



1 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Universal  
2 Licensing Recognition Act".

3 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 4150.1 of Title 59, unless there  
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 A. There is hereby created professional and occupational  
7 licensing recognition for the issuance of licenses for applicants  
8 moving to and residing in Oklahoma. Unless otherwise provided by  
9 law, this act shall not apply to any laws authorizing reciprocity  
10 including interstate compacts, state-to-state reciprocal agreements  
11 and other state-to-state equivalency provisions pertaining to  
12 licensees and certificate holders and applicants from other states.  
13 For purposes of this act, "Oklahoma regulatory entity" means any  
14 administrative body or official with authority over any occupational  
15 or professional license or certification in this state.

16 B. A person moving to and residing in Oklahoma may make  
17 application for licensing or certification pursuant to the Universal  
18 Licensing Recognition Act if there is no conflict with any  
19 interstate compact or state-to-state reciprocity or equivalency  
20 agreements as determined by the Oklahoma regulatory entity. When an  
21 applicant moves from a state with or without statewide licensing or  
22 certification in the discipline applied for and at the same practice  
23 level as determined by the Oklahoma regulating entity pursuant to  
24 this act and such applicant establishes verifiable proof of physical

1 residency in this state or is married to and accompanying an active  
2 duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States to an official  
3 permanent change of station to a military installation located in  
4 this state and such spouse is not making application pursuant to the  
5 Military Service Occupation, Education and Credentialing Act, all of  
6 the following shall apply:

7 1. The out-of-state applicant is a person who is currently  
8 licensed or certified by another state with similar scope of work  
9 through substantially similar or equivalent licensure or  
10 certification standards of examination, minimum education  
11 requirements and, if applicable, professional work experience,  
12 education training and clinical supervision requirements and the  
13 other state verifies that the person met these requirements in order  
14 to be licensed or certified in that state, the out-of-state state  
15 license or certification is and has been maintained in good standing  
16 in all states in which the person holds a license or certification  
17 for at least one (1) year before making application to Oklahoma  
18 under this act, and there is no Oklahoma statutory authority under  
19 Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes for license reciprocity or  
20 interstate compact with Oklahoma in the professional discipline  
21 applied for and at the same practice level as determined by the  
22 Oklahoma regulating entity;

23 2. The person demonstrates verifiable proof as determined by  
24 the Oklahoma regulating entity of having work experience, education

1 training and clinical supervision, as applicable, in the scope of  
2 work of the lawful profession for the same amount of time required  
3 for Oklahoma in-state applicants;

4 3. Except for Oklahoma regulating entities with statewide  
5 licensing and certifications under an interstate licensing compact  
6 or state-to-state reciprocal licensing agreement providing parity  
7 among the states and having substantially similar training or work  
8 requirements, the Oklahoma regulating entity shall apply all  
9 substantially similar and verifiable professional work experience,  
10 education training and clinical supervision in the manner most  
11 favorable towards satisfying any professional work experience,  
12 education training and clinical supervision qualifications for  
13 issuance of the requested license or certification that facilitates  
14 recognition among states for licensing in the discipline applied for  
15 and at the same practice level as determined by the Oklahoma  
16 regulating entity pursuant to the requirements of the state license  
17 or certification;

18 4. The person demonstrates a successful passage of an  
19 equivalent or substantially similar examination from another state  
20 or the examination for the Oklahoma examination requirement as  
21 determined by the Oklahoma regulatory entity;

22 5. The person pays all applicable fees, not exceeding the cost  
23 of current in-state licensure fees;

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1           6. The person making application demonstrates verifiable proof  
2 that the person has not had and is free of any pending complaint,  
3 investigation, suspension, revocation, voluntary surrender pending  
4 investigation or resolution of complaint, or discipline imposed by  
5 any other regulating entity or jurisdiction for unprofessional  
6 conduct involving the applicant's out-of-state work or any other  
7 state license or certification directly related to the application  
8 as determined by the Oklahoma regulating entity;

