

Business and Professions Code, Section 35 Licensure Applications from Military Veterans

The Legislature is conducting a study of which Boards and Bureaus permit military training and education to be used to meet the necessary qualifications for licensure. These questions are rooted in Section 35 of the Business and Professions Code, which became law in 1994. The code states:

It is the policy of this state that, consistent with the provision of high-quality services, persons with skills, knowledge, and experience obtained in the armed services of the United States should be permitted to apply this learning and contribute to the employment needs of the state at the maximum level of responsibility and skill for which they are qualified.

*To this end, **rules and regulations of boards** provided for in this code **shall provide for methods of evaluating education, training, and experience obtained in the armed services if applicable to the requirements of the business, occupation, or profession regulated.***

These rules and regulations shall also specify how this education, training, and experience may be used to meet the licensure requirements for the articular business, occupation, or profession regulated.

Each board shall consult with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Military Department (California National Guard) before adopting these rules and regulations.

Each board shall perform the duties required by this section within existing budgetary resources of the agency within which the board operates.

The questions are:

1. ***Has your Board/Bureau enacted rules or regulations allowing military experience to be used to meet professional licensure requirements? NO.***
 - If yes, please include a cut and paste of the specific rule/regulation.*
 - If no such rule or regulation exists, please include a schedule of when such a rule/regulation would be adopted or include an explanation of why your board/bureau will not be adopting any such language.*

RESPONSE: On July 2012 agenda for discussion.

2. ***If your Board/Bureau does not accept military experience to qualify for licensure, please explain why.***

RESPONSE: Licensure as a veterinarian in California and the United States is based on education alone. Certification as a registered veterinary technician may be based on a combination of education and work experience completed under certain conditions whether it is military or otherwise – work/directed clinical experience performed under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed in California, United States, Canada and/or U.S. territories.

2. ***Please include and interaction your Board/Bureau has had with the California Department of Veterans Affairs and/or the Military Department (California National Guard).*** NONE

3. ***Samples of other boards' regulations:***

Board of Psychology, Title 16, CCR Section 1387.4(b)

Permits supervised professional experience to be accrued at a U.S. military installation so long as the experience is supervised by a qualified psychologist licensed at the doctoral level in the U.S. or Canada.

Board of Registered Nursing, BPC Section 2736.5; Title 16, CCR Section 1418.

Permits an applicant who has served on active duty in the medical corps of the armed forces who has completed the training required as an independent medical service technician or equivalent rating, and whose service has been under honorable conditions to submit his or her record to the board for evaluation. The board evaluates the following:

- Whether the education provided the knowledge and skills necessary to function in accordance with California's minimum standards for competency
- Whether the education meets the same theory and clinical qualifications required for California registered nurses
- Whether the applicant's education and experience would give reasonable assurance of competence to practice as a registered nurse in California

If the applicant meets all of those conditions, he or she would be granted a license upon passing the examination.