



MAINE

Summary of Legislation

Public Law 311 of 2013, “An Act to Facilitate Veterans' and Their Spouses' Access to Employment, Education and Training,” allows occupational licensing boards to offer licensure by endorsement or a temporary license to a spouse of an Active Duty Service member or returning Veteran if they have a comparable license in another state for the remainder of the license term or until they obtain a license in Maine. Boards may allow partial or full exemption from continuing education requirements. This bill also states that as of 2014, occupational licensing boards should have a process to facilitate the licensing of spouses in an expeditious manner.

Location of Law:

Public Law 311 - http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/bills_126th/chapters/PUBLIC311 .asp

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

Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- Cosmetology and Mental Health Counseling offer temporary licenses or expedited procedures for military spouses.
- Occupational board staff were unaware of any upcoming changes to legislation.
- No information was available from any board about how many military spouses have transferred their licenses in the last year.

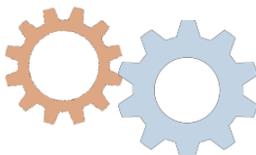
Findings Specific to Each Board

Cosmetology

- Military spouses must have graduated from a training program with 1,500 hours or have 2,500 hours of experience, passed a written and practical exam, and submitted license verification.
- The process to transfer a cosmetology license can take several weeks; however, spouses' applications can be expedited and processed within a couple of weeks.

Dental Hygiene

- Spouses must have at least three years of experience. They must also provide license verification(s), education certification, passing scores on the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) and the Northeast Regional Board Examination, current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification, proof of passing a criminal background check, and results from a National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) self-query.





Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

Results from Data Collection (continued)

- Spouses must complete a jurisprudence exam and undergo an interview with the board.
- Completed applications are typically processed within two business days.

Massage Therapy

- Military spouses must have graduated from an accredited program, passed the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) or the Massage & Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx), and submitted license verification from previous state(s).
- Spouses must pass a criminal background check and have a current first aid and CPR certification.
- Completed applications are typically processed within two to three weeks.

Mental Health Counseling

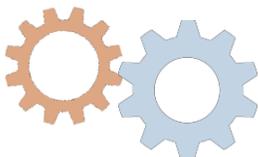
- Spouses licensed in another jurisdiction have two options to transfer their licenses. Spouses with five years of experience may apply via the “Substantially Equivalent License” option, and spouses with qualifications similar to Maine’s can apply via the “Substantially Similar Qualifications” option.
- Spouses who apply via the “Substantially Equivalent License” option must provide license verification with a copy of their license, official transcripts, a copy of relevant licensing laws and rules from the licensing state, a disclosure statement, and a completed criminal background check.
- Spouses who apply via the “Substantially Similar Qualifications” option must provide license verification, official transcripts with internship hours, passing scores on the National Counselor Examination (NCE), a disclosure statement, and a completed criminal background check.
- The board may issue a temporary license to a spouse while they wait for a permanent license to be issued.
- Completed applications are typically processed within two to three weeks.

Occupational Therapy

- Spouses must have graduated from an accredited program, passed the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam, and submitted license verification.
- Completed applications are typically processed within two to three weeks.

Real Estate Commission

- Spouses must have an active license in good standing and be affiliated with a real estate agency to qualify for a non-resident reciprocal license. Spouses must also take a jurisprudence exam.
- Completed applications are typically processed within a week.





Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Encourage licensing boards to issue temporary licenses or offer an expedited procedure for military spouse applicants as most boards did not offer these options despite current legislation.
- Advocate for legislation that waives or reduces the initial application fee for military spouses.

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.

