



FEDERATION OF
STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

Military Spouse Licensing

State-by-State Overview

- 46 states have some form of license portability for military spouses. 4 states (plus D.C.), do not.
- The 4 states (+ D.C.) without military spouse license portability, are members of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.
- 40 states have addressed military spouse license portability since 2019.

	Portability?	IMLC Status	Detail	Statute/Regulation Citation	Last Legislation
AL	No	✓	State agencies shall expedite the issuance of licenses to licensed military spouses from states with substantially equivalent education/training requirements; furthermore, state agencies shall issue temporary permits. However, the statute excludes both attorneys and the professions regulated by the following state agencies: ... the State Board of Medical Examiners.	Ala. Code § 31-1-6	2022
AK	✓	No	State agencies shall issue temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state with substantially equivalent education and training requirements within 30 days after receipt of a completed application. The military spouse must pay all required fees. The temporary license is valid for a period of 180 days and may be renewed for one additional 180-day period	AK Stat § 08.01.063	2021, 2019
AZ	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to military spouses who are licensed in good standing in another state for at least one year, so long as the military spouse does not have a disqualifying criminal history. The military spouse must have met the minimum experience and education requirements and passed any required examination in the previous state. The military spouse must pay all required fees.	Arizona Revised Stat. § 32-4302	2021, 2019
AR	✓	No	State agencies shall grant automatic occupational licensure to military spouses who hold a similar license in another state and are in good standing. State agencies shall provide an expedited process for military spouses, and shall provide temporary or provisional licenses to military spouses upon receipt of the required documentation or completion of a required examination.	Ark. Code § 17-4-104	2021, 2019
CA	✓	No	State agencies shall issue expedited temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state. For some professions, the military spouse may be required to take a state-specific examination to receive the temporary license. Temporary licenses expire 12 months after issuance, or upon the issuance or denial of an expedited permanent license. Temporary licenses are only available for the following professions: ... all licensees of the State Medical Board	Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 115.5	2021, 2019

CO	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue military spouses a three-year non-renewable temporary license so long as the military spouse is licensed in another state or territory in good standing. There will be no fees for the issuance of this permit.	Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-20-202 et seq.	2020, 2016
CT	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to military spouses from other states so long as the military spouse holds said license in at least one other jurisdiction, has practiced under the license for at least four years, is in good standing in all jurisdictions, satisfies a background or character and fitness check if required, and pays all required fees. A military spouse may be required to take all or a portion of a licensing examination.	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-14d	2021
DE	✓	✓	State agencies may issue a provisional license to qualified licensed military spouses from states with substantially similar education and training requirements. Said provisional licenses are effective for only 6 months and cannot be renewed.	29 DE Code § 8735	2018
DC	No	✓		N/A	N/A
FL	✓	No	State agencies shall issue licenses to military spouses licensed in another state within 7 days after receipt of a complete application. Military spouses must submit to required background checks. Some licensing fees are waived.	Fl. Stat. § 456.024	2022, 2017
GA	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses by endorsement to military spouses who hold current licenses in good standing that are substantially similar in qualifications and scope to the requirements of Georgia within 90 days of application. Military spouses may be required to pass an examination to demonstrate their knowledge of state-specific rules and regulations.	Ga. Code Ann. § 43-1-34-34.1	2020
GU	N/A	✓		N/A	N/A
HI	✓	No	State agencies shall issue expedited temporary licenses to military spouses who have been licensed in good standing in another jurisdiction of the United States for at least one year, so long as the license is current, active, without conditions or restrictions, and the licensure requirements of the other jurisdiction are equivalent to or exceed those of Hawaii... the total time period that the military spouse holds the temporary license shall not exceed five years in the aggregate or the period covered under the military member's orders of assignment in Hawaii. The military spouse must pay all required fees.	HI Rev. Stat. § 436B-14.6	2021
ID	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses to military spouses. State agencies shall grant licenses by endorsement to military spouses licensed in another United States jurisdiction, with an intent to provide said licensure by endorsement within 15 business days of application. In most cases, the military spouses will not be required to take any portion of an examination or pay any application fee.	Id. Stat. § 67-9406	2021
IL	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses to military spouses licensed in another state. Said licenses shall be issued within 30 days of receipt of an application. Military spouses must submit to a background check and pay required fees.	20 ILCS § 5/5-715	2022, 2021
IN	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to military spouses who hold a current, active license in good standing from another state with substantially equivalent education and training requirements. Military spouses must demonstrate competence as determined by the state agency, including having completed	IC § 25-1-17-5	2020, 2012

