

**REGULATION RULE 42 LICENSURE FOR ACTIVE UNIFORMED SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND SPOUSES MEMBERS**

**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.

ab. As used in this section, “~~returning military veteran~~ uniformed service veteran” means a former member of the United States ~~Armed Forces Uniformed Services~~ who was discharged ~~from active duty~~ 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. Pursuant to Act 248 of 2017, 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 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 person under subdivisions (b)(1) and (2) of this section.~~

~~b. The Medical Board shall expedite the process and procedures for full licensure, certification, or permitting for the following individuals:~~

~~(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 person under subdivisions (c)(1) and (2) of this section.~~

~~c. When considering an application for full licensure, certification, or permitting for an active duty military service member stationed in the State of Arkansas or a returning military veteran applying within one (1) year of his or her discharge from active duty, the Medical~~

Board:

~~(1) Shall consider whether or not the applicant's military training and experience in the area of licensure, certification, or permitting is substantially similar to experience or education required for licensure, certification, or permitting; and~~

~~(2) Shall accept the applicant's military training and experience in the area of licensure, certification, or permitting in lieu of experience or education required for licensure, certification, or permitting if the state board or commission determines the military training and experience is a satisfactory substitute for the experience or education required for licensure, certification, or permitting.~~

~~d. A license required to enable the holder to lawfully engage in a profession, trade, or employment in this state held by an active duty military service member deployed outside the State of Arkansas or his or her spouse shall not expire until one hundred eighty (180) days following the active duty military service member's or spouse's return from active deployment.~~

~~e.(1) The Medical Board shall allow a full or partial exemption from continuing education required as part of licensure, certification, or permitting for a profession, trade, or employment in this state for the following individuals:~~

~~(A) An active duty military service member deployed outside of the State of Arkansas;~~

~~(B) A returning military veteran within one (1) year of his or her discharge from active duty; or~~

~~(C) The spouse of a person under subdivisions (f)(1) and (2) of this section.~~

~~(2) If the Medical Board allows a full or partial exemption from continuing education required under subdivision (f)(1) of this section, the Board may require evidence of completion of continuing education before issuing the individual a subsequent license, certificate, or permit or authorizing the renewal of a license, certificate, or permit.~~

a. Pursuant to Act 135 of 2021, 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 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 person under subdivisions (b)(3) and of this section.

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.