

TLS WEBINAR 13: SESSION TAKEAWAY

Navigating Barriers to Occupational Licensing

Obtaining an occupational license can be a burdensome process. And in cases where the job seeker is justice-involved, the barriers may feel insurmountable. However, even if your application for a license to practice is denied in the U.S., you may have several options to still obtain a license.

What can you do if your application for an occupational license is denied?

The specific process can vary by state and profession, but here are common steps you might take:

- 1. Request a Written Explanation/ Reason for Denial:** Obtain a detailed explanation of why your application was denied. This will help you understand the specific issues that need to be addressed.
- 2. Request an Administrative Review:** Many licensing boards offer an internal review process where you can request a reconsideration of your application. This might involve submitting additional documentation or clarifications.
- 3. Address Deficiencies:** Sometimes, addressing the specific deficiencies noted in the denial (e.g., additional coursework, training, or exams) and reapplying can be a viable option.
- 4. Seek Licensure in Another State:** If the denial is specific to one state, you might consider applying for licensure in another state with different requirements or more favorable regulations.
- 5. Reach Out to Your Professional Associations:** Many professional associations offer resources and support for members facing licensing issues, including guidance on the appeal process.
- 6. Contact Your State's Ombudsman:** Some states have an ombudsman or similar office that can assist with navigating regulatory issues and appeals.