			continuing education or having had professional experience in two of the five years prior to the date of application. State agencies shall grant provisional licenses to military spouses who have applied for a permanent license within 30 days of application for a provisional license. Said provisional licenses expire one year after issuance. To qualify for a provisional license, military spouses must not have a disqualifying criminal history and must pay all required fees		
IA	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses without examination to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state, so long as the military spouse does not have a disqualifying criminal history. The military spouse must have met the minimum experience and education requirements and passed any required examination in the previous state and must pay all required fees... state agency shall issue the military spouse a temporary license that is valid for a period of three months with the possibility for it to be renewed once for an additional period of three months.	I.C.A. § 272C.12	2020
KS	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to licensed military spouses within 15 days of receipt of an application. If the military spouse does not qualify for licensure under applicable Kansas law, the state agency shall grant the military spouse a license on a probationary basis within 15 days of receipt of an application so long as the military spouse holds a valid license in another state with a similar scope of practice, has worked in the occupation for at least 1 year, has not received any disciplinary action, does not have a disqualifying criminal record, and pays all required fees... The State Board of Healing Arts... may deny an application for licensure, registration or certification, or decline to grant a temporary or probationary license, if the board determines the applicant's qualifications are not substantially equivalent to those established by the board. Such boards shall not otherwise be exempt from the provisions of this act.	KS. Stat § 48-3406	2021
KY	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing within 30 days of receiving a completed application, unless the agency can show a significant statutory deficiency in the previous education or training requirements which could cause a health or safety risk.	KRS § 12.245	2019
LA	✓	✓	State agencies shall, pending normal licensure, issue licenses to military spouses who are licensed for at least one year in another state in good standing, so long as the military spouse does not have a disqualifying criminal history. The military spouse must have met the minimum experience and education requirements and passed any required examination in the previous state.	LSA-R.S. § 37:3651	2020
ME	✓	✓	State agencies may permit qualified military spouses who hold a comparable license in good standing in another state to have a license by endorsement in Maine for the remainder of the term of the original license or until the military spouse obtains a license in Maine. Some state agencies shall grant temporary licenses to qualified military spouses with a license in good standing in another state. Said temporary license is for a period of time not less than 180 days and may be extended for an additional 180 days while the military spouse is completing the requirements for full licensure in the state...	10 M.R.S. § 8011	2021

MD	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses to military spouses within 60 days of the receipt of a completed application, so long as the military spouse has held a license in good standing in another jurisdiction for at least one year and is in good standing in any and all jurisdictions in which a license is held. The military spouse must pay any applicable fees.	MD. Code Business Regulation § 2.5-105	2020, 2019
MA	✓	No	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses to licensed military spouses from states with substantially equivalent education or training requirements.	M.G.L.A. 112 § 1B	2022, 2018
MI	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state. The temporary license is valid for a period of six months and may be renewed one time for an additional six-month period if the agency finds additional time is needed to fulfill the requirements for full licensure in Michigan. State agencies shall issue full licenses to military spouses who have held a license in good standing in another jurisdiction for at least one year, so long as the military spouse has met the requirements for licensure in the other state, passed any required examination, and paid any required fees.	MI Comp. Laws § 339.213	2021
MN	✓	✓	State agencies shall establish a procedure to issue expedited licenses to military spouses. Further, state agencies shall establish a procedure to issue temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in another state to allow them to complete the full licensing application process.	M.S.A. § 197.4552	2014
MS	✓	✓	State agencies shall, within 120 days of receipt of an application, issue licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state, so long as the military spouse does not have a disqualifying criminal record... Military spouses may be required to pass examinations specific to the relevant laws that regulate the occupation if standardly required. If a military spouse's application will take longer than 2 weeks to process, state agencies shall issue a temporary permit within 30 days of receipt of an application.	Miss. Code Ann. §73-50-1	2020
MO	✓	No	State agencies shall issue licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state for at least one year. State agencies shall issue said licenses within 30 days of receipt of an application, and shall waive any experience, education, and examination requirements for licensure.	Mis. Rev. Stat. § 324.009	2020
MP	N/A	No			N/A
MT	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to licensees from other states (not limited to military spouses) with substantially equivalent education/training requirements.	MCA § 37-1-304	2019
NE	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in another state with similar education and training requirements. The temporary license is valid for one year, or until the military spouse's regular license application is either approved or rejected, whichever first occurs. Most licensing fees are waived... Further, state agencies shall grant licenses to certain medical professionals (not limited to military spouses) who have held a valid license in another state in good standing for at least one year so long as the applicant has met the education and experience requirements in the state of origin and passed any examination required in	NRS § 38-129.01	2021, 2020

