Adopted New Rule: N.J.A.C. 13:44H-3.3

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

Proposed: November 17, 2014, at 46 N.J.R. 2269(a).

Adopted: March 19, 2015, by the Orthotics and Prosthetics Board of Examiners, Heikki Uustal, M.D., Chair.

Filed: April 21, 2015, as R.2015 d.080, **without change**.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:12B-26 and P.L. 2013, c. 49.

Effective Date: May 18, 2015.

Expiration Date: December 3, 2015.

Summary of Public Comments and Agency Responses follows:

The official comment period ended January 16, 2015. **The Board received no comments.**

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis is not required because there are no Federal laws or standards applicable to the adopted new rule.

Full text of the adoption follows:

13:44H-3.3   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. 13:44H-3.1, 3.2, or 3.5 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, education, and experience 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, education, and experience required for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:44H-3.1, 3.2, or 3.5.

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.

ii. An applicant seeking credit for education courses and/or training completed while in the military 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 program required for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:44H-3.1, 3.2, or 3.5. For the purpose of determining substantial equivalence of the applicant's military education or training, the Board shall consider only those education or training courses relevant to the practice of orthotics and/or prosthetics that have been evaluated by the American Council on Education for substantial equivalence to civilian orthotics and/or prosthetics education; and

3. The applicant complies with all other requirements for licensure, including successful completion of the licensing examination.

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

(d) If the applicant's military training, education, and 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, and experience that is substantially equivalent towards meeting the requirements under N.J.A.C. 13:44H-3.1, 3.2, or 3.5 for the issuance of the license.

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