

ARIZONA

Summary of Legislation

Enacted in 2011, Senate Bill 1458 applies to spouses of Active Duty Service members who accompany the Service member via an official permanent change of station (PCS) to a military installation located in Arizona. To qualify, spouses have to be licensed or certified by another state for at least one year. If spouses have been licensed or certified for fewer than five years, the board may require them to practice under the direct supervision of a licensee or certificate holder. Spouses need to provide verification of education requirements, exam scores, and/or work experience.

Location of Bill:

Senate Bill 1458 - <https://legiscan.com/AZ/bill/SB1458/2011>

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

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

- Not addressed in legislation
- Addressed in legislation

Results from Data Collection

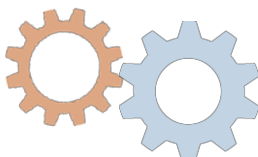
General Findings

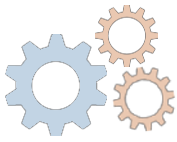
- Except for staff at the Cosmetology and Massage Therapy boards, board staff were aware of legislation.
- There is a unique process for military spouses at occupational boards except for the Massage Therapy and Occupational Therapy boards.
- Military spouses need to provide the military order and verification of current occupational license, proof of a marriage license, and the application.
- Only the Mental Health Counseling board had data on how many military spouses transferred their licenses in the last year.

Findings Specific to Each Board

Cosmetology

- Special accommodations are provided to military spouses by processing their applications first.
- To be eligible for reciprocity, spouses must show evidence of either being licensed in another state or having graduated from a school that offers a cosmetology course.
- They must also pass the Arizona board approved examination.
- Staff reported that the length of time to get licenses transferred cannot be estimated since it is determined on an individual basis.





Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

Results from Data Collection (continued)

Dental Hygiene

- Military spouses are eligible for licensure via endorsement if they pass the clinical and Arizona jurisprudence exams and provide national board scores and dental hygiene school transcripts.
- Once a completed application is received, a license is issued in approximately 10 days.

Massage Therapy

- To be eligible for reciprocity, spouses need to be licensed for at least five consecutive years from another state that has standards substantially equivalent to Arizona's standards or hold current certification from the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) and have graduated from a board-approved school with at least 500 hours.
- Once a completed application is received, a license is issued in approximately six to eight weeks.

Mental Health Counseling

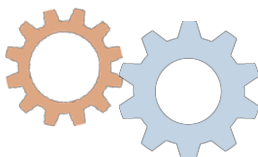
- To transfer their license to Arizona, spouses only need to have been licensed for one year while general applicants need to have been licensed for at least three years.
- Spouses can work using temporary licenses (valid for one year) under direct supervision while they are waiting for permanent licenses to be approved.
- The application process is expedited for spouses; applications are typically processed in two months for spouses while the processing time is two to nine months for other applicants.
- Approximately three military spouses transferred their licenses in the last year.

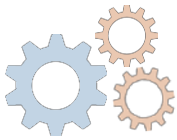
Occupational Therapy

- To be eligible for licensure, all applicants need to submit a completed application, National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) verification, two professional recommendation forms, and certification of licenses from other jurisdictions.
- Length of time to get licenses transferred cannot be estimated because it is determined on an individual basis.

Real Estate Commission

- Military spouses are eligible for licensure by endorsement if they hold a current real estate license.
- Spouses may need to complete a state law education course at the discretion of the Real Estate Commissioner.
- The average processing time for a real estate license application is 24 hours.





Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Advocate to modify SB 1458 to require that occupational boards expedite the process of transferring licenses for spouses and allow for temporary licensure.
- Encourage staff training at occupational boards to improve their understanding and application of SB 1458.

For additional information, please contact:

Lynne M. Borden, Ph.D.

Department of Family Social Science

The University of Minnesota

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.