9           7. If another jurisdiction has taken disciplinary action  
10 against the person, the originating regulating entity or  
11 jurisdiction is to determine if the cause for the action was  
12 corrected and the matter resolved with the information made  
13 accessible and reported to Oklahoma. If the matter has not been  
14 resolved by that jurisdiction, the Oklahoma regulating entity will  
15 hold an application until the matter is resolved but not longer than  
16 one (1) year from the time of application at which time the Oklahoma  
17 regulating entity will deny the application unless notified of  
18 extraordinary circumstances warranting a one-time six-month  
19 extension before the application is to be approved or denied;

20           8. Upon licensure or certification under this act, the licensee  
21 or certificate holder shall report to the Oklahoma regulatory entity  
22 any final determination on disciplinary actions, resignations  
23 pending discipline, suspensions or revocations imposed by the  
24 originating jurisdiction within thirty (30) days; and

1           9. If state law other than this act requires a review of  
2 disqualifying criminal history records for a certain license or  
3 certification, the person shall demonstrate verifiable proof  
4 pursuant to the laws of Oklahoma there is no disqualifying criminal  
5 history, pursuant to the criminal justice reform provisions limiting  
6 criminal history prohibitions at Section 4000.1 of Title 59 of the  
7 Oklahoma Statutes, and as determined by the Oklahoma regulating  
8 entity.

9           C. This section shall not prevent an Oklahoma regulating entity  
10 from entering into an interstate compact or state-to-state  
11 reciprocity agreement or other equivalency agreement with another  
12 state or jurisdiction to facilitate recognition, except that the  
13 agreement shall not allow out-of-state licensees or certificate  
14 holders to obtain a license or certificate by reciprocity in  
15 Oklahoma if the applicant has not met standards that are  
16 substantially similar or equivalent to the standards required for  
17 Oklahoma as determined by the Oklahoma regulating entity in  
18 compliance with the statutory and regulatory authority of the  
19 Oklahoma regulating entity.

20           D. A person who is licensed pursuant to this act is subject to  
21 the laws regulating the person's practice and license or  
22 certification in Oklahoma and is subject to the Oklahoma regulating  
23 entity's jurisdiction.

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1 E. A statewide professional or occupational license or  
2 certificate issued pursuant to this act is valid only in Oklahoma.  
3 It shall not make the person obtaining licensure or certification  
4 under this act eligible to work in another state under an interstate  
5 compact or state-to-state reciprocity agreement unless specifically  
6 authorized for the profession applied for and at the same practice  
7 level as determined by the Oklahoma regulating entity pursuant to  
8 the requirements of this act.

9 F. This act shall not apply to:

- 10 1. Requirements for a criminal history background check; and
- 11 2. Criteria for a license, permit or certificate of eligibility  
12 that is established by an interstate compact or state-to-state  
13 reciprocal agreement.

14 G. For purposes of this act, residency may be established by  
15 demonstrating verifiable proof of a state-issued identification card  
16 and one of the following if the document contains the name and  
17 physical address of the person making application:

- 18 1. Current Oklahoma residential utility bill;
- 19 2. Documentation of filing a tax return with the Oklahoma Tax  
20 Commission as a resident of Oklahoma;
- 21 3. Documentation of current ownership, or current lease for a  
22 term of at least twelve (12) months, of a primary place of residence  
23 in Oklahoma;

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1 4. Documentation of current in-state employment or notarized  
2 letter of promise of employment of the applicant or his or her  
3 spouse; or

4 5. Any other verifiable documentation demonstrating Oklahoma  
5 residency as determined by the Oklahoma regulating entity.

6 H. Nothing in this act shall allow any person to obtain a  
7 license or certification without satisfying substantially similar or  
8 equivalent requirements for in-state licensure or certification.

9 I. When an out-of-state applicant has complied with the  
10 requirements of Title 59 of the Oklahoma Statutes as determined by  
11 the Oklahoma regulatory entity and is not excluded from obtaining an  
12 Oklahoma license or certification by any provision of this act, the  
13 Oklahoma regulatory entity shall issue the appropriate license or  
14 certification.

15 J. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit a person  
16 from applying for a statewide professional or occupational license  
17 or certification under another statute or rule in Oklahoma.

18 K. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent licensing  
19 or certification compacts or reciprocity agreements with another  
20 state or jurisdiction.

21 L. This act shall be applied in a manner that increases  
22 recognition of licensure and certification among states without any  
23 right of an applicant to become licensed or certified in Oklahoma.  
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1 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated  
4 02/25/2021 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.  
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