

LICENSE RECOGNITION FOR MILITARY SPOUSES

A RESOURCE GUIDE



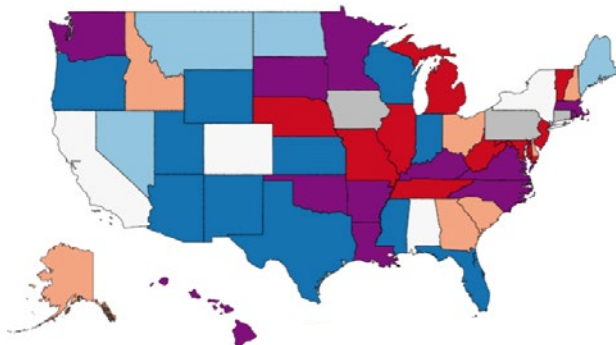
As a professional, you know how challenging it can be to have an occupational license recognized in another state.

But did you know that states and licensing bodies have been working to make the process easier for military spouses? Many states have recognized that the highly-mobile military lifestyle can create barriers to consistent and meaningful employment; many states now have laws in place that require or encourage licensing boards to grant military spouses expedited applications, temporary licenses, or license recognition. Here are some steps you can take to take advantage of these efforts.

1 LEARN ABOUT MILITARY SPOUSE INTERSTATE LICENSE RECOGNITION OPTIONS.

Visit

<http://www.veterans.gov/milspouses> to learn about specific laws and resources your new state offers to military spouses who work in licensed occupations.



2 EXPLORE OCCUPATION-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE.

Many states have joined interstate licensing agreements for certain occupations. These agreements establish common standards for competency and allow licensees to practice in other states more easily.

Visit

MilitaryOneSource offers occupation-specific information for a wide range of occupations here: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/family-relationships/spouse/spouse-education-and-employment/transferring-your-professional-license-what-s-involved>

3 FIND YOUR LICENSING BOARD.

The CareerOneStop License Finder provides state-specific information about occupational licenses required, such as license names, descriptions of occupations, and issuing agency contact information.

Visit

CareerOneStop License Finder:
<https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Training/find-licenses.aspx>



4 CONTACT YOUR LICENSING BOARD.

Start by following any specific instructions for military spouses that may be posted on the licensing board's website. If the board does not offer clear information, you can use the tips below when contacting the board.

TELL THEM YOU ARE A MILITARY SPOUSE

01

Identifying as a military spouse will allow the licensing board representative to direct you to any accommodations that may be available.

SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE STATE LAW

02

If the licensing board representative is not familiar with the provisions of the state legislation, they may be able to refer you to someone else who can assist. Use the summary from the U.S. Department of Labor Military Spouse Interstate License Recognition map as a guide: <http://veterans.gov/milspouses>.

ASK WHAT ACCOMMODATIONS THE SPECIFIC BOARD OFFERS

03

You might ask, "What support do you offer military spouses who want to practice their profession in your state?" These may include issuing a temporary license, recognition of your license from another state, an expedited application review process, and/or fee waivers. When you apply for licensure in your new state, be sure to request all options that might apply to you.

DISCOVER ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Speak with a Career Coach

Spouse Education and Career Opportunities career coaches are available at 1-800-342-9647 and can help guide you through career transitions.

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/education-employment/for-spouses/career-coaching>

Visit your Local American Job Center

American Job Centers can help you look for work and offer job search workshops, free computer access, and more. Find the Center closest to you at the link below.

<https://www.careeronestop.org/LocalHelp/AmericanJobCenters/find-american-job-centers.aspx>

Attend a Professional Development Event

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes (HOH) Events Schedule

<https://events.hiringourheroes.org/c/calendar/5e2d95e1-3ee7-499e-9f97-a718b8e15543>

Military Officers Association of America Keeping a Career on the Move® Spouse Symposium

<http://www.moaa.org/spousesymposium/>

Spouse Education and Career Opportunities (SECO) Events Schedule

<https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/portal/home/eventdetails>

USO Military Spouse Networking Events

<https://www.uso.org/programs/military-spouse-programs>

Connect with Other Spouses and Spouse-Supporting Organizations

SECO Spouse Ambassador Network

<https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/portal/content/view/1494>

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes (HOH) Military Spouse Professional Networks

<https://www.hiringourheroes.org/military-spouse-professional-network/military-spouse-professional-network-locations/>

Blue Star Network Career-Specific Groups

<https://bluestarfam.org/for-mil-families/careers/blue-star-networks/>