

## WISCONSIN

### Summary of Legislation

In 2011, Wisconsin enacted Senate Bill 550, which requires occupational boards to issue temporary reciprocal licenses to military spouses who are licensed in another state. Half of the boards reported being aware of this legislation while the other half indicated that they did not issue temporary licenses to military spouses.

Location of Bill:

*Wisconsin Statute:* <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/440.pdf>

### Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- All boards offer licensure by endorsement, but occupational therapists must take national and state exams regardless of previous licensure.
- Only the boards of Cosmetology and Massage Therapy and the Real Estate Commission issue temporary licenses for spouses transferring from another state. Staff of the boards of Dentistry, Counseling, and Occupational Therapy reported that temporary licenses are not available to spouses.
- All boards indicated that the application process can be expedited for anyone who submits an expediting application and fee.
- During the past year, one or two military spouses transferred a cosmetology license, and no spouses transferred a real estate license. No other boards had information about the number of military spouses transferring licenses.

Findings Specific to Each Board

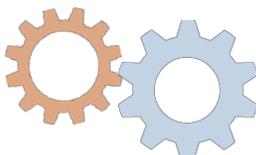
*Cosmetology*

- Licensure by endorsement requires a license from another state and 4,000 practice hours.
- A six-month temporary license, which can be renewed at the discretion of the board, is issued to allow spouses of Active Duty, National Guard, or Reserve members to work under the supervision of a fully-licensed professional in Wisconsin.
- The process to transfer a cosmetology license takes approximately 10-15 business days following submission of a completed application.

#### 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 type="radio"/>	Expedited application process

- Not addressed in legislation
- Addressed in legislation





## Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

### Results from Data Collection (continued)

#### *Dental Hygiene*

- The board has no unique procedures for processing military spouse license applications besides waiving the application fee.
- For licensure by endorsement, spouses must submit proof of successful completion of the state jurisprudence exam and licensure from another state with equivalent requirements (e.g., cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification, completion of an accredited dental hygiene program, successful completion of the Commission on Dental Competency Assessments [CDCA], Western Regional Examining Board [WREB], or Central Regional Dental Testing Score [CRDTS] exam).
- Staff were unaware of temporary licenses available for military spouses.
- The process to transfer a dental hygienist license takes 10-15 days from application completion.

#### *Massage Therapy*

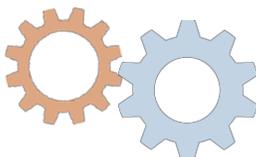
- The board waives spouses' application fees but otherwise processes all applications similarly.
- Spouses applying for licensure by endorsement must be nationally certified (such as by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork [NCBTMB]) or have completed 600 classroom hours in an accredited program and the jurisprudence exam.
- Six-month temporary licenses are available for spouses who meet all other licensing requirements but have not yet completed exams.
- The process to transfer a massage therapy license takes approximately 10-15 business days after a completed application is submitted.

#### *Mental Health Counseling*

- Military spouse application fees are waived, but spouses' applications are typically processed in the same way as all other applications.
- Spouses applying for licensure by endorsement must have a license from another state with similar requirements, which is determined by the board on a case-by-case basis.
- Staff were unaware of temporary licenses available for military spouses.
- The process to transfer a counseling license following application takes about 10-15 days.

#### *Occupational Therapy*

- There are no unique procedures for processing military spouse applications besides waiving the application fee.
- In order to be issued a license, spouses must submit a completed application with proof of successful completion of the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) and jurisprudence exams.
- Staff were unaware of temporary licenses available for military spouses.
- The process to transfer a massage therapy license takes 10-15 days following application.





# Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

## Results from Data Collection (continued)

### *Real Estate Commission*

- For licensure by endorsement, spouses must complete a state-specific exam, and except for licensees from Illinois or Indiana, provide proof of meeting similar educational requirements.
- Spouses of Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve members can be issued a six-month temporary license, which may be renewed, to practice under a licensed supervisor.
- The process to transfer a real estate license takes approximately five days after submission of an application.
- No military spouses transferred a real estate license to Wisconsin during the past year, and only one spouse has transferred a license over the past four years.

## Recommendations

### Future efforts could:

- Ensure that each occupational board's website is user-friendly and has military spouse application information and forms easily accessible.
- Educate occupational board staff regarding the temporary licenses available to military spouses and ensure all staff know where to find information and forms.

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

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