



**Report on Recognizing and Accepting Military Training for Licensing of
Practitioners Regulated by the
Connecticut Department of Public Health**

State of Connecticut

December 2016

OVERVIEW

Public Act 14-131, An Act Concerning the Findings of the Military Occupational Specialty Task Force, was signed into law by Governor Malloy in June, 2014. The Public Act requires various state governmental entities to certify, waive, grant, or award certain licenses, registrations, examinations, training or credit for Veterans, armed forces or National Guard members with military experience or qualifications similar to those otherwise required.

Additionally, the Public Act mandates that by January 1, 2015, each licensing authority as defined in the Act, to submit an annual report to the Veterans' Affairs Committee of the General Assembly and the Department of Labor regarding certain data associated with service members' applications for licenses, certificates or permits.

REQUIRED ELEMENTS

The following provides the information required for licenses, permits and certificates issued by the Department of Public Health (DPH):

Number of services members who applied for a military training evaluation: 0

The number of service members whose application for a license, a certificate, a registration or an educational credit where military training or experience is relevant and could be applied was approved: 29

The number of service members whose application for a license, a certificate, a registration or an educational credit was denied: 0

Processing time for applications that are within such licensing authority's purview where military training or experience is relevant: 26 days¹

Average processing time for all applications: 63 days

RECOMMENDATIONS

Professional licenses issued by the Department of Public Health are primarily healthcare related (physicians, nurses, dentists, psychologists, etc). Although in some circumstances, the Armed Forces may send a member to an accredited institution of higher education to complete civilian education and become licensed, the Armed Forces primarily recruit and train appropriately educated and licensed healthcare providers and trains them to be members of a military unit whose mission is to provide medical care to its Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen. With the exception of nurse aides and emergency medical services personnel, all of the professional license types issued by DPH do not have an equivalent military training component one would complete as a member of the Armed Forces.

Military trained medics and corpsman complete equivalent training required for nurse aide certification. Upon completion of the required examination, a military trained medic or corpsman qualifies for registration as a Connecticut nurse aide.

Additionally, military trained medics complete training that is equivalent to that required by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and upon completion are required to

¹ Applicants for license have already completed the required examination. This type of applicant will not need to wait for the next available examination. That is why processing times are shorter.

become registered by the by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT). Current Connecticut Public Health Code regulations allow for applicants to be issued certification or licensure provided the applicant is certified by the NREMT in the appropriate discipline.

As most healthcare provider members of the Armed Forces are appropriately educated, trained and licensed prior to entering military service, DPH does not have any recommendations regarding changes to the existing statutory and regulatory structure. The General Statutes and Public Health Code already provide the statutory and regulatory authority to allow DPH to issue nurse aide and EMS personnel certification to Armed Forces trained medics and corpsman.

DPH recommends that the Committee consider defining the timeframe from when the Veteran separates from military service to the date of application for licensure. Applicants who have been separated from service for a significant period of time may need to complete a period of refresher training prior to resuming professional practice.