

# Impact

Interstate Massage Compact

This project is funded by the Department of Defense

## Benefits for Military Families

### The Basics

Military families are highly mobile and are reassigned to a new duty station every two to three years on average. This level of mobility creates barriers to employment and career development for military spouses in licensed professions.

To recruit and retain military personnel and maintain readiness, the Department of Defense believes interstate compacts are the best solution for occupational license portability for military spouses.

The Department of Defense is committed to supporting military spouses as an essential component of supporting military families. DOD takes care of military families to ensure the retention of the force. Maintaining the retention of the force is essential for military readiness.

*"I've talked to people in different careers, and it's taken them sometimes two years to reenter the workforce."*

**Oklahoma Sen. Adam Pugh, Air Force Veteran**

### The Bottom Line for Military Spouses

The Interstate Massage Compact allows active-duty military personnel or their spouse to designate a home state and keep that designation as long as the service member is on active duty.

	MOVING TO COMPACT MEMBER STATE	MOVING TO NONCOMPACT MEMBER STATE
CIVILIAN LICENSEE	When moving to a new compact member state, a licensee must apply for a single state license in the new state before reapplying for a compact multistate license under their new home state's license.	When moving to a noncompact state, a licensee cannot maintain their compact multistate license.
MILITARY OR MILITARY SPOUSE LICENSEE	When moving to a new compact member state, a licensee may keep the home state designation and take no action. They may continue practicing under the compact.	When moving to a non-compact state, a licensee can maintain their compact multistate license via their designated compact member home state license. They may continue practicing in compact member states.

*"Getting multiple licenses consumes an incredible amount of time, money and coordination that often requires repeated steps as documents are lost in travel from state to state. If there were already a compact, my husband and I wouldn't think twice about how we rank our duty stations and where we beg the detailer to assign us. It would be life changing for us in many ways."*

**- Dr. Christine Hammer, licensed pediatric dentist and military spouse**



**National Center for  
Interstate Compacts**  
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