			the state of origin. Said applicant must reside in Nebraska within 180 days after the license is issued.		
NV	✓	✓	State agencies shall develop opportunities for reciprocity of licensure for licensed military spouses.	NRS § 622.510	2015
NH	✓	✓	State agencies shall establish procedures to issue licenses to military spouses licensed in another state with substantially equivalent education and training requirements.	N.H. Rev. Stat. § 332-G:7	2022
NJ	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to military spouses. It is at the agency's discretion whether said licenses are temporary or permanent. Each agency shall establish criteria to issue a temporary courtesy license to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state with equivalent licensure requirements, so long as the military spouse has practiced in the profession for at least 2 of the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application. Military spouses must submit to a criminal record check, pay any required fees, and may be required to complete state-specific examinations.	NJ Rev. Stat. § 45:1-15.5	2020
NM	✓	No	State agencies shall issue provisional licenses to military spouses within 30 days of application so long as the military spouse is licensed in good standing in another jurisdiction. No licensing fees will be charged for the first 3 years.	NMSA § 61-1-34	2022
NY	✓	No	State agencies shall, after an expedited review, issue licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state with substantially equivalent licensing requirements. State agencies may also grant temporary licenses to military spouses allowing them to work under the supervision of a New York licensee so long as it appears that the applicant will meet the requirements for permanent licensure (in that they are licensed in good standing in a state with substantially equivalent licensing requirements). Said temporary licenses are valid for a period of 6 months and may be extended for an additional 6 months if the applicant is expected to qualify for permanent licensure. Some licensing fees are reduced or waived.	N.Y. Educ. Law § 6501v	2017
NC	✓	No	State agencies shall issue licenses to licensed military spouses in good standing from states with substantially equivalent education and training requirements. Military spouse applicants must demonstrate competence as determined by the state agency, such as through professional experience... or the completion of continuing education. No later than 15 days after receipt of application, state agencies shall either issue the license or notify the military spouse that they do not meet the requirements. Some licensing fees are waived.	N.C. Gen. Stat. § 93B-15.1	2020
ND	No	✓	“Board” means a board, commission, or other agency of state government created or identified in this title to regulate a particular occupation or profession and the education standards and practices board. The term does not include the: ... North Dakota board of medicine	NDCC § 43-51-01	2021
OH	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state. Military spouses must submit to a criminal record check if required. All licensing fees for temporary licenses are waived. Temporary licenses are valid for a period not to exceed 6 years.	OH Rev. Code § 4743.041	2021, 2020
OK	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses to licensed military spouses from states with substantially similar education, training, and experience requirements... Further,	Okla. Stat. tit. 59 § 4100.5	2019

