

**TITLE 16 OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**  
**CHAPTER 28 SIGNED LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS**  
**PART 7 LICENSURE FOR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS, SPOUSES AND VETERANS**

**16.28.7.1 ISSUING AGENCY:** ~~New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department,~~  
Signed Language Interpreting Practices Board.  
[16.28.7.1 NMAC - N, 1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.2 SCOPE:** This part sets forth application procedures to expedite licensure for military service members, spouses and veterans.  
[16.28.7.2 NMAC - N, 1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** These rules are promulgated pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 61-1-34 NMSA 1978.  
[16.28.7.3 NMAC - N, 1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.4 DURATION:** Permanent.  
[16.28.7.4 NMAC - N1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.5 EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 31, 2021 ~~January 1, 2014~~ unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.  
[16.28.7.5 NMAC - N, 1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.6 OBJECTIVE:** The purpose of this part is to expedite licensure for military service members, their spouses and veterans pursuant to 61-1-34 NMSA 1978.  
[16.28.7.6 NMAC - N, 1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.7 DEFINITIONS:**

**A.** “License” means a license, registration, certificate of registration, certificate, permit or certification.

~~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.** “Licensing fee” means a fee charged at the time an application for a professional or occupational license is submitted to the state agency, board or commission and any fee for the processing of an application for such license; “licensing fee” does not include a fee for an annual inspection or examination of a licensee or a fee charged for copies of documents, replacement license or other expenses related to a professional or occupational license.

**C.** Military service member: means a person who is:

(1) serving in the armed forces of the United States as an active duty member or in an active reserve component of the armed forces of the United States including the national guard, or surviving spouse of a member who at the time of the member’s death was serving on active duty; or

(2) the spouse of a person who is serving in the armed forces of the United State or in an active reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, including the national guard, or a surviving spouse of a member who at the time of the member’s death was serving on active duty; or

(3) the child of a person who is serving in the armed forces of the United States as an active duty member, or in an active reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, including the national guard; provided that the child is also a dependent of that person for federal income tax purposes; and

(4) “veteran” means a person who has received an honorable discharge or separation from military service.

**D.** “Substantially equivalent” means the determination by the board that the education, examination, and experience requirements contained in the statutes and rules of another jurisdiction are comparable to, or exceed the education, examination, and experience requirements of the Signed Language Interpreting Practices Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 61-34-1 through -17. 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.

[16.28.7.7 NMAC - N, 1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.8 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- A. Applications for registration shall be completed on a form provided by the board department.
- B. The completed application information shall include the following information:
  - (1) applicant's full name; Completed application and fee.
  - (2) current mailing address; Satisfactory evidence that the applicant holds a license that is current and in good standing, issued by another jurisdiction, including a branch of armed forces of the United States, that has met the minimal licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the licensing requirements for the occupational or professional license the applicant applies for pursuant to Chapter 61, Articles 2 through 34 NMSA 1978.
  - (3) current electronic mail address, if any;
  - (4) date of birth;
  - (5) background check if required; and
  - (6) proof as described in subsection C below.
- C. ~~Electronic signatures will be acceptable for applications submitted pursuant to Section 14-16-1 through 14-16-19 NMSA 1978.~~ The applicant shall provide the following satisfactory evidence:
  - (1) applicant is currently licensed and in good standing in another jurisdiction, including a branch of the United States armed forces;
  - (2) applicant has met the minimal licensing requirements in that jurisdiction and the minimal licensing requirements in that jurisdiction are substantially equivalent to the licensing requirements for New Mexico;
  - (3) the following documentation:
    - (a) a copy of military orders for military service members;
    - (b) a copy of military service member's military orders and a copy of marriage license for spouses of military service members;
    - (c) for spouses of deceased military members: a copy of the decedent's DD 214 and a copy of marriage license;
    - (d) for dependent children of military service members: a copy of military service member's orders listing the dependent child, or a copy of military orders and one of the following: a copy of a birth certificate, military service member's federal income tax return or other governmental or judicial documentation establishing dependency;
    - (e) for veterans (retired or separated): a copy of DD 214 showing proof of honorable discharge.
- D. The license shall be issued by the board as soon as is practicable but no later than thirty (30) days after a qualified military service member, spouse, dependent child, or veteran files a complete application and pays any required fees.
- E. Military service members and veterans shall not pay and the board shall not charge a licensing fee for the first three (3) years for a license issued pursuant to this rule.
- F. A license issued pursuant to this rule shall be valid for the time period that is specified in the Signed Language Interpreting Practices Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 61-34-1 to -17.
- G. A license issued pursuant to this section shall not be renewed unless the