

## **DEFENSE-STATE LIAISON OFFICE**

Tammie Perreault, Northwest Regional Liaison Working with state policymakers to support military families





# Military Matters: 2020 Key Issues

The Defense-State Liaison Office works with Department of Defense leaders and other stakeholders to choose 10 issues to focus on each vear.

If it's a priority for military families, it's a priority for us.

See an overview of where your state stands on key issues for military families at

statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil.



#### 2020 Key Personnel and Readiness Issues Supporting Service Members and Families

Licensing compacts recognizing separating Service members and military spouses: An increasing number of Licensing compacts recognizing separating service memoers and military spouses: An increasing number of coupations are establishing compacts that facilitate portability of licenses and opportunities to work in member of the coupations of the coupation of the co occupations are establishing compacts that facilitate portability of incertises and opportunities to work in member states with an existing license. Having States enact laws approving these compacts further expedites licensure in

these occupations for separating Service members and military spouses. ation of supportive licensure laws: Most States have established laws that support licensure Implementation of supportive licensure laws: Most States have established laws that support licensure requirements for transitioning Service members and active duty military spouses; however, research has shown that the support transition because the support licensure. requirements for transitioning service members and active duty initially spouses; nowever, research has sind some licensing boards have not fulfilled the intent of these laws. State legislatures can assist by requesting some licensing boards have not as their efforts to include the form. occupational licensing boards report on their efforts to implement these laws.

anced state initiatives to improve military spouse license portability: States have established various Enhanced state introduces to improve mintary spouse increase personney: states have established various policies to improve license portability for military spouses; however, many of these revised policies do too little to poincies to improve incense portability for minury spouses; nowever, many or triese revised policies or too interaddress career turmoil experienced by military spouses. States can continue to make improvements by either revising the process or improving board compliance with previous enacted improvements.

Facilitate military spouse teacher certification: Military spouse teachers often encounter difficulty acquiring Facilitate military spouse teacner ceruncation: Military spouse teachers orient encourage unincuty acquaining licensure in a state after a move. Providing flexibility in states accepting an existing standard certificate, establishing a military acquaining and accepting an existing standard certificate, establishing a military acceptance of the military acceptance of t incensure in a state enter a those. Providing heaturity in states accepting an existing standard certificate, or expediting application and adjudication processes may alleviate the delays in garnering temporary certificate, or expediting application and adjudication processes may alleviate the delays in garnering temporary certificate.

Advance enrollment: Military children attend an average of 6-8 schools during their school life. Military families Advance enroument: miniary children attend an average of one schools during their school interest miniary ratinities transferring on official orders are usually not eligible to register in courses, programs or lotteries for charter/magnet transferring on official orders are usually not eligible to register in courses, programs or lotteries for charter/magnet transferring on official orders are usually not eligible to register in courses, programs or lotteries for charter/magnet transferring on official orders are usually not eligible to register in courses, programs or lotteries for charter/magnet. transferring on unical orders are usually not engine to register in Louises, programs or noteries not state of the state o scribor entry until they are physically located within district boundaries. Scribors could allow preliminary registration/enrollment or application pending relocation and waive proof of residence until the family moves

In-state tuition continuity: In many States, students with a military sponsor stationed in a State are considered in-In-state tuition continuity: In many states, students with a military sponsor stationed in a State are considered in State for fution purposes. However, if the sponsor has a change of station out of State between receiving their letter for tuition purposes. State for futtion purposes. However, it the sponsor has a change of station out of state between receiving their states of acceptance and start of classes the student loses this status. States can alleviate this burden by allowing a spouse or acceptance and sourcor classes the supperictoses this status. States can alleviate this burden by allowing a spouse or child of an active Service member assigned to duty out-of-State to be deemed an in-State resident for purposes of or child or an active service memore assigned to duty out-on-state to be deemed an in-state resident for purposes of determining tuition/fees at all State learning institutions as long as the spouse or child resides continuously in-State.

Virtual school enrollment: Military families seek continuity and stability for their children's education. Virtual VITUAL SCROOL enrollment: Multary families seek continuity and stability for triest children's education. Vitual schools can provide a bridge for military children transitioning to a new school district where they may no longer schools can provide a provide a continuity of the cont schools can provide a bridge for military children transitioning to a new school district where they may no longly have access to specific curricula. Eligible military children could participate without a residence requirement if nave access to specific curricula. Eligible military children could participate without a residence requirement if moving to/from the school within impacted states and for the gaining school, to accept credits taken through the

State policy to support identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect: State laws do not require child protective services to identify military families in cases of child abuse and neglect, or to report cases to the protective services to rulething numberly intimites in cases or called advise unit integrets, or to report cases to the appropriate military authorities. Changes in State law can support both local government and the Military appropriate military authorities. appropriate Hilling y auditoriole. Changes in June 1997 on 1997/2005 and interest and Departments concurrently assisting in child abuse or neglect cases involving military families.

Allow Service members to retain their earned priority for receiving Medicald home and community care Allow service members to retain their earned priority for receiving medicald nome and community care walvers: Because States frequently have long waiting lists, Service members face large gaps in service every time. warvers: Decause States frequently have rong warring 1835, Service members race large gaps in service every unite they transfer across state lines. Allowing Service members to enroll their exceptional family member in the State they they translet across state lines. Anowing service members to enroil their exceptional ramily member in the designate as their legal residence (e.g., where they pay taxes, vote) can stabilize their request for support.

"Ask the Question" campaign: Encourages states to engage all helping agencies (healthcare, social services, education, and others) to ask the question, "Have you or a family member ever served in the military?" and have the education, and orners) to ask the question, "Have you or a family member ever served in the initiative," and have the question of all intake forms. State veterans affairs organizations may provide exceptional services to veterans who questions the services to veterans who are the initiative to the company of the services of the serv self-identify/seek those services.



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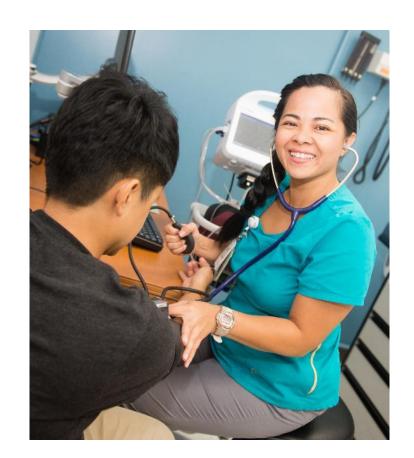


### Why this Matters?

68% of married Service Members report their spouse's ability to maintain a career impacts their decision to remain in the military...

77% of military spouses report they want or need to work...

As many as 34% of military spouses are requires to maintain occupational licensure for employment.



- 1. DMDC Status of Force Survey of Active Duty Members
- Survey of Active Duty Spouses
- 3. Blue Star Families Survey, May 2010



### **Alaska Military Spouse Demographics**

**Active Spouse Population: 11,154** 

Reserve Spouses: 2,729

2.5% of Alaska's total State Workforce

2nd largest percentage of any State

2,313 Licensed Spouses

Source: <a href="https://www.militaryonesource.mil/data-research-and-statistics/reports/military-spouse-licensure-reports">https://www.militaryonesource.mil/data-research-and-statistics/reports/military-spouse-licensure-reports</a>

### **Committed to Families**

"...I urgently call on the Council of Governors to assist with ensuring that military

Spouses have accesss to special provisions from the States to support military spouse licensure;

To implement policies that limit Statespecific requirements for a wide range of vocations that currently make it overly burdensome for military spouses and transitioning Service members to join the work force

and be productive, contributing members of our State and local economies; and to approve interstate compacts that allow licensure reciprocity for military spouses."

--Secretary Of Defense Esper

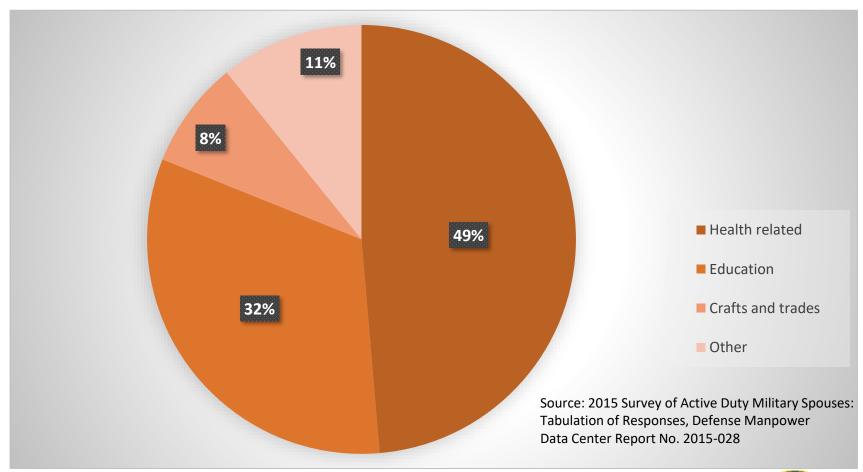


#### Where have we been?

- University of Minnesota studied 6 occupations in 50 states
- Validated:
  - 42 states provide temporary licensing
  - o 39 states make **endorsement** of existing licenses available and attainable
  - 31 states expedite the process of getting a license
- Other findings:
  - Endorsement, temporary and expedited generally did not relieve the underlying burden of licensing – only made the process faster
    - Military spouse frequently must still provide transcripts, course descriptions, and test scores to prove current license in good standing meets the new state's equivalency requirements.
    - Temporary licensing often requires an application for permanent license
  - States/Boards often did not implement their state law

Study commissioned by the Department of Defense, https://reachmilitaryfamilies.umn.edu/research/document/13865

### **Distribution of Licensed Occupations**





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### **Licensure Portability:**

Reciprocity: A continuum of opportunities to transfer an occupational license between states

Licensing Endorsement, Fully Expedited: endorsement Exemption Occupational with affidavit, from state without *implement* temporary interstate endorsement researched portability license and existing requirements compacts expedited by state (TX and PA), and military spouse applications temporary license without laws verifying documents Full Immediately attainable actions *implementation* As baseline: license in 30 days Near-term actions without submitting verifying documents Long-term solutions Compacts



### Here and ready to support your efforts.

The Defense-State Liaison Office stands ready to help you make change in these areas and others that matter to military families.

#### How can we assist you?

Call anytime to learn more and get started.

For additional information, visit statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil

Thank you for helping our military families.

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