501—3.16(80B,80D) Weapons certification.

3.16(1) Weapons certification for reserve officers. Weapons training is not required for any weapons a reserve officer is not authorized to carry. The process to apply for a weapons certification from the council is as follows.

a. Application process. The reserve officer will submit a complete application for weapons certification to the council.

(1) The application will be on the approved form.

(2) The application will include confirmation that the applicant is of good moral character as defined in 501—subrule 2.1(5), verified by a fingerprint-based criminal history record check completed within 30 days of receipt of the application.

b. Temporary weapons certification. A temporary weapons certification may be granted upon completion of the approved curriculum taught by a qualified instructor for each authorized weapon. A qualified instructor will hold the correct practical skills endorsement or be an approved instructor for a third-party vendor when an endorsement is not offered by the council.

(1) The director may grant initial approval for a temporary weapons certification if the reserve officer meets the eligibility criteria, which will be confirmed by the council.

(2) The temporary weapons certification will expire on the earliest of the following dates:

1. The date the reserve officer successfully completes reserve officer training;
2. The deadline by which the reserve officer is required to complete reserve officer training including any council-approved extensions;
3. The end of the reserve officer's appointment; or
4. The council approves a permanent weapons certification.

c. Permanent weapons certification. A permanent weapons certification expires when a reserve officer ends their employment with the employing agency and begins on the date:

(1) The reserve officer successfully completes reserve officer training and a reserve officer certification is issued; or

(2) The council confirms the weapons certification for a certified reserve officer.

3.16(2) Weapons certifications for law enforcement officers serving as reserve officers. Certified law enforcement officers may be certified to carry weapons as reserve officers without repeating the required weapons training. The process to apply for a weapons certification from the council is as follows.

a. Application process. The law enforcement officer will submit a complete application for weapons certification on the approved form to the council.

(1) The application will include confirmation that the academy has approved the law enforcement officer's report of hire as a reserve officer.

(2) The application will include confirmation that the law enforcement officer has successfully completed the training curriculum for each weapon for which approval is requested.

(3) A law enforcement officer seeking approval for firearms will also provide the following:

1. Confirmation that the law enforcement officer has fired a qualifying score of 80 percent or higher on an academy-approved course of fire within the past 12 months that was conducted by another law enforcement officer having a firearms instructor endorsement; and
2. Confirmation that firearms training was successfully completed under the law enforcement officer's Iowa certifying course; and
3. Confirmation that the individual is serving as a law enforcement officer for another department at the time of appointment as a reserve officer, or served as a law enforcement officer within 12 months immediately preceding appointment as a reserve officer.

b. Temporary weapons certification. The director may grant initial approval for a temporary weapons certification if the law enforcement officer meets the eligibility criteria.

c. Final weapons certification. A final weapons certification will be issued upon confirmation by the council.

3.16(3) A certified reserve officer with a weapons certification transferring to a new law enforcement agency with a less than 180-day break in service will complete an application to carry weapons for the new

agency and file the application with the academy within 30 days of the transfer. Failure to timely complete the weapons application will require weapons certification training and qualification.

3.16(4) A certified reserve officer with a break in service greater than 180 days will complete weapons certification training and provide confirmation as provided in paragraph 3.16(1)*"a."*

3.16(5) A reserve officer serving more than one Iowa law enforcement agency at the same time will be certified by the council to carry weapons for each agency in compliance with Iowa Code section 80D.7. The reserve officer need not complete weapons training for each agency, but all agencies will maintain duplicate training records for the reserve officer.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 80B.13(3), 80D.3, 80D.4, 80D.4A, and 80D.7.

[**ARC 0729D**, IAB 11/11/26, effective 1/1/27]