

1 **3.4 Alternative Certification Application Procedure for Military Spouses, Military Service**
2 **Member, and Veterans**

3 (a) Pursuant to Chapter 55 of the Occupations Code, the Commission must grant ~~credit toward~~
4 ~~certification, registration, or a license to~~ and licensing requirements for relevant verified
5 ~~military service education, training, and experience earned by a military service member,~~
6 ~~or a military veteran, or military spouse who applies for certification, registration, or~~
7 ~~licensure. The Commission may withhold credit from a military service member or veteran~~
8 ~~who~~ currently holds, in good standing, a restricted certification, registration, or license,
9 similar in scope of practice, issued by another state jurisdiction or has an unacceptable
10 ~~criminal history. The Commission must issue a certification, registration, or license to a~~
11 military service member, military veteran, or a military spouse who within the five years
12 preceding the application date, held a certification, registration, or license in this State.

13 (b) The Commission must expedite applications for certification, registration, and licensure
14 which are filed by military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.

15 ~~(c) The Commission may issue a certification, registration, or license to an applicant who is a~~
16 ~~military service member, the spouse of a military service member, or a military veteran~~
17 ~~and:~~

18 ~~(1) holds a current certification, registration, or license issued by another state that has~~
19 ~~requirements that are substantially equivalent to the requirements for the~~
20 ~~certification, registration, or license; or~~

21 ~~(2) within the five years preceding the application date, held a certification,~~
22 ~~registration, or license in this State.~~

23 ~~(d) The Commission may allow an applicant who meets the requirements of (c) to demonstrate~~
24 ~~competency by alternative methods or credentials in order to meet the requirements for~~
25 ~~obtaining a particular certification, registration, or license issued by the Commission. For~~
26 ~~purposes of this Section, the standard methods of demonstrating competency are the~~
27 ~~specific exam, education, and experience required to obtain a particular certification,~~
28 ~~registration, or license.~~

1 ~~(e)~~ In lieu of the standard methods of demonstrating competency for a particular certification,
2 registration, or license and based on the applicant's circumstances, the alternative methods
3 for demonstrating competency may include any combination of the following as
4 determined by the Commission:

5 ~~(1)~~ education;

6 ~~(2)~~ continuing education;

7 ~~(3)~~ examinations (written or skills);

8 ~~(4)~~ letters of good standing;

9 ~~(5)~~ letters of recommendation;

10 ~~(6)~~ work experience; or

11 ~~(7)~~ other methods or credentials required by the Commission.

12 ~~(c)(f)~~ The applicant must:

13 (1) submit an application and proof of the requirements under this rule and for that
14 particular certification, registration, or license on a form and in a manner prescribed
15 by the Commission; and

16 (2) be subject to the same criminal history background check required of the persons
17 applying for that particular certification, registration, or license.

18 ~~(d)(g)~~ A person who applies for a certification, registration, or license under this rule is exempt
19 from paying an application fee.

20 ~~(e)(h)~~ Military Spouse Temporary Authorization.

21 (1) The Commission must issue a military spouse written confirmation that the military
22 spouse may engage temporarily in a regulated practice without certification,
23 registration, or licensure, upon:

24 (A) receipt of written notice from the military spouse of the intent to engage in
25 the regulated practice in Texas;

1 (B) receipt of a copy of the military spouse's marriage license ~~military~~
2 ~~identification card and proof of residency in Texas~~, including a copy of the
3 permanent change of station order for the military service member to whom
4 the spouse is married, ~~including a copy of the permanent change of station~~
5 ~~order for the military service member to whom the spouse is married~~; and

6 (C) verification that the military spouse is certified, registered, or licensed in
7 good standing in another jurisdiction that has certification, registration, or
8 licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the Commission's
9 requirements.

10 (2) A military spouse engaging temporarily in a regulated practice is entitled to all the
11 rights and privileges and subject to all the obligations and responsibilities of a
12 regulated person, and may be sanctioned or disciplined in the same manner as a
13 regulated person.

14 (3) Written authorization to engage temporarily in a regulated practice without
15 certification, registration, or licensure is valid until the earliest of the following:

16 (A) the military service member to whom the military spouse is married is no
17 longer stationed at a military installation in Texas;

18 (B) three years after the date of issuance of written confirmation, if the end of
19 the military spouse's marriage to the military service member ends; or

20 (C) the imposition of a disciplinary sanction; ~~or~~

21 ~~(D) — three years from the date of issuance of written confirmation.~~

22 (4) A military spouse cannot renew a temporary authorization but may obtain a
23 certification, registration, or license from the Commission pursuant to these Rules.
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