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ISSUE DATE: **AUGUST 17, 2015**
RULE ADOPTIONS
LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MORTUARY SCIENCE

Adopted New Rule: N.J.A.C. 13:36-3.10

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

Proposed: December 1, 2014, at 46 N.J.R. 2321(a).

Adopted: April 7, 2015, by the State Board of Mortuary Science, James J. Marroco, President.

Filed: July 17, 2015, as R.2015 d.131, **without change**.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:1-15 and 45:7-38 and P.L. 2013, c. 49.

Effective Date: August 17, 2015.

[page=2155] Expiration Date: November 14, 2018.

Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:

The official comment period ended on January 30, 2015. **The Board of Mortuary Science (Board) received no comments on the notice of proposal.**

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. 45:7-38, and is not subject to any Federal requirements or standards.

Full text of the adopted new rule follows:

13:36-3.10 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. 13:36-3.1 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/or 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/or education the applicant received in the military, together with any training, education, and/or 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. 13:36-3.1.
 - i. An applicant seeking credit for military training, and/or 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 that are not taken at a college or university approved by the Commission on Higher Education shall submit to the Board a Joint Services Transcript of his or her education courses and/or training for a determination that the education courses and/or training completed are substantially equivalent in level, scope, and intent to those courses and/or training in a school approved by the Commission on Higher Education as required for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:36-3.1. For the purpose of determining substantial equivalence of the applicant's military education courses and/or training, the Board shall consider only those courses and/or training relevant to the practice of mortuary science that have been evaluated by the American Council on Education for substantial equivalence to civilian postsecondary curricula.
 - iii. An applicant seeking credit for education courses and/or training completed while in the military that are not part of a school of mortuary science approved by the American Board of Funeral Service Education shall submit to the Board a Joint Services Transcript of his or her education courses and/or training for a determination that the education courses and/or training completed are substantially equivalent in level, scope, and intent to those in a school of mortuary science approved by the American Board of Funeral Service Education as required for licensure under N.J.A.C. 13:36-3.1. For the purpose of determining substantial equivalence of the applicant's military education courses and/or training, the Board shall consider only those education courses and/or training relevant to the practice of mortuary science 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 National Board Examination, the Mortuary Jurisprudence examination, and the practical examination as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:36-3.1.
 - (c) It is the applicant's responsibility to provide timely and complete evidence of the education, training, 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. 13:36-3.1 for the issuance of the license.
 - (e) Satisfactory evidence of such education, training, and experience shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis.