are eligible to benefit from an expedited application process. Upon submitting their application, they are issued a temporary license so that they may work while waiting for their verification forms. The temporary license expires after three months and is nonrenewable.
- To be eligible to transfer their licenses, spouses must submit proof of marriage and assignment to a duty station in Oregon, verification of current license, and proof they have been in practice for at least one year in the last three years.
- Once the application and supplemental documentation is completed, licenses are issued the same day.





## Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

### Results from Data Collection (continued)

#### *Dental Hygiene*

- If spouses have an active license and have passed clinical boards in a previous state within the last five years, they can transfer their license without further examination.
- If spouses passed clinical boards more than five years ago, they must pass clinical boards in the state of Oregon.
- Once the application is submitted, it usually takes six to eight weeks to issue the license.

#### *Massage Therapy*

- To transfer their licenses, spouses must have 625 hours of education, pass a national massage therapy exam, and submit verification of their transcripts and previous license.
- Once the applications are submitted, licenses are issued in about two to three weeks.

#### *Mental Health Counseling*

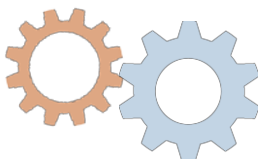
- Spouses must submit documentation that verifies that the standards of their previous professional counselor license are equal to Oregon's standards for professional counselors. This verification is usually completed by forwarding the previous state's standards, including coursework and state or regional licensing exam(s). Five or more years of work may substitute for education requirements, which is at the board's discretion.
- Staff at the board indicated they try to expedite applications of military spouses, and once the applications are completed, licenses are usually issued in two to four weeks.

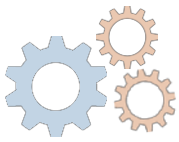
#### *Occupational Therapy*

- To transfer their licenses, spouses must submit proof that they passed the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) and Oregon jurisprudence exams and verification of a license from a previous state. If they have not been NBCOT certified, they must submit proof of 30 continuing education units (CEUs) taken within the last two years.
- Staff at the board indicated they expedite spouses' applications if spouses identify their military status on the applications. Licenses are issued in three business days with expedited applications.

#### *Real Estate Commission*

- Military spouses with real estate licenses from Alabama, Georgia, Nebraska, and South Dakota are eligible to transfer their licenses via reciprocity.
- Spouses who are not eligible for transfer of licenses via reciprocity must complete 150 hours of pre-licensure credit hours (which are available online), an Oregon licensing exam, and a criminal background check.
- The entire application process, including the pre-licensure coursework, usually takes one to three months.





# Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

## Recommendations

### Future efforts could:

- Collaborate with state legislators to amend HB 2037 to require that boards implement an expedited process for military spouses' license transfers.
- Continue efforts to widely disseminate information about state legislation mandates and recommendations regarding military spouse license portability.

### **For additional information, please contact:**

Lynne M. Borden, Ph.D.

*Department of Family Social Science*

The University of Minnesota

[lborden@umn.edu](mailto:lborden@umn.edu)



Developed in collaboration with the Department of Defense's Office of Family Policy, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture under The University of Minnesota Award No. 2016-48788-25895.

