

RULE 42 LICENSURE FOR UNIFORMED SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND SPOUSES

1. Definitions:

- a. As used in this section, “expedited licensure” means the granting of occupational licensure without an individual’s having met occupational licensure requirements provided under Title 17 of the Arkansas Code or by these Rules.
- b. As used in this section, “uniformed service veteran” means a former member of the United States Uniformed Services discharged under circumstances other than dishonorable.
- c. As used in this section, “uniformed service member” means an active or reserve component member of the United States Air Force, United States Army, United States Coast Guard, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Space Force, National Guard, or the United States Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service; or an active component member of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps.

2. Licensure:

a. The Arkansas State Medical Board shall allow the following individuals to secure employment with a temporary license, certificate, or permit while completing the application process for full licensure or certification or permitting if the individual is the holder in good standing of relevant and applicable uniformed service education, training, national certification, or service-issued credential toward occupational licensure qualifications or requirements, or the holder of a substantially equivalent license, certificate, or permit issued by another state:

- (1) An active duty military service member stationed in the State of Arkansas;
- (2) A returning military veteran ~~applying within one (1) year of his or her discharge from active duty;~~ or
- (3) The spouse of:
 - (A) A person under a (1) or (2) above;
 - (B) A uniformed service member who is assigned a tour of duty that excludes the uniformed service member’s spouse from accompanying the uniformed service member and the spouse relocates to this state; or
 - (C) A uniformed service member who is killed or succumbs to his or her injuries or illness in the line of duty if the spouse establishes residency in the state.

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b. The Board shall expedite the process and procedure for full licensure, certification, or permitting to an individual who is the holder in good standing of a license with a similar scope of practice issued by another state, territory, or district of the U.S and is:

(1) A uniformed service member stationed in the State of Arkansas;

(2) A uniformed service veteran who resides in or establishes residency in the State of Arkansas; or

(3) The spouse of:

(A) A person under a (1) or (2) above;

(B) A uniformed service member who is assigned a tour of duty that excludes the uniformed service member's spouse from accompanying the uniformed service member and the spouse relocates to this state; or

(C) A uniformed service member who is killed or succumbs to his or her injuries or illness in the line of duty if the spouse establishes residency in the state.

c. The Board shall expedite the process and procedure for full licensure, certification, or permitting to an individual who is the holder in good standing of a license with a similar scope of practice issued by another state, territory, or district of the U.S and is in receipt of all the below:

(1) Payment of the initial licensure fee;

(2) Evidence that the individual holds a license with a similar scope of practice in another state; and

(3) Evidence that the applicant is a qualified applicant under Section 2. a. above.

d. The expiration date of a license for a deployed uniform service member or spouse will be extended for one hundred and eighty (180) days following the date of the uniformed service member's return from deployment.

e. A full exemption from continuing education requirements will be allowed for a deployed uniform service member or spouse until one hundred and eighty (180) days following the date of the uniformed service member's return from deployment.

f. A temporary license, certificate, or permit granted under this section shall be in effect for at least ninety (90) days or until such time as the Board is able to take action on the expedited application.

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S2/9/23

94th General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2023

SENATE BILL 193

By: Senators Hill, *Irvin, J. Boyd*

By: Representative Eubanks

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING
OF UNIFORMED SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND SPOUSES
ACT OF 2021; TO ADD CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL
CERTIFICATIONS TOWARD INITIAL OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE
AND EXTEND THE APPLICATION TO SPOUSES; TO ELIMINATE
THE ONE-YEAR LIMIT FOR VETERANS TO APPLY SERVICE
EDUCATION, TRAINING, OR CERTIFICATIONS TOWARD INITIAL
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS OCCUPATIONAL
LICENSING OF UNIFORMED SERVICE MEMBERS,
VETERANS, AND SPOUSES ACT OF 2021.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative intent.

It is the intent of the General Assembly to:

(1) Add national certifications to be considered toward
occupational licensure requirements;

(2) Extend application for initial licensure to the spouse of a
uniformed service member or a uniformed service veteran; and

(3) Remove the one-year limit for veterans to apply service
education, training, or certifications toward occupational licensure.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-4-107 is amended to read as follows:



1 17-4-107. Acceptance of uniformed service education, training,
2 national certification, or service-issued credential.

3 An occupational licensing entity shall accept relevant and applicable
4 uniformed service education, training, national certification, or service-
5 issued credential toward occupational licensure qualifications or
6 requirements when considering an application for initial licensure of an
7 individual listed in § 17-4-104 ~~who is:~~

8 ~~(1) A uniformed service member; or~~

9 ~~(2) A uniformed service veteran who makes an application within~~
10 ~~one (1) year of his or her discharge from uniformed service.~~

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12 /s/Hill

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15 **APPROVED: 2/24/23**
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