TITLE 16   OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
CHAPTER 16   OPTOMETRIC PRACTITIONERS
PART 25   LICENSURE FOR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS, SPOUSES AND VETERANS

16.16.25.1   ISSUING AGENCY: New Mexico Board of Optometry.
[16.16.25.1 NMAC - N, 04-24-2014]

16.16.25.2   SCOPE: Part 25 of Chapter 16 sets forth application procedures to expedite licensure for military service members, their spouses and veterans.
[16.16.25.2 NMAC - N, 04-24-2014]

16.16.25.3   STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Part 25 of Chapter 16 is promulgated pursuant to and in accordance with the Optometry Act, Sections 61-2-1 to -18 NMSA 1978 (specific authority to promulgate rules is 61-2-6(D)(2) and, Section 61-1-34 NMSA 1978.
[16.16.25.3 NMAC - N, 04-24-2014]

16.16.25.4   DURATION: Permanent.
[16.16.25.4 NMAC - N 04-24-2014]

16.16.25.5   EFFECTIVE DATE: April 24, 2014, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.
[16.16.25.5 NMAC - N, 04-24-2014]

16.16.25.6   OBJECTIVE: The objective of Part 25 of Chapter 16 is to expedite licensure for military service members, their spouses and veterans pursuant to Section 61-1-34 NMSA 1978.
[16.16.25.6 NMAC - N, 04-24-2014]

16.16.25.7   DEFINITIONS:
          A.   **"Military service member"** means a person who is serving in the armed forces of the United States or in an active reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, including the national guard.
          B.   **"Recent veteran"** means a person who has received an honorable discharge or separation from military service within the two years immediately preceding the date the person applied for an occupational or professional license pursuant to this section.
[16.16.25.7 NMAC - N, 04-24-2014]

16.16.25.8   APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:
          A.   Applications for registration shall be completed on a form provided by the board.
          B.   The applicant shall provide:
              (1)   a completed application and corresponding fee pursuant to 16.16.6 NMAC and 16.16.4 NMAC;
              (2)   satisfactory evidence that the applicant is currently licensed in another jurisdiction, including a branch of armed forces of the United States, and holds a current license in good standing; the applicant further must provide satisfactory evidence that he has met the minimal licensing requirements in that jurisdiction and that they are substantially equivalent to the licensing requirements for New Mexico licensees in optometry; and
              (3)   proof of honorable discharge (DD214), military ID card, or accepted proof of military spouse status.
[16.16.25.8 NMAC - N, 04-24-2014]

16.16.25.9   LICENSE RENEWAL:
          A.   A license issued pursuant to this section shall not be renewed until the licensee satisfies the requirements for issuance of a license set forth in 16.16.6 NMAC and for the renewal of a license set forth in 16.16.10 NMAC.
          B.   A license issued pursuant to this section shall be valid for one year or until July 1, whichever comes first.
          C.   The board office mails license renewal notifications at least 45 days before the license expiration date. Failure to receive the renewal notification shall not relieve the licensee of the responsibility to timely renew the license by the expiration date.
          D.   The renewal application will be available online at the board's website at

www.optometrybd@state.nm.us. For an additional fee, paper applications may be requested in person or by telephoning the board office at 505-476-4622.

      E.   To renew a license, the licensee must submit a completed license renewal application, verification of continuing education, a current CPR certification and the applicable fee at time of renewal. The licensee shall also submit proof of passing NBEO parts I, II, and III and must pass the New Mexico optometry board exam at its next regularly scheduled examination date. All New Mexico licensed optometrists must comply with the provisions of 16.16.7 NMAC and 16.16.8 NMAC, to be certified and qualified to dispense and prescribe controlled dangerous substances, and must have first registered with the board of pharmacy and the United States drug enforcement administration to obtain the proper DEA registration.

[16.16.25.9 NMAC - N, 04-24-2014]

HISTORY OF 16.16.25 NMAC: [RESERVED]