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ISSUE DATE: **APRIL 20, 2015**
RULE ADOPTIONS

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

Adopted New Rule: N.J.A.C. 13:39A-5.10

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. 2085(a).

Adopted: February 24, 2015, by the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, Karen E. Wilk, P.T., Chairperson.

Filed: March 24, 2015, as R.2015 d.067, **without change**.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 45:9-37.18 and P.L. 2013, c. 49.

Effective Date: April 20, 2015.

Expiration Date: November 15, 2020.

Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:

The official comment period ended 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 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:

13:39A-5.10 Credit towards licensure for education, training, and experience received while serving as a member of the Armed Forces

(a) An applicant for a license as a physical therapist assistant 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. 13:39A-5.2 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 physical therapist assistant 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. 13:39A-5.2.
 - 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 or certification under N.J.A.C. 13:39A-5.2. 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 physical therapist assistant practice that have been evaluated by the American Council on Education for substantial equivalence to civilian physical therapy education; and
3. The applicant complies with all other requirements for licensure, including successful completion of the National Physical Therapy Examination for Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants and the State jurisprudence 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 as a physical therapist assistant, 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. 13:39A-5.2 for the issuance of the physical therapist assistant license.

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