CHAPTER 33
MILITARY SERVICE AND VETERAN RECIPROCITY

657—33.1(85GA,ch1116) Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

“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); or in the organized reserves of the United States, as provided in 10 U.S.C. Section 10101.

“Military service applicant” means an individual requesting credit toward licensure or registration requirements for 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 an individual who meets the definition of “veteran” in Iowa Code section 35.1(2).

[ARC 1789C, IAB 12/10/14, effective 1/14/15; ARC 4582C, IAB 7/31/19, effective 9/4/19]

657—33.2(85GA,ch1116) Military education, training, and service credit. A military service applicant may apply for credit for verified military education, training, or service toward any experiential or educational requirement for pharmacist licensure, pharmacist-intern registration, or technician registration by submitting a military service credit application form to the board office. The board shall make available an application for military service credit.

33.2(1) Military service credit application. A military service credit application may be submitted with an application for licensure, examination, or registration or may be submitted prior to the submission of an application for licensure, examination, or registration. No fee is required with submission of a military service credit application.

33.2(2) Credit identified. The applicant shall identify the experiential or educational licensure or registration requirement to which the credit would be applied if granted. Credit shall not be applied to an examination requirement.

33.2(3) Submission of verification documentation. The applicant shall provide documents, military transcripts, a certified affidavit, or forms that verify completion of the relevant military education, training, or service, which may include, when applicable, the applicant’s Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214) or Verification of Military Experience and Training (VMET) (DD Form 2586).

33.2(4) Credit determination. Upon receipt of a completed military service credit application, the board shall promptly determine whether the verified military education, training, or service will satisfy all or any part of the identified experiential or educational qualifications for licensure or registration.

33.2(5) Granting of credit. The board shall grant credit requested in the application in whole or in part if the board determines that the verified military education, training, or service satisfies all or part of the experiential or educational qualifications for licensure or registration.

33.2(6) Notification of credit determination. The board shall inform the military service applicant in writing of the credit, if any, given toward an experiential or educational qualification for licensure or registration or explain why no credit was granted. The applicant may request reconsideration of the board’s determination upon submission of additional documentation or information.

33.2(7) Consideration of applications. The board shall grant or deny the military service credit application prior to ruling on the application for licensure, examination, or registration. The applicant shall not be required to submit any fees in connection with the license or registration application until the board issues a determination on the military service credit application. If the board does not grant the military service credit application, the applicant may withdraw any license or registration application and application fee, if submitted, or the applicant may request that the application be placed in pending status. The withdrawal of a license or registration application and fee shall not preclude subsequent applications supported by additional documentation or information.

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Veteran or spouse licensure or registration. A veteran or spouse with an 
unrestricted pharmacist license in another jurisdiction may apply for pharmacist licensure in Iowa by 
license transfer pursuant to rule 657—2.9(147,155A) and this chapter. A veteran or spouse must pass any 
required examinations to be eligible for pharmacist licensure by license transfer. A veteran or spouse may 
submit an application for pharmacist-intern registration pursuant to 657—Chapter 4 and this chapter. A 
veteran or spouse may submit an application for technician registration pursuant to 657—Chapter 3 and 
this chapter. A veteran or spouse may submit an application for pharmacy support person registration 
pursuant to 657—Chapter 5 and this chapter.

33.3(1) Priority application status. A fully completed application for licensure or registration 
submitted by a veteran or spouse under this chapter shall be given priority status and shall be expedited.

33.3(2) Application requirements. Such an application shall contain all of the information required 
of all applicants for licensure or registration who hold unrestricted licenses or registrations in other 
jurisdictions and who are applying for licensure or registration, including, but not limited to, completion 
of all required forms, payment of applicable fees, disclosure of criminal or disciplinary history, and, 
if applicable, a criminal history background check. In addition, the applicant shall provide such 
documentation as is reasonably needed to verify the applicant’s status as a veteran under Iowa Code 
section 35.1(2) or as a spouse of an active duty member of the military forces of the United States.

33.3(3) Equivalency determination. Upon receipt of a fully completed application for licensure or 
registration, the board shall promptly determine if the requirements for licensure or registration of the 
jurisdiction where the veteran or spouse is licensed or registered are substantially equivalent to the 
requirements for licensure or registration in Iowa. The board may consider the following factors in 
determining substantial equivalence: scope of practice, education and coursework, degree requirements, 
and postgraduate experiences.

33.3(4) Licensure or registration approval. The board shall promptly grant a license or registration, 
as appropriate, to the veteran or spouse if the applicant is licensed or registered in another jurisdiction 
whose licensure or registration requirements are substantially equivalent to those required in Iowa, unless 
the applicant is ineligible for licensure or registration based on other grounds, for example, the applicant’s 
disciplinary or criminal background.

33.3(5) Notification of additional requirements and provisional licensure or registration. If the 
board determines that the veteran or spouse is licensed or registered in another jurisdiction whose 
licensure or registration requirements are not substantially equivalent to those required in Iowa, the 
board shall promptly inform the applicant of the additional experience, education, or examinations 
required for licensure or registration in Iowa. Unless the applicant is ineligible for licensure or 
registration based on other grounds, such as disciplinary or criminal background, the following shall 
apply:

a. If the applicant has not passed the required examination(s) for licensure or registration, 
the applicant may request that the application be placed in pending status. The board may issue a 
provisional 90-day license in order for a pharmacist who has applied for license transfer pursuant to 
rule 657—2.9(147,155A) to take and pass the multistate pharmacy jurisprudence examination (MPJE), 
Iowa Edition.

b. If additional experience or education is required in order for the applicant’s qualifications to be 
considered substantially equivalent, the applicant may request that the board issue a provisional license or 
registration for a specified period of time upon such conditions as the board deems reasonably necessary 
to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the public unless the board determines that the deficiency is 
of a character that the public health, welfare, or safety will be adversely affected if a provisional license 
or registration is granted.

c. If a request for a provisional license or registration is denied, the board shall issue an order 
fully explaining the decision and shall inform the applicant of the steps the applicant may take in order 
to receive a provisional license or registration.

d. If a provisional license or registration is issued, the application for full licensure or registration 
shall be placed in pending status until the necessary experience or education has been successfully
completed or the provisional license or registration expires, whichever occurs first. The board may extend a provisional license or registration on a case-by-case basis for good cause.

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657—33.4(85GA,ch1116) Request for contested case. A military service applicant or a veteran or spouse who is aggrieved by the board’s decision to deny all or part of the military service credit application, a request for a license transfer, a request for a registration, or a request for provisional license or registration, or is aggrieved by the terms under which a provisional license or registration will be granted, may request a contested case (administrative hearing) and may participate in a contested case by telephone. A request for a contested case shall be made within 30 days of issuance of the board’s decision pursuant to 657—subrule 35.30(1). There shall be no fees or costs assessed against the military service applicant, veteran or spouse in connection with a contested case conducted pursuant to this chapter.

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These rules are intended to implement 2014 Iowa Acts, chapter 1116, section 34.

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