

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Teleconference Minutes
Monday, June 26, 2017 – 9:30 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine met via teleconference on Monday, June 26, 2017. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Dr. Henry Bohn, Chairperson
Dr. John Sundstrom, Vice Chair
Dr. Larry Corry, Board Member
Dr. Edsel Davis, Board Member
Dr. Beckey Malphus, Board Member
Mr. Nic Haynes, Consumer Member

Staff Present

Ms. Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Ms. Michelle Foster, Board Support Specialist
Ms. Kathy Osier, Licensing Supervisor

Attorney General's Office

Ms. Betsy Cohen, Assistant Attorney General

Board Members Absent

No members absent.

Visitors Present

No visitors present.

Call to Order: Dr. Bohn established a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Board accepted the agenda as presented.

9:30 a.m. Public Rules Hearing

a) Board Rule 700-4-.01 Temporary License: Military Spouses and Transitioning Service Members

Dr. Bohn called the hearing in the matter of Board Rule 700-4-.01 Temporary License: Military Spouses and Transitioning Service Members hearing to order at 9:33 a.m. Members of the Board introduced themselves for the record and Dr. Bohn established that there were no members of the general public present.

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE RULE FOR CHAPTER 700-4, TEMPORARY LICENSE, RULE 700-4-.01, TEMPORARY LICENSE: MILITARY SPOUSES AND TRANSITIONING SERVICE MEMBERS.

Purpose: All Professional Licensing Boards have been mandated by O.C.G.A. § 43-1-34 Military Spouses and Veterans Licensure to adopt rules and regulations implementing a process by which military spouses and transitioning service members may qualify for temporary licenses, licenses by endorsement, expedited licenses, or a combination thereof no later than July 1, 2017.

Main Features: The rule will further clarify the means by which military spouses and transitioning service members may qualify for temporary licenses, licenses by endorsement, expedited licenses.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE RULE FOR 700-4, TEMPORARY LICENSE, RULE 700-4-.01, TEMPORARY LICENSE: MILITARY SPOUSES AND TRANSITIONING SERVICE MEMBERS.

[Note: underlined text is proposed to be added; lined-through text is proposed to be deleted.]

Rule 700-4-.01 Temporary License: Military Spouses and Transitioning Service Members

- (1) An applicant is eligible for a temporary license when such applicant:
 - (a) Is identified as a military spouse or transitioning service member, as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-1-34;
 - (b) Has submitted a complete application for temporary license, along with a fee in the amount established by the Board, and proof of lawful presence in the United States along with an approved secure and verifiable document;
 - (c) Is a holder of a valid veterinary or veterinary technician license in another state for which the training, experience, and testing substantially meet or exceed the requirements under this state to obtain a license, or has obtained a specialty, certification, training, or experience in the military while a service member which substantially meets or exceeds the requirements to obtain a license in this state.

- (2) For the purposes of this rule, an applicant's training, experience and testing is substantially equivalent if the applicant:
 - (a) Has attained the age of eighteen (18);
 - (b) Submits proof of an active license in good standing from another state, which is not currently suspended, revoked, or otherwise restricted for any reason.

- (3) Issuance of a temporary license shall authorize the holder to practice in this state for a period of up to six (6) months from the date of issuance or until the permanent license is issued, whichever occurs first.

- (4) In the discretion of the Board, a temporary license may be renewed for one six-month period only.

- (5) The holder of a temporary license may be subject to sanctions as provided in O.C.G.A. §43-50-41.

- (6) An applicant for permanent license who holds a temporary license may be issued a permanent license if the following requirements have been met:
 - (a) The Board has received proof that the applicant has achieved a passing score on the national examinations accepted by the Board.
 1. For veterinary applications, the Board accepts the North American Veterinary Licensure Examination (NAVLE) or the Clinical Competency Test (CCT) and the National Board Examination (NBE).
 2. For veterinary technician applicants, the Board accepts the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) or other examination similar in nature and scope.
 - (b) The applicant has caused the submission of an official transcript(s) directly from:
 1. An accredited college or school of veterinary medicine certifying completion of a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program and the award of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree or possesses an ECFVG certificate or its substantial equivalent; or,
 2. A veterinary technician program approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association certifying the applicant is a graduate.
 - (c) If the applicant is applying for a permanent license to be a veterinarian in this state, the applicant must complete and pass the Georgia Law Exam.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25; 43-1-34; 43-50-2, 43-50-21, 43-50-41 and 43-50-42.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received or offered during the hearing.

Verbal Comments Received

No verbal comments from the general public were received or offered during the hearing.

Dr. Corry motioned, Dr. Malphus seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to adopt the Board Rule 700-4-.01 Temporary License: Military Spouses and Transitioning Service Members proposed amendment as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of Board Rule 700-4-.01 Temporary License: Military Spouses and Transitioning Service Members upon licensees and noted that there is a positive economic impact in that it allows military service members, transitioning service members and their spouses to obtain a license to work sooner. Dr. Sundstrom further noted that the revisions to the rule are a result of a statutory requirement to make allowances to expedite licensure for military service members, transitioning service members and their spouses.

Dr. Davis motioned, Mr. Haynes seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Davis motioned, Mr. Haynes seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25; 43-1-34; 43-50-2, 43-50-21, 43-50-41 and 43-50-42 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Foster, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed and edited by: Kathy Osier, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: August 16, 2017

HENRY BOHN
BOARD CHAIR

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR