

## MONTANA

### Summary of Legislation

House Bill No was enacted in 2011. This bill is not specific to military spouses but allows licensing boards to issue a license by reciprocity to applicants who hold a current equivalent license in another jurisdiction if they affirm they have requested license verification and have not had disciplinary action taken against them. Boards may also issue a temporary practice permit until a permanent license is granted or denied.

Location of Bill:

House Bill 94 - <https://legiscan.com/MT/text/HB94/2011>

### Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- The current transfer of license process is similar for all new residents to Montana.
- Although the legislation states that boards can issue a license to a spouse with a signed affidavit stating they have requested license verification, licensing boards require receipt of license verification prior to issuing a license.
- The Mental Health Counseling board is the only board that issues a temporary license.
- Occupational board staff were unaware of any upcoming changes to legislation.
- No information was available regarding how many military spouses have transferred their licenses in the last year.

Findings Specific to Each Board

*Cosmetology*

- Spouses licensed in another state must have completed at least 1,500 hours of training or practical experience and provide license verification of a license in good standing and proof of passing the National-Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC) and practical exams.
- Completed applications are typically processed within four weeks.

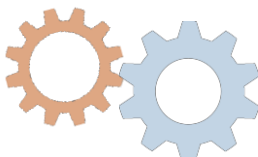
*Dental Hygiene*

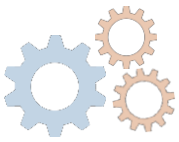
- Spouses who have worked a minimum of 1,000 hours within the previous two years must submit official transcripts, passing scores on the National Dental Hygiene Examination, passing scores on a clinical exam, and license verification(s) from any jurisdiction in which they held a license. In addition, spouses need to have a current cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification, complete a National Practitioner’s Bank Self-query, and pass a jurisprudence exam.
- Completed applications are typically processed within 10 to 15 business days.

**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





## Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

### Results from Data Collection (continued)

#### *Massage Therapy*

- Military spouses can apply for licensure by reciprocity if they are moving from a state that has been previously approved by the board. Approved states include New Hampshire, Nebraska, Washington, New York, Georgia, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kentucky, Utah, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, and Florida.
- Spouses must submit a completed application and provide transcripts, license verification, and two reference letters.
- Spouses previously licensed in a state not approved by the board may appeal to have the board review that state's licensing requirements and statutes or apply for licensure by examination.
- Completed routine applications (those from previously approved states) are typically processed within 10 business days. Non-routine applications must be reviewed by the board and may take over three months to be processed.

#### *Mental Health Counseling*

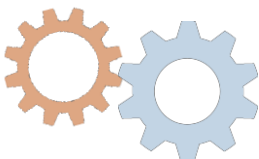
- Military spouses must submit official transcripts, passing scores on the National Counselor Examination (NCE) or the National Clinical Mental Health Counselor Examination for Licensure or Certification (NCMHCE), and an affidavit stating they meet the supervision requirement (3,000 hours). In addition, spouses must submit license verification(s), three reference letters, and a criminal background check.
- Spouses can get a temporary license if they meet supervision requirements and pass a criminal background check with fingerprints. Temporary licenses are valid for one year and are not renewable.
- Completed applications are typically processed within four to six weeks.

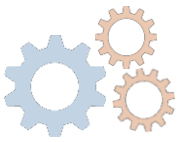
#### *Occupational Therapy*

- Spouses must have graduated from an accredited program, completed six months of supervised experience, passed the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) exam, and provided license verification from all states in which they have been previously licensed.
- Completed applications are typically processed within 30 days.

#### *Real Estate Commission*

- Spouses will need to submit a waiver form to the commission for review. If approved, the spouse can apply for a license by submitting license verification and employment history for the previous 36 months. Each transaction on spouses' employment history is assigned a point value and spouses with more than eight points will be waived from taking the pre-licensing course and the national portion of the exam.
- Spouses must also pass a jurisprudence exam.
- Completed applications are typically processed within 10 to 14 business days.





## Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

### Recommendations

#### Future efforts could:

- Encourage boards to offer a temporary practice permit for military spouses, particularly for boards with longer application processing times as only one board currently offers this option.
- Suggest that boards allow spouses to submit a signed affidavit stating they have requested license verification as boards do not currently offer this option although legislation allows for it and this may expedite the licensing process for spouses.

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

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