

CHAPTER 14
ALTERNATIVE PATHS TO LICENSURE

193—14.1(272C) Definitions.

“Board” means an examining board or commission within the professional licensing and regulation bureau.

“Issuing jurisdiction” means any state, commonwealth, the District of Columbia, or other insular territory of the United States.

“License” or *“licensure”* means any license, registration, certificate, or permit that may be granted by an examining board or commission within the professional licensing and regulation bureau.

“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 for military education, training, or service obtained or completed in military service.

“Veteran” means an individual who meets the definition of “veteran” in Iowa Code section 35.1(2). [ARC 1734C, IAB 11/26/14, effective 12/31/14; ARC 4828C, IAB 12/18/19, effective 1/22/20; ARC 5573C, IAB 4/21/21, effective 5/26/21]

193—14.2(272C) 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 board office.

14.2(1) The application may be submitted with an application for licensure or examination or prior to an applicant’s applying for licensure or to take an examination. No fee is required for submission of an application for military service credit.

14.2(2) The applicant shall identify the experience or educational licensure requirement to which the credit would be applied if granted. Credit shall not be applied to an examination requirement.

14.2(3) 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).

14.2(4) Upon receipt of a completed military service application, the board shall promptly determine whether the verified military education, training, or service will satisfy all or any part of the identified experience or educational qualifications for licensure.

14.2(5) The board shall grant 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 experience or educational qualifications for licensure.

14.2(6) The board 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.

14.2(7) A military service applicant who is aggrieved by the board’s decision 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. The provisions of 193—Chapter 7 shall apply, 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.

14.2(8) The board shall grant or deny 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 board grants the military service application. If the board does not grant 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.

[ARC 1734C, IAB 11/26/14, effective 12/31/14; ARC 4828C, IAB 12/18/19, effective 1/22/20]

193—14.3(272C) Veteran reciprocity.

14.3(1) A veteran with an unrestricted professional license in another jurisdiction may apply for licensure in Iowa through reciprocity. A veteran must pass any examinations required for licensure to be eligible for licensure through reciprocity and will be given credit for examinations previously passed when consistent with board laws and rules on examination requirements. A fully completed application for licensure submitted by a veteran under this subrule shall be given priority and shall be expedited.

14.3(2) Such an application shall contain all of the information required of all applicants for licensure who hold unrestricted licenses in other jurisdictions and who are applying for licensure by reciprocity, 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. The applicant shall use the same forms as any other applicant for licensure by reciprocity and shall additionally provide such documentation as is reasonably needed to verify the applicant's status as a veteran under Iowa Code section 35.1(2).

14.3(3) Upon receipt of a fully completed licensure application, the board shall promptly determine if the professional or occupational licensing requirements of the jurisdiction where the applicant is licensed are substantially equivalent to the licensing requirements in Iowa. The board shall make this determination based on information supplied by the applicant and such additional information as the board may acquire from the applicable jurisdiction. As relevant to the license at issue, the board may consider the following factors in determining substantial equivalence: scope of practice, education and coursework, degree requirements, postgraduate experience, and examinations required for licensure.

14.3(4) The board shall promptly grant a license to the applicant if the applicant is licensed in the same or similar profession in another jurisdiction whose licensure requirements are substantially equivalent to those required in Iowa, unless the applicant is ineligible for licensure based on other grounds, for example, the applicant's disciplinary or criminal background.

14.3(5) If the board determines that the licensing requirements in the jurisdiction in which the applicant is licensed 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 in Iowa. Unless the applicant is ineligible for licensure based on other grounds, such as disciplinary or criminal background, the following shall apply:

a. If an applicant has not passed the required examination(s) for licensure, the applicant may not be issued a provisional license but may request that the licensure application be placed in pending status for up to one year or as mutually agreed to provide the applicant with the opportunity to satisfy the examination requirements.

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 for a specified period of time during which the applicant will successfully complete the necessary experience or education. The board shall issue a provisional license for a specified period of time upon such conditions as the board deems reasonably necessary to protect the health, welfare or 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 is granted.

c. If a request for a provisional license 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.

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

14.3(6) An applicant who is aggrieved by the board's decision to deny an application for a reciprocal license or a provisional license or is aggrieved by the terms under which a provisional license 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. The provisions of 193—Chapter 7 shall apply, except that no fees or costs shall be assessed against the applicant in connection with a contested case conducted pursuant to this subrule.

14.3(7) The licensure requirements for some professions regulated by the boards are very similar or identical across jurisdictions. Given federal mandates, for instance, the requirements to become certified as a real estate appraiser authorized to perform appraisals for federally related transactions are substantially the same nationwide. The requirements to become certified as a certified public accountant are also substantially equivalent nationwide as long as the certified public accountant also holds a license or permit to practice in those jurisdictions which have a two-tiered system of issuing a certificate and a separate license or permit to practice public accounting. For other professions, the applicant is encouraged to consult with board staff prior to submitting an application for reciprocal licensure to determine in advance whether there are jurisdictional variations that may impact reciprocal licensure.