			upon receipt of military orders or notice of a move to Oklahoma, military spouses may request an expedited temporary license, which shall be granted within 30 days so long as the military spouse is in good standing and has substantially similar education, training, and experience requirements as those in Oklahoma. Some licensing fees are waived.		
OR	✓	No	State agencies may issue temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state with substantially equivalent licensure requirements. The military spouse must demonstrate competency as determined by the licensing board. Said temporary licenses are valid for a period not to exceed 2 years and may not be renewed.	ORS § 670.400	2013
PA	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to licensees from other states (not limited to military spouses) in good standing with substantially equivalent education and training requirements... state agencies may issue temporary permits to applicants which allow the applicant to practice while completing the requirements for full licensure.	63 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 3301	2022, 2019
PR	✓	No	State agencies may issue licenses by endorsement to military spouses licensed in good standing in a state with substantially equivalent licensure requirements. The military spouse must have practiced in the profession for at least 1 of the last 4 years prior to the date of application.	PR Laws § 6041	2018
RI	✓	✓	State agencies shall establish procedures to expedite the issuance of licenses to military spouses. Said procedure shall require state agencies to issue permanent licenses to military spouses who are licensed in a state with substantially equivalent requirements as those in Rhode Island.	R.I. Gen. Laws § 5-88-1	2018
SC	✓	No	State agencies shall issue temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state, so long as the military spouse submits to a criminal record check if the same is standardly required. Said temporary license expires after one year and cannot be renewed. State agencies shall, within 15 days of receipt of an application, issue full licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state with substantially equivalent requirements as South Carolina.	SCC § 27-1-170	2020, 2018
SD	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue licenses to military spouses from other states within 30 days of submission of a completed application, so long as the military spouse holds a similar license in good standing in at least one other jurisdiction... All licensing fees for military spouses shall be waived.	S.D. Codified Laws § 36-1B-1	2019
TN	No	✓	State agencies shall allow licensed military spouses from states with reasonably similar education/training requirements to practice without a local license (that is, true recognition). However, this statute excludes... the Board of Healing Arts	Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-3-1304	2019
TX	✓	✓	State agencies shall allow military spouses licensed in good standing in another state with substantially equivalent education and training requirements to practice in Texas without obtaining a local license for a period not to exceed 3 years. Further, state agencies shall issue full licenses to military spouses who hold a license in another jurisdiction with licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to Texas. State agencies may waive any prerequisite to obtaining a license. Licensing fees shall be waived.	Tex. Occ. Code § 55.001	2020, 2019

UT	✓	✓	State agencies shall allow licensed military spouses to practice without a local license (true recognition).	U.C.A. 1953 58-1-307	2018
VT	✓	✓	State agencies shall expedite the issuance of professional licenses to military spouses licensed in another jurisdiction in good standing... The Office may inquire into the criminal background histories of applicants... osteopathic physicians	3 V.S.A. § 123	2018
VI	N/A	No		N/A	N/A
VA	✓	No	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses to military spouses licensed in another jurisdiction with substantially equivalent education and training requirements. Said license shall allow the military spouse to practice in Virginia if they accompany their spouse to live in Virginia, the District of Columbia, or any adjacent state.	VA Code Ann. § 54.1-119	2020, 2019
WA	✓	✓	State agencies shall establish procedures to expedite licenses to military spouses licensed in another state with substantially equivalent education and training requirements.	RCW § 18.340.020	2020
WV	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue temporary licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state. Said temporary license shall be issued within 30 days of receipt of a completed application. The temporary license expires 6 months after the date it is issued and may not be renewed.	W. Va. Code § 30-1B-5	2014
WI	✓	✓	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another jurisdiction. Licensing fees are not waived.	Wis. Stat. § 440.09	2020
WY	No	✓	State agencies shall issue expedited licenses to military spouses licensed in good standing in another state who can demonstrate professional competence. State agencies shall determine competence by reference to factors such as work experience, continuing education, and disciplinary history... These provisions do not apply to attorneys or professionals with prescriptive drug authority.	Wyo. Stat. § 33-1-117	2021

For informational purposes only: This document is not intended as a comprehensive statement of the law on this topic, nor to be relied upon as authoritative. Non-cited laws, regulation, and/or policy could impact analysis on a case-by-case or state-by-state basis. All information should be verified independently.

Questions, comments, or corrections? Please contact Andrew Smith (asmith@fsmb.org)