

COLORADO

Summary of Legislation

House Bill 12-1059, enacted in 2012, states that military spouses who are licensed or certified in another jurisdiction can practice the occupations or professions during the first year of residence in Colorado with their out-of-state license. If they apply for authority to continue to practice after the first year, they need to notify the board (1) they are currently practicing in Colorado, (2) the date they began practicing in Colorado, and (3) the names and contact information of their employers. Military spouse refers to spouses of Service members who are actively serving in the United States Armed Forces and who are stationed in Colorado in accordance with military orders.

Passed in 2015, House Bill 15-1015 only applies to emergency medical service personnel, and requires that license applications submitted by spouses of Veterans or Active Duty Service members be expedited.

Location of Bills:

HB 12-1059 - http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2012a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont/4FED46616B6701DD87257981007DCEA6?Open&file=1059_enr.pdf

HB 15-1015 - [http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2015a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont2/B8B80FA2F25841E787257DB10065D225/\\$FILE/1015_enr.pdf](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2015a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont2/B8B80FA2F25841E787257DB10065D225/$FILE/1015_enr.pdf)

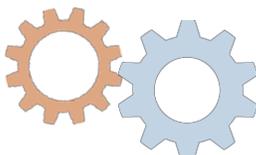
Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- Except for the Office of Barber and Cosmetology, occupational board staff are not aware of legislation that supports licensure portability for military spouses and there is no unique process for spouses.
- Information for spouses is available on the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) website. It states that spouses who are licensed in other jurisdictions can practice for up to one year from the date they move before obtaining a Colorado license. (<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora-military/relocated-spouse-licensure>).
- The DORA website has the contact information for the Military Credentialing Liaison.
- No board has information about the number of spouses who transferred their licenses in the last year.

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 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)

Findings Specific to Each Board

Cosmetology

- Military spouses may practice without a Colorado cosmetology license during their first year of Colorado residency as long as they are authorized to practice cosmetology in other jurisdictions. They must fill out the Military Spouse Exemption form.
- After the spouse exemption period ends, spouses need to apply for a Colorado cosmetology license by endorsement.
- The current wait time to process an application may be at least 90 days.

Dental Hygiene

- Military spouses can apply for licensure by endorsement if they completed an accredited dental hygiene program, passed the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCNDE) and a clinical examination, and demonstrated clinical competency by teaching or practicing dental hygiene for a minimum of 300 hours per year or passing clinical examination.
- The average processing time varies and is determined on an individual basis.

Massage Therapy

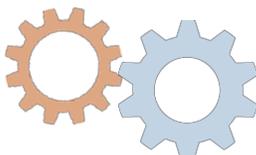
- To apply for licensure, military spouses must have completed a massage therapy program with at least 500 hours of course and clinical work.
- Spouses must submit verification of a license from another jurisdiction, and have passed one of the following exams: Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEX), National Certification Examination for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCETMB) exam, or National Certification Examination for Therapeutic Massage (NCETM) exam.
- Once the application is completed, it takes four to six weeks for it to be processed.

Mental Health Counseling

- To be eligible for reciprocity, military spouses must hold a current, equivalent license in another state, submit official transcript, pass the National Counselor Examination (NCE), and demonstrate 2,000 hours of post-degree experience and 100 hours of supervision over a period of at least two years.
- Upon completion of the application, staff at the board indicated that the average processing time of applications varies from case to case.

Occupational Therapy

- To be eligible for reciprocity, military spouses must be licensed or registered in another jurisdiction.
- Spouses must meet one of three requirements: at least 400 hours of practice during the three years immediately preceding application, completion of 48 hours of continued professional competency during the two years immediately preceding application, or completion of an education program and supervised fieldwork within two years of submitting an application.





Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

Results from Data Collection (continued)

- Staff at the board indicated that the average processing time of applications is determined on an individual basis.

Real Estate Commission

- Spouses who have been licensed (active or inactive) in other states for at least two years may apply for Colorado licenses by endorsement.
- Spouses will need to pass the state portion of the Colorado Broker's Exam, submit license history, and complete a background check.
- It takes approximately seven to ten days to get a license transferred once the application is submitted.

Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Encourage broader dissemination of the contents of HB 12-1059 to occupational boards to improve staff's understanding and application of the bill.
- Collaborate with occupational board staff to document the number of spouses who have taken advantage of the legislation's provisions in order to keep track of the implementation of the legislation.

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