



## LOUISIANA

### Summary of Legislation

House Bill 732 was enacted in 2012 and provided licensure by endorsement for military spouses. Revised Statute 37:3651, Chapter 59, "Licensure for Individuals with Military Training," was enacted in 2016 and also pertains to licensure portability for military spouses. This statute allows occupational licensing boards to issue licenses by endorsement or temporary licenses and offer expedited procedures for spouses who are licensed in another jurisdiction with requirements that are substantially equivalent to or exceed those in Louisiana. In addition, spouses must have a license in good standing with no disciplinary action taken against them and demonstrate competency via continuing education or experience. Temporary permits receive priority processing and are good until the applicant is granted or denied a permanent license.

#### 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

Not addressed in legislation  
 Addressed in legislation

#### Location of Bill:

House Bill 732 - <http://legis.la.gov/Legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=807312>

#### Location of Statute:

Revised Statute 37:3651, Chapter 59 - <http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/law.aspx?d=285956>

### Results from Data Collection

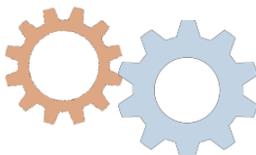
#### General Findings

- The current licensing process is similar for all new residents of Louisiana; however, all boards except Cosmetology and Massage Therapy offer expedited procedures or temporary licenses for military spouses.
- Boards were unaware of any new or upcoming changes to legislation or policy.
- No boards had information about the number of spouses who have transferred their license in the last year.

#### Findings Specific to Each Board

##### *Cosmetology*

- Military spouses must have completed 1,500 training hours, passed the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC) exam, and provided license certification from all states in which they were previously licensed. Spouses are also required to take a jurisprudence exam.
- Within four weeks of submitting a completed application, spouses will be notified of their jurisprudence exam date. Once the exam is passed, a license is issued within 10 days.





## Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

### Results from Data Collection (continued)

#### *Dental Hygiene*

- Military spouses are able to transfer their license via credential if they practiced for 1,000 hours within the previous year. To transfer via credential, spouses must submit both the Professional Background Information Systems (PBIS) application and the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry application. Spouses must also pass a criminal background check and a jurisprudence exam.
- The board meets four times per year, and applications must be received 30 days prior to the next board meeting.
- Spouses may be granted a temporary license to practice while the board is approving their permanent license application or if they need to fulfill additional requirements for licensure.
- Spouses must provide license verification, proof of military status, a copy of their marriage license, and a copy of their military orders when applying for a temporary license.
- Completed applications are typically processed within 30 days once approved by the board.

#### *Massage Therapy*

- Spouses must have been licensed in another state for at least one year, provided proof of passing the national exam, and passed a criminal background check.
- Spouses' applications are not expedited and are typically processed within two to four weeks.

#### *Mental Health Counseling*

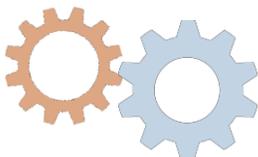
- Spouses who have practiced for at least five years in another state can apply for licensure by endorsement with a completed application, work experience verification, verification of previous license(s), proof of passing the national exam, at least 40 continuing education credits within the previous two years, and proof of military status.
- Applications for military spouses are processed within 30 days, but all applicants can apply for expedited processing if they complete the appropriate application and pay an additional fee. The expedited application is processed within five business days.

#### *Occupational Therapy*

- Spouses are required to submit a permanent license application but may have the exam and education requirements waived if they held a license in a previous state (depending upon years of practice).
- All applicants can get a temporary permit while they are waiting for the results of the background check. A temporary license is valid for 30-60 days and can be renewed if necessary.
- Application processing time varies, and the board could not specify a timeframe.

#### *Real Estate Commission*

- Military spouses must provide official license verification, which includes pre-licensure education, a detailed work history, and an explanation for any disciplinary action taken.
- Spouses must complete a 30-hour course of Louisiana real estate law and pass a jurisprudence exam. Boards may waive the national portion of the exam.
- Applications are typically processed within one week.





## Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

### Recommendations

#### Future efforts could:

- Advocate for legislation that allows a military spouse to get a temporary license while their application for licensure is being processed and approved, particularly for boards that require longer processing times.
- Advocate for legislation that waives or reduces the application and other fees associated with getting a license in the state of Louisiana.

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

Lynne M. Borden, Ph.D.  
*Department of Family Social Science*  
The University of Minnesota  
lmborden@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.

