

NORTH DAKOTA

Summary of Legislation

House Bill 1246 was passed in 2013 and does not apply to the following occupational boards: Accountancy, Electrical, Real Estate Commission, Contractor, Medical Examiners, or Dental Examiners. For other boards, the bill requires that boards grant exceptions to licensing standards for military spouses to consider spouses’ demonstrations of competency (e.g., work experience) when considering their applications. Also, the bill indicates that boards may issue temporary licenses while spouses are making progress to meet licensing requirements.

Location of Bill:

House Bill 1246 - <https://legiscan.com/ND/text/1246/2013>

Results from Data Collection

General Findings

- Dental Hygiene, Massage Therapy, Mental Health Counseling board staff each reported one military spouse applicant in the last year; the Cosmetology board reported two; and the Occupational Therapy board and Real Estate Commission reported none.
- No board had a specific person who served as a point of contact to help military spouses with the application process.
- Staff at each board reported they were aware of state legislation about the portability of military spouses’ licenses.
- Only the Massage Therapy board offers a temporary license while the application for a permanent license is being processed.

Findings Specific to Each Board

Cosmetology

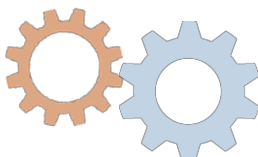
- Military spouses are eligible to transfer their licenses by reciprocity if they submit proof of past training and a current license as well as pass the North Dakota jurisprudence exam. Spouses must have at least 1,800 pre-licensure training hours; however, if they do not, the board will consider work experience to meet this requirement.
- Licenses are usually issued one to two days after the application is submitted.

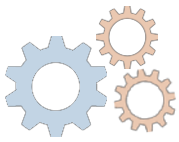
Legislation Meets Best Practices Guidelines for Military Spouse Licensure Portability by:

<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)

Dental Hygiene

- Spouses are able to transfer their licenses via credential if they have been in practice for the previous three years. To transfer via credential, they must submit an application along with verification of previous license, transcripts, 16 continuing education requirements (CEUs), CPR training, and regional and national exam scores.
- Military spouses' applications may be expedited by prioritizing their review, and licenses are usually issued one to two months after they are submitted.

Massage Therapy

- To be eligible to transfer their licenses, spouses must have met at least 80% of North Dakota's education requirements.
- Spouses must submit proof of a previous license, passing scores from national and North Dakota jurisprudence exams, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification to transfer their licenses.
- If spouses have an active license from a state that had no continuing education unit (CEU) requirements, then they must also complete 24 CEUs.
- Once they submit their applications, spouses are granted a temporary, 90-day license so they can practice while waiting for their approval. A permanent license is generally issued in two to three months. Staff indicated that one military spouse has applied to transfer her license in the past year.

Mental Health Counseling

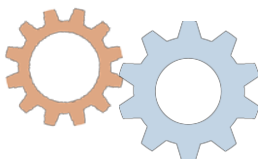
- Spouses who have a master's degree that required at least 60 credit hours and 100 hours of post-graduate supervision, as well as who have passed the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC) exam are eligible to transfer their licenses.
- Once an application is submitted, it takes one to two business days to issue a license.

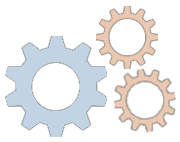
Occupational Therapy

- Spouses must submit proof of their current license and a copy of the laws and rules from the board that issued their license along with their application.
- As part of an expedited application process, military spouses do not have to undergo background checks.
- Once the completed application is received, licenses are issued in one to two weeks.

Real Estate Commission

- Military spouses licensed in Iowa, Minnesota, or Georgia are eligible to transfer their licenses by reciprocity. Transfer by reciprocity requires an active license and selecting a real estate broker to work with who is licensed in the spouses' current state and North Dakota.
- If spouses are not eligible for licensure via reciprocity, they must also pass the North Dakota jurisprudence exam. Once applications are submitted, licenses are issued in one to two days.





Military Spouse Licensure Portability Examination State Report

Recommendations

Future efforts could:

- Collaborate with lawmakers to amend HB 1246 to specify the length of time a temporary or provisional license shall last and if it is renewable.
- Advocate for HB 1246 to be revised to include the Dental Examiner Board and the Real Estate Commission.

For additional information, please contact:

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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.

