

801—7.2 (35A,35B) County commission of veteran affairs training program. The department shall provide training for county veteran service officers in accordance with Iowa Code section 35A.5(9) as amended by 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1130, and Iowa Code section 35A.17 as enacted by 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1130.

7.2(1) Training provided by the department shall meet the continuing education requirements as established by NACVSO and shall ensure that each officer and support staff are proficient in the use of electronic mail, computers, and the Internet in order to access information regarding facilities, benefits, and services available to veterans and their families.

7.2(2) A county veteran service officer shall attend and support staff may attend an annual school of instruction provided by the department or a national school of accreditation provided by NACVSO. After attending the annual school of instruction or national school of accreditation, the county veteran service officer must present to the department a certificate of satisfactory completion of national accreditation training from NACVSO. The department shall certify the possession of a document indicating that the county veteran service officer has completed a course of accreditation and satisfactorily passed an examination for NACVSO accreditation. County veteran service officers shall be certified by the department by June 30, 2010, or within one year from the date of appointment.

7.2(3) A county veteran service officer shall maintain certification to remain in office.

a. To maintain certification, a county veteran service officer shall attend an annual school of instruction and meet the continuing education requirements of NACVSO for accreditation. The department shall issue an Iowa certificate of training to the county veteran service officer upon completion of the NACVSO continuing education requirements or upon issuance of a certificate of accreditation by NACVSO.

b. Attendance at training courses sponsored and directed by veterans organizations other than the department or NACVSO may be substituted for the annual school of instruction if the training is sufficient to meet NACVSO accreditation continuing education requirements.

c. County veteran service officers who fail to become accredited by June 30, 2010, or within one year of beginning their employment as provided for in Iowa Code section 35B.6 as amended by 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter 1130, and 2009 Iowa Acts, House File 283, shall be removed from their position by the chair of the county commission of veteran affairs. Knowing violation of this provision constitutes noncompliance as provided in paragraph 7.1(4) “c,” and individuals who knowingly fail to comply may be charged with a serious misdemeanor for nonfelonious misconduct in office as provided by Iowa Code section 721.2(6).

7.2(4) The annual school of instruction and all associated training materials will be provided at the expense of the department.

7.2(5) Travel and lodging expenses incurred while attending the annual school of instruction shall be covered by the respective county.

7.2(6) The executive director shall maintain documentation regarding the school of instruction including, but not limited to, agendas, presentation dates, attendees, certificate of satisfactory completion of accreditation or continuing education training, and the issuance of certificates of training.

7.2(7) Inquiries regarding an annual school of instruction shall be directed to the executive director at the address set out in 801—subrule 1.3(1). The executive director shall answer such inquiries.

7.2(8) Disputes regarding the annual school of instruction, certificates of training, and related matters shall be reviewed by the chairperson of the commission, who will render a decision within 10 days of receipt of all relevant facts and supporting materials. Disputes that are not resolved by the chairperson shall be referred to the commission. Members of the commission will render a decision within 20 days of receipt of all relevant facts and supporting materials. The decision of the commission shall be final.