



**WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
LICENSING**

Military Professional Licensing

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AGENDA

- Professions Overview
- Military/Spouse Professions Data
- Additional Efforts
- Time to License
- Agency Engagement



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Professions Overview

DOL regulates 34 business and professional licensing programs

- 239,893 active professional licenses
 - 33,256 active business licenses
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- Appraisers
 - Architects
 - Bail Bonds
 - Body Art & Piercing
 - Cemeteries
 - Combative Sports
 - Cosmetology
 - Court Reporters
 - Funerals
 - Geologists
 - Home Inspector
 - Notary Publics
 - Private Investigators
 - Real Estate Brokers
 - Security Guards
 - Timeshares



Military and Military Spouse Professions Data

- There are 8,691 self-identified active military members or spouse/partner licensees (*as of 10/1/2025*)
 - Some duplication may occur where an individual is a member and a spouse/partner
- Largest professions include:
 - Real estate – 2,022 members, 186 spouses (2,208 total)
 - Cosmetology – 1,647 members, 247 spouses (1,894 total)
 - Notary publics – 2,425 members, 712 spouses (3,137 total)
 - Security guard – 798 members, 83 spouses (881 total)



Streamlining Military Licensing

- Currently DOL offers several additional licensing features for military members and spouses:
 - *Expedited Processing* – military members and spouses who are applying for professional licensure receive priority attention
 - *Professional License Portability* – military spouses who are licensed in another jurisdiction may transfer their license when moving to WA on military orders
 - *Status Options* – while not in WA, licensed military members have the option to place their license in ‘military status,’ while spouses may place theirs in ‘inactive status’



Time to License for Military and Military Spouse Licensees

Program	Time to License	Military Licensees	Spouse Licensees	Total Licensees
Appraisers	20 days	2	0	2
Architects	6 days	5	0	5
Bail Bonds	16 days	5	1	6
Body Art/Piercing	6 days	37	11	48
Cemeteries	2 days	6	0	6
Combative Sports	6 days	13	0	13
Cosmetology	13 days	114	126	240
Court Reporters	0 days	1	0	1
Funerals	1 day	9	1	10
Geologists	15 days	3	1	4



Time to License for Military and Military Spouse Licensees (continued)

Program	Time to License	Military Members	Military Spouses	Total Military
Home Inspectors	1 day	10	0	10
Landscape Architect	8 days	2	0	2
Notary Public	10 days	284	92	376
Private Investigator	14 days	45	2	47
Real Estate	1 day	145	10	155
Security Guard	19 days	421	24	445
Timeshare	6 days	2	0	2
Total	9 days	1,104	268	1,372



Time to License

- The Time to License average for military-affiliated applicants is 9 days, although it varies by profession
- The Time to License is calculated based on a completed application
- Delays may occur due to pending actions from applicants and/or outside entities that fall outside of DOL's responsibility



Agency Engagement

- Jason Lenn, a 20-year Navy Veteran, is the Military Spouse Engagement Liaison at the Department of Licensing.
- DOL representatives attend career fairs, many of which are specifically related to military members and spouses
- DOL participates in a workgroup regarding military spouse employment and professional development
- DOL continues to provide education and training to all Board and Commission members on issues surrounding military spouse employment





QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS



CONTACT

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