



REPORT to the IOWA LEGISLATURE

On the Home Base Iowa Initiative

By the Iowa Department of Public Safety

Report Period: January 1, 2020 through December 15, 2020

Iowa Code § 272C.4(13)

Beginning December 15, 2016, annually file a report with the governor and the general assembly providing information and statistics on credit received by individuals for education, training, and service pursuant to subsection 11 and information and statistics on licenses and provisional licenses issued pursuant to subsection 12.

Overview

On May 26, 2014, Governor Terry Branstad signed Senate File 303, known as the Home Base Iowa Act, into law. The provisions of the Act included allowing credit toward licensure for relevant military training and experience, expedited licensing and reciprocity for veterans who were licensed in other states, and a requirement that each licensing board file an annual report with the Governor and Legislature. The purpose of the report is to provide data on credit received by veterans for education, training, and service and offer information on licenses and provisional licenses issued pursuant to the Act. The provisions relevant to the Department of Public Safety appear in Iowa Code § 272C.4.

Electrical Examining Board Members

The members of the Electrical Examining Board are appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 103.2(2), the members must represent different areas and groups of the electrical profession:

The current members are:

Vacant, public utility representative,
Vacant, journeyman electrician,
Marg Stoldorf, public member—non-union, Red Oak (Chair),
John Claeys, electrical inspector, Blue Grass,
Tim Gerald, electrical contractor—union, Des Moines,
Todd Cash, master electrician—non-union, Mason City, (Vice Chair)
Dan Wood, State Fire Marshal, Waukee,
Robert Hendricks, building official, Winterset,
Vacant, public member,
Colby Black, journeyman electrician—non-union, Rhodes

Rulemaking

Pursuant to the requirements of the Act, in March 2015, the Electrical Examining Board adopted new administrative rules which provided for credit for appropriate military training and also allowed for expedited licensing and reciprocity for veterans. The licensing requirements for electrician licenses are established by rule. Appropriate electrical training received in the military can be accepted as credit toward the requirements for licensing. The administrative rules previously adopted also provide assistance to veterans by tolling the licensing renewal periods for the time the veteran is on active duty.

In July 2019, an administrative rule providing licensure credit and reciprocity for veterans was established for fire extinguishing and alarm system contractors and installers.

Licensing Authority of the Iowa Department of Public Safety

The Electrical Examining Board is created in the division of State Fire Marshal in the Department of Public Safety, pursuant to Iowa Code section 103.2.

Home Base Iowa Report of the Electrical Examining Board

For the 2020 reporting period, there were eight (8) veterans who requested credit for military electrical training in their application for licensing as an electrician, and eight (8) of the applicants were granted licenses. Twenty-four (24) veterans requested reciprocity and fourteen (14) qualified for licensure and were licensed. According to Electrical Examining Board data, there are approximately 1,390 active electricians who are veterans.

Other licensing authority of the Department of Public Safety

The Department of Public Safety also has licensing authority as an agency. The Department has authority to issue licenses or certifications in the following occupations: private investigation, private security, bail enforcement, alarm system contractors and installers, fire suppression and fire alarm system contractors and installers, commercial explosives, and explosive blasters. These activities are administered within the Department and not by a licensing board.

For the fire suppression, fire alarm, and alarm system contractors and installers, some military training and qualifications would also serve as qualifications for the appropriate license or certification. For the 2020 reporting period, there were fifty (50) veterans who were issued licenses in these occupations. Although none of the fifty (50) applicants had qualifying military training, all fifty (50) were granted licenses as follows:


- 7 Fire Extinguishing RME (Responsible Managing Employee)
- 17 Fire Protection Installer & Maintenance Worker
- 3 Alarm System RME
- 12 Alarm System Installer

For the commercial explosives and individual blasters, there were nine (9) applicants for an individual blaster license, and the applicants did not have qualifying military training. However, they all were granted a license.

- 9 Individual Blaster

For the private investigation, private security and bail enforcement, there are no licensing requirements for which military experience could receive credit.

The Iowa Department of Public Safety fully supports the Home Base Iowa program and looks forward to supporting veterans who would like to make their home in Iowa.



Stephan K. Bayens, Commissioner
Iowa Department of Public Safety