

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT[641]

Notice of Intended Action

Proposing rulemaking related to military service, veteran reciprocity, and spouses and providing an opportunity for public comment

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) hereby proposes to rescind Chapter 196, “Military Service, Veteran Reciprocity, and Spouses of Active Duty Service Members,” and to adopt a new Chapter 196, “Emergency Medical Services—Military Service, Veteran Reciprocity, and Spouses of Active Duty Service Members,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code chapter 272C.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 147D.1.

Purpose and Summary

This proposed rulemaking sets forth HHS procedures to expedite the application for a professional license for those persons married to an active duty member of the military forces of the United States, or for those persons who are veterans, and to provide reciprocity in licensure for such persons who are currently licensed in another state. The chapter also provides for the application of military education, training, and service as credit toward any experience or educational requirement of licensure.

This chapter applies only to HHS’s emergency medical services licensure program; this is the only licensing program covered by the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 272C to remain under the auspices of HHS upon implementation of the government realignment.

A Regulatory Analysis, including the proposed rule text, was published on November 1, 2023. A public hearing was held on November 28, 2023. HHS received no public comments. The Administrative Rules Coordinator provided preclearance for publication of this Notice of Intended Action on December 4, 2023.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition HHS for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 441—Chapter 6.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this proposed rulemaking. Written comments in response to this rulemaking must be received by HHS no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 26, 2024. Comments should be directed to:

Joe Campos
Lucas State Office Building
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Email: joe.campos@idph.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

Public hearings at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

February 14, 2024 11 to 11:30 a.m.	Microsoft Teams meeting ID: 212 588 466 197 Passcode: SThXzX
February 26, 2024 1 to 2 p.m.	Microsoft Teams meeting ID: 249 196 980 071 Passcode: 9dQkSC

Persons who wish to make oral comments at a public hearing may be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rulemaking.

Any persons who intend to attend a public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact HHS and advise of specific needs.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rulemaking action is proposed:

ITEM 1. Rescind 641—Chapter 196 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 196

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES—MILITARY SERVICE, VETERAN RECIPROCITY,
AND SPOUSES OF ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

641—196.1(272C) Definitions.

“License” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 272D.1.

“Licensing authority” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 272D.1.

“Military service” means honorably serving on federal active duty, state active duty, or national guard duty, as defined in Iowa Code section 29A.1; in the military services of other states, as provided in 10 U.S.C. Section 101(c)(2021); or in the organized reserves of the United States, as provided in 10 U.S.C. Section 10101(2006).

“Military service applicant” means an individual requesting credit toward licensure for military education, training, or service obtained or completed in military service.

“Spouse” means a spouse of an active duty member of the military forces of the United States.

“Veteran” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 35.1.

641—196.2(272C,147D) Military education, training, and service credit. A military service applicant may apply for credit for verified military education, training, or service toward any experience or educational requirement for licensure by submitting a military service application form to the licensing authority. No fee is required with submission of an application for military service credit.

196.2(1) The licensing authority shall grant credit requested in the application pursuant to the emergency medical services (EMS) personnel licensure interstate compact described in Iowa Code section 147D.1.

196.2(2) The licensing authority shall inform the military service applicant in writing of the credit, if any, given toward an experience or educational qualification for licensure or explain why no credit was granted. The applicant may request reconsideration upon submission of additional documentation or information.

196.2(3) A military service applicant who is aggrieved by the licensing authority's decision may appeal pursuant to the provisions of 441—Chapter 7, except that no fees or costs shall be assessed against the military service applicant in connection with a contested case conducted pursuant to this subrule.

196.2(4) The licensing authority shall grant or deny the credit requested in the military service application prior to ruling on the application for licensure. The applicant shall not be required to submit any fees in connection with the licensure application unless the licensing authority grants the credit requested in the military service application. If the licensing authority does not grant the credit requested in the military service application, the applicant may withdraw the licensure application or request that the licensure application be placed in pending status for up to one year or as mutually agreed. The withdrawal of a licensure application shall not preclude subsequent applications supported by additional documentation or information.

641—196.3(272C,147D) Veteran and active duty military spouse privilege to practice. A veteran or spouse with an unrestricted license in another EMS personnel licensure jurisdiction may practice in Iowa pursuant to the EMS personnel licensure interstate compact described in Iowa Code section 147D.1.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 272C.4 and 147D.1.