[ARC 1734C, IAB 11/26/14, effective 12/31/14; ARC 4828C, IAB 12/18/19, effective 1/22/20; ARC 5573C, IAB 4/21/21, effective 5/26/21]

193—14.4(272C) Licensure by verification. Licensure by verification is available in accordance with the following:

14.4(1) Eligibility. A person may seek licensure by verification if the person is licensed in at least one other jurisdiction that has a scope of practice substantially similar to that of Iowa, and either:

- a. The person establishes residency in the state of Iowa; or
- b. The person is married to an active duty member of the military forces of the United States and is accompanying the member on an official permanent change of station to a military installation located in the state of Iowa.

14.4(2) Board application. The applicant must submit the following:

- a. A completed application for licensure by verification.
- b. Payment of the application fee.
- c. Completed fingerprint cards and a signed waiver form to facilitate a national criminal history background check, if required for initial licensure by the board.
- d. A verification form completed by the licensing authority in the jurisdiction that issued the applicant's license, verifying that the applicant's license in that jurisdiction complies with the requirements of Iowa Code section 272C.12. The completed verification form must be sent directly from the licensing authority to the board.
- e. Proof of residency in the state of Iowa or proof of military member's official permanent change of station. Proof of residency includes:
 - (1) Residential mortgage, lease, or rental agreement;
 - (2) Utility bill;
 - (3) Bank statement;
 - (4) Paycheck or pay stub;
 - (5) Property tax statement;
 - (6) A federal or state government document; or
 - (7) Any other board-approved document that reliably confirms Iowa residency.
- f. A copy of the complete criminal record, if the applicant has a criminal history.
- g. A copy of relevant disciplinary documents, if another jurisdiction has taken disciplinary action against the applicant.
- h. Copies of relevant laws setting forth the scope of practice in the other state.

14.4(3) Applicants with prior discipline. If another jurisdiction has taken disciplinary action against an applicant, the board will determine whether the cause for the disciplinary action has been corrected and the matter has been resolved. If the board determines the disciplinary matter has not been resolved, the board will neither issue a license nor deny the application for licensure until the matter is resolved.

A person who has had a license revoked, or who has voluntarily surrendered a license, in another jurisdiction is ineligible for licensure by verification.

14.4(4) *Applicants with pending licensing complaints or investigations.* If an applicant is currently the subject of a complaint, allegation, or investigation relating to unprofessional conduct pending before any regulating entity in another jurisdiction, the board will neither issue a license nor deny the application for licensure until the complaint, allegation, or investigation is resolved.

14.4(5) *Compact privileges.* A person who has a privilege to practice in Iowa by virtue of an interstate licensure compact is ineligible for licensure by verification. Licenses issued pursuant to this rule do not grant privileges to practice in any other jurisdiction pursuant to any interstate licensure compact.

14.4(6) *Determination by board.* The board shall make the determination of whether to issue a license under this rule based on information supplied by the applicant in the application and on such additional information as the board may acquire, including information or verification from other jurisdictions.

[ARC 5573C, IAB 4/21/21, effective 5/26/21]

193—14.5 and 14.6 Reserved

193—14.7(272C) Applicants with work experience in jurisdictions without licensure requirements.

14.7(1) *Work experience.* An applicant for initial licensure who has relocated to Iowa from another jurisdiction that did not require a professional license to practice in the profession may be considered to have met any educational and training requirements if the person has at least three years of work experience with a scope of practice substantially similar to that of the profession for which a license in Iowa is sought. The three years of work experience must be within the four years preceding the date of application for initial licensure. The applicant must satisfy all other requirements, including passing any required examinations, to receive a license.

14.7(2) *Required documentation.* An applicant who wishes to substitute work experience in lieu of satisfying applicable education or training requirements shall carry the burden of providing all of the following by submitting relevant documents as part of a completed license application:

- a. Proof of Iowa residency, which may include:
 - (1) Residential mortgage, lease, or rental agreement;
 - (2) Utility bill;
 - (3) Bank statement;
 - (4) Paycheck or pay stub;
 - (5) Property tax statement;
 - (6) A document issued by the federal or state government; or
 - (7) Any other board-approved document that reliably confirms Iowa residency.
- b. Proof of three or more years of work experience within the four years preceding the application for licensure, which may include:
 - (1) A letter from the applicant's prior employer documenting the dates of employment;
 - (2) Paychecks or pay stubs;
 - (3) If self-employed, business documents filed with the secretary of state; or
 - (4) Any other board-approved evidence of sufficient work experience.
- c. Proof that the work experience was in a practice with a scope of practice substantially similar to that for the license sought in Iowa, which must include:
 - (1) A written statement by the applicant detailing the scope of practice; and
 - (2) Business or marketing materials detailing the services provided.

[ARC 5573C, IAB 4/21/21, effective 5/26/21]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 272C.

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