



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

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September 24, 2014

The Honorable Brian Boquist
Senate Interim Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness
900 Court St NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Chair Boquist:

HB 4057 (2014) required the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission to report to the interim committees with jurisdiction over military and veteran's affairs regarding implementation of:

- Section 1a, chapter 43, Oregon Laws 2012: Permitting applicants who were certified instructors for the Armed Forces of the United States and who apply for initial or basic teaching licenses to provide documentation of substantially equivalent military training or experience to meet certain training requirement for licensure; and
- Section 2, chapter 351, Oregon Laws 2013: Requiring the commission to establish by rule an expedited process by which military spouses or domestic partner who is licensed to teach in another state may apply for and obtain an initial or basic teaching license.

As required by Section 2, chapter 351, Oregon Laws 2013, TSPC adopted a rule establishing an expedited educator licensure process for military spouses. This rule was adopted as a temporary rule in November 2013 and as a permanent rule in March 2014. Below is a copy of the TSPC rule for the expedited process for military spouses. (*The relevant sections are in bold text.*)

584-036-0070

Expedited Service for Military Spouses and Emergency License

(1) **Except for Military Spouse or Military Domestic Partners applicants**, expedited service may only be requested for true emergencies under the following circumstances:

(a) For a District's Request for an Emergency License: An employer and an applicant may jointly request an emergency license or other eligible license by expedited service by submitting a license application, which must include the C-1 and C-3 forms, accompanied by the regular application fee and an expedited service fee pursuant to OAR 584-036-0055.

(A) A C-3 form submitted by a district is invalid until a completed application and all fees are submitted related to the emergency request.

(B) Incomplete applications are not subject to the 48 hour turn around provision in ORS 342.125.

(C) Once a completed application is received by the Commission, the license will be issued within 48 hours.



(b) Qualified applicants will be authorized to perform all duties of the position as defined on the license upon receipt of the emergency license issued by the Commission. Eligibility for the emergency license and any future licensure is conditional upon determination that all requirements for the non-emergency license have been met.

(c) For Applications from Military Spouses or Military Domestic Partners: As used in this section: A qualifying applicant for an expedited application is a military spouse or domestic partner of an active member of the Armed Forces of the United States who holds a current license from another state and has been subject to a military transfer to Oregon within the twelve months prior to the application for licensure.

(A) The applicant must submit a complete application as described by Commission rule in divisions 60, 70 or 80, including evidence of the spousal or domestic relationship, evidence of the recent military transfer, the fee for an out-of-state evaluation and a fee for expedited service.

(B) A qualifying applicant will only be eligible for an equivalent license issued by the Commission based on demonstrated competency.

(C) An applicant who has been subject to discipline in another state against any educator certificate, license or charter school registration is not eligible for licensure under this section if the conduct would bar any applicant from licensure as an educator in the state of Oregon.

(2) Situations not eligible for Emergency Licensure requests include:

(a) Renewal applications within the 120 days grace period;

(b) New Oregon Applicants eligible for Fast-Track processing pursuant to OAR 584-010-0090; or

(c) Failure to meet renewal or upgrade requirements such as required coursework or continuing professional development.

(3) The Commission may limit the number of applications from an employing district to a maximum of one hundred (100) in any two-day period.

(4) The fee to expedite an application for a military spouse is the same as the fee to expedite an application requested by a district.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 342

Stats. Implemented: ORS 342.125 & 342.127

Hist.: TSPC 4-2006(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 2-3-06 thru 8-2-06; TSPC 9-2006, f. & cert. ef. 6-15-06; TSPC 4-2013(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 11-14-13 thru 5-13-14; TSPC 2-2014, f. & cert. ef. 3-15-14

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Implementation of Military Spouses and Military Instructor Provisions:

At present, the agency does not have a data system that permits tracking of licensure applications by specific applicant details, such as military spouses or certified instructors of the Armed Forces. The agency is currently pursuing a data system upgrade through the Department of Administrative Services and its contractor, NIC systems. If TSPC is able to go forward with this new data system, it will have the ability to track application by various characteristics, including military categories. As an alternative, TSPC surveyed its licensure evaluation staff on this matter. To this date, staff cannot recall processing any licensure applications from persons associated with the military and affected by the military provisions of Section 1a, chapter 43, Oregon Laws 2012 or Section 2, chapter 351, Oregon Laws 2013.

Respectfully,



Vickie Chamberlain
Director
Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

cc: Cheyenne Ross, Committee Administrator