Military/Spouse Licensing Policy

Effective Date: 6/06/2018
Revised Date: 9/04/2019

I. PURPOSE
The purpose of this Military/Spouse Licensing Policy for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, hereafter known as LPTB, is to provide expedited licensing to all military or military spouses when applying for licensure in Louisiana. Pursuant to La. R.S. 37:3651, in addition to the standard application components, the LPTB will issue a temporary license to military personnel or military spouses after receiving verification of the applicant’s most recent jurisdiction of license, a background check affidavit, and a copy of their military ID. The applicant would be eligible for their full license once all states where they hold licensure have submitted verification and the Licensing Analyst confirms that the applicant is in good standing and is free of convictions which would require investigation.

II. DEFINITIONS
For the purposes of this policy, Military personnel is defined as anyone who is an active duty service member, regardless of which branch of service. Military spouse is defined as anyone who is legally married to an active duty service member. Consistent with military definitions of dependents—unmarried partners, adult children, or other relations are excluded from utilizing this policy.

III. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
In addition to standard documentation all applicants must provide for licensure, Military personnel or military spouses must provide a copy of their current military ID in addition to a background check affidavit in order for their application to be expedited. Military IDs provide proof that the applicant or their spouse is active duty and entitled to the relevant benefits thereof. Expired Military IDs will not be accepted as proof of active duty or active duty spousal status. Any background check affidavit returning with past criminal convictions may delay the process for issuing a temporary license and will be kept under lock and key by the Licensing Analyst.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY OF BOARD AND STAFF
The applicant will be subject to normal licensure requirements. However, due to the nature of frequent military relocation, applicants will likely have more than one current or expired/lapsed license to verify. The board still verifies an applicant’s all current or past licensure in order to assure that the applicant has had no disciplinary action or practice issues in other states.

In accordance with La. R.S. 37:3651, the applicant will be granted an expedited licensing process. Upon receipt of the applicant’s verification of licensure in their current jurisdiction being in good standing and a copy of their military ID, the Licensing Analyst will issue the applicant a temporary license to practice. Once the Licensing Analyst receives verification from remaining states where the applicant holds licensure, they will be issued a full license, assuming no current or past disciplinary action or convictions are revealed.
V. REPORTING
The Licensing Analyst is responsible for collecting all required documentation from Military Personnel or Military Spouse applicants. Should the applicant’s background check affidavit or official report return with criminal convictions or their other licensure identifies past disciplinary issues, the Licensing Analyst will consult Approach A of the board’s DWI/DUI Policy for alcohol or drug-related convictions, or the Executive Director for all others.

VI. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER POLICIES
Staff should be familiar with all licensing policies as well as the DWI/DUI Policy for licensing should it become relevant after the applicant’s background check is received.

VII. REVIEW OF POLICY
This policy will be reviewed by the members of the board every year prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year, or sooner if warranted by internal or external events or changes. Changes to the policy will be recommended by the Executive Director to the members of the board. This policy, upon every revision hereof, must be distributed by the Executive Director to the members of the board and staff.