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RULE ADOPTIONS
LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Adopted New Rule: N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.19

Credit Towards Licensure for Education, Training, and Experience Received While Serving as a Member of the Armed Forces

Proposed: October 20, 2014, at 46 N.J.R. 2084(a).

Adopted: March 11, 2015, by the State Board of Medical Examiners, Dr. Stewart Berkowitz, President.

Filed: June 2, 2015, as R.2015 d.109, **without change**.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:1-15 and 45:9-2 and P.L. 2013, c. 49.

Effective Date: July 6, 2015.

Expiration Date: May 3, 2018.

Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:

The official comment period ended on December 19, 2014. In order to ensure compliance with P.L. 2013, c. 259, the comment period was extended through January 4, 2015. **The Board of Medical Examiners and Physician Assistant Advisory Committee received no comments.**

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because the adopted new rule is governed by P.L. 2013, c. 49 and N.J.S.A. 45:9-2, and is not subject to any Federal requirements or standards.

Full text of the adopted new rule follows:

13:35-2B.19 Credit towards licensure for education, training, and experience received while serving as a member of the Armed Forces

(a) An applicant who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States (Armed Forces) and who does not meet all of the training, education, and experience requirements for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.5 may apply to the Board for recognition of the applicant's training, education, or experience received while serving as a member of the Armed Forces, which the Board shall consider, together with any training, education, and

experience obtained outside of the Armed Forces, for determining substantial equivalence to the training, education, and experience required for licensure.

(b) The Board shall issue a license to the applicant, if the applicant presents evidence to the Board that:

1. The applicant has been honorably discharged from active military service;
2. The relevant training, experience, and education the applicant received in the military, together with any training, education, and experience obtained outside of the Armed Forces, is substantially equivalent in scope and character to the training, experience, and education required for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.5.
 - i. An applicant seeking credit for military training and experience shall submit to the Board the applicant's Verification of Military Experience and Training (VMET) Document, DD Form 2586 or a successor form, as amended and supplemented.
 - ii. An applicant seeking credit for education courses and/or training completed while in the military who has not successfully completed an education program for physician assistants that is approved by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA), or its successor, shall submit to the Board a Joint Services Transcript of his or her education/training for a determination that the education courses and/or training completed are substantially equivalent in level, scope, and intent to the educational requirements under N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.5. For the purpose of determining substantial equivalence of the applicant's military education and/or training, the Board shall consider only those education courses and/or training relevant to the practice of a physician assistant that have been evaluated by the American Council on Education for substantial equivalence to civilian postsecondary curricula; and
3. The applicant complies with all other requirements for licensure, including successful completion of the examination administered by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA), or its successor, as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.5.

(c) It is the applicant's responsibility to provide timely and complete evidence of the education, training, and/or service gained in the military for review and consideration.

(d) If the applicant's military training, education, or experience, or a portion thereof, is not deemed to be substantially equivalent to that required for licensure, the Board shall credit whatever portion of the military training, education, or experience that is substantially equivalent towards meeting the requirements under N.J.A.C. 13:35-2B.5 for the issuance of the license.

(e) Satisfactory evidence of such education, training, or service shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis.