



Professional Licensing Information for Military Personnel and Spouses

Services Offered

Temporary Professional Licensure for Military Personnel

Military personnel who wish to apply for a temporary license using this program may submit Form #08-4633 and accompanying credentials with their license application. Upon determination of equivalency, relevant military experience will receive credit for licensing requirements and educational credit will be granted for appropriate training. The temporary licensure is for 180 days and, if approved, may be extended another 180 days so the licensee may complete requirements for full licensure in the state.

Exemption from Professional Licensing Requirements for Military Personnel

Alaska law also allows licensed members of the military who are deployed to combat zones, danger pay posts, or hazardous duty areas to defer licensing requirements. Military personnel who meet this requirement may use Form #08-4581 to request this exemption.

Expedited Application Process for Spouses of Active-Duty Military

In addition to offering these programs for service members, spouses of active duty military personnel with Alaska orders may request that their temporary or courtesy licensing applications be expedited by attaching Form #08-4580 to their application. The division will also expedite spouse applications that include this form for *any* professional license.

2017 Data

Applications received requesting review of military training, education, or experience: Fewer than 10
Fewer than five applications each: Architecture, Engineering, and Land Surveying; Professional Counseling

Active duty military exemption applications: Fewer than 20
Fewer than five applications each: Pharmacy; Social Work; Optometry; Architecture, Engineering, and Land Surveying

Military spouse licensing applications: Fewer than 30
Approximately ten applications: Professional Counseling
Fewer than five applications each: Massage Therapy, Pharmacy, Psychology, Social Work

How Alaska is Meeting the Department of Defense's *Three Best Practice Guidelines for Military Spouse Licensure*

Licensure by Endorsement or Credentials

Licensure by endorsement refers to occupational boards not requiring an examination for military spouses to transfer their licenses. Spouses are eligible for licensure by endorsement if they currently possess a license from a different jurisdiction with similar requirements as the board's requirements in the current jurisdiction.

Alaska's Action:

Except as noted below, all 100+ licenses issued by this division offer a version of licensure by endorsement, credentials, or reciprocity. These terms recognize the existing licensure of an individual in another jurisdiction in lieu of requiring a national examination to complete licensure. They are each slightly different and include minimal requirements for receiving an Alaska license, including:

- verification of substantially similar or equal requirements in the other jurisdiction
- successful passage of any statutorily required Alaska-specific exam requirements and/or criminal history background check
- completion of an application for licensure
- proof of bonding if required, and
- payment of fees

Occupations *without* licensure by endorsement either do not have an exam requirement (therefore, no meaningful difference between applicant types) or they are professions that require extensive knowledge of Alaska's unique terrain:

No exam:

- Athletic Trainer
- Big Game Transporter
- Collection Agency
- Concert Promoter
- Construction Contractor
- Hearing Aid Dealer
- Home Inspector
- Pawnbroker
- Professional Guardian or Conservator

Requires unique Alaska knowledge:

- Registered or Assistant Guide-Outfitter
(requires Alaska hunting experience and examination)
- Marine Pilot
(recognizes federal credentials; requires Alaska maritime experience and examination)

Temporary Licensure

Temporary or provisional licensure grants spouses permission to practice in the current jurisdiction while they submit supplemental application materials and/or meet additional requirements.

Alaska's Action:

The temporary license under AS 08.01.063 requires the spouse applicant to hold a license in another state. It provides up to 360 days coverage so the spouse can practice while completing any state-specific requirements, if they exist. Given the many existing opportunities for spouses to attain full licensure by endorsement, receiving a temporary license is sometimes a slower method of obtaining licensure.

Expedited Application

Expedited application processes allow spouses' applications to be prioritized so that they may begin employment as soon as possible after they submit their completed applications.

Alaska's Action:

Any license application moves to the front of the line when its first page is the military spouse Request for Expedited Application. It's that simple.

(Supporting our Military Families: Best Practices for Streamlining Occupational Licensing Across State Lines, Department of Defense, 2012)

Professional Licensing Online Resources

All information pertaining to professional licensing by this division is available at <https://professionallicense.alaska.gov>.

The screen shot on the following page highlights features that may be valuable to military personnel and spouses:

1. **Links to professions licensed.** Clicking on the name of a profession will take the user to a page with all the information needed to apply for licensure in that program. Other professions, such as teachers and child care facilities, are licensed by other state agencies. Our staff may be able to help locate the correct agency. Just ask!
2. **Contact information for our headquarters in Juneau and field office in Anchorage.** Call ahead if you would like to meet in person since programs do not have staff in each location. Both locations accept applications for all program.
3. This sidebar menu appears on every division webpage. General information about **How To Get Licensed**.
4. Information and links to important **Military Licensing** details and documents.
5. Should a **business license** also be required, our division can handle that, too.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSING 1

Professions Licensed

All professions licensed by this division are listed in the drop-down menu below. For applications, statutes, and to be directed to that program's web page, click on the profession you are interested in.

- Acupuncturists
- Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
- Athletic Trainers
- Audiologists & Speech-Language Pathologists
- Barbers & Hairdressers
- Behavior Analysts
- Big Game Commercial Services Board
- Chiropractic Examiners
- Collection Agencies
- Concert Promoters
- Construction Contractors
- Dental Examiners
- Dietitians & Nutritionists
- Dispensing Opticians
- Electrical Administrators
- Euthanize Domestic Animals
- Geologists
- Guardians & Conservators
- Hearing Aid Dealers
- Home Inspectors
- Marine Pilots
- Marital & Family Therapy
- Massage Therapists
- Mechanical Administrators
- Medical Board
- Midwives
- Morticians
- Naturopathy
- Nursing
- Nurse Aide Registry
- Nursing Home Administrators
- Optometry
- Pawnbrokers
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
- Professional Counselors
- Psychologist and Psychological Associate
- Public Accountancy
- Real Estate Appraisers
- Real Estate Commission
- Social Work Examiners
- Telemedicine Business Registry
- Underground Storage Tank Worker
- Veterinary Examiners

Contact Information 2

Headquarters

PO Box 110806
Juneau, AK 99811-0806
(Office Hours Mon-Fri - 8am to 5pm)

Physical Address:
333 W. Willoughby Avenue, 9th Floor
Juneau, AK 99801

Main Phone Receptionist: (907) 465-2550
Fax: (907) 465-2974
E-mail: license@alaska.gov

Anchorage Field Office

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1500
Anchorage, AK 99501-3567

Main Phone Receptionist: (907) 269-8160
Fax: (907) 269-8156

Important Links

- [Name, Address Change, or Duplicate License](#)
- [Request for Refund Made by Credit Card](#)

How To Get Licensed 3

Pay By Credit Card

Buy a Business License

File a Complaint

Public Records Requests

Request License Verification

Order a Wall Certificate

Request SSN Exemption

ADA Accommodation

License Search

License Expiration Dates

Meetings & Regulation Notices

Examination Notices

Military Licensing 4

Centralized Licensing Statutes

Centralized Licensing Regulations

Board Member Resources

Annual Reports

Current Financial Reports

DIVISION SECTIONS

Corporations

Business Licensing 5

Professional Licensing

Investigations

RELATED LINKS

Consumer Protection

IRS EIN Information

Landlord/Tenant Handbook

Small Business Assistance Center

ANCSA Information & FAQs

State of Alaska Homepage

Challenges to Military Licensure

Licensing boards and staff do not have a “crosswalk” of military education and training relating it to licensure experience requirements. A stakeholder group working on a national clearinghouse for credentialing information (Credential Engine) and crosswalks for each military branch (DoD contractor SOLID) provide some tools; however, without details regarding the specific training and experience equivalents, there is no foundation to adopt one-for-one regulations recognizing each applicant’s unique background.

Most of the state’s 21 professional licensing boards have opted to review each application on a case-by-case basis. A few boards have adopted regulations specifically addressing certain military training and education or spouse licensure: Medical, Optometry, Marine Pilotage, Big Game Commercial Services, Nursing, and Physical Therapy.

Additional Details

- Submit an application as soon as orders are known. Waiting until the applicant has moved to the state is not recommended in any circumstance.
- When speaking with licensing staff, applicants should request specific information about licensing benefits for military personnel and spouses.
- Be patient. Our staff and boards receive very few military requests, so they may not be familiar with process. Additionally, applications for some licensure programs may require board review. Regardless, we will expedite all military applications to ensure they are at the forefront.
- Applicants wishing to use military experience and education toward professional licensure should provide detailed information to help the board determine whether the education, certification, experience, or training meets the state’s statutory and regulatory requirements for licensure. Providing a DD214 alone is typically not helpful.
- Practitioners who are employees or contractors of the federal government and who are serving in that capacity are exempt from licensure by federal law. Practitioners should check with their employer first for more information.

References

Licensees are responsible for knowledge of all statutes and regulations pertaining to their profession. A list of professions licensed by this division and links to all program information is available online at <https://professionallicense.alaska.gov>.

- The Request for Temporary Professional License for Military Personnel is authorized by AS 08.01.064.
- The Request for Active Duty Military Service Waiver is authorized by AS 08.01.100.
- The Request for Military Spouse Application Status is authorized by AS 08.01.063.

Business licenses are available online from this division at <http://businesslicense.alaska.gov>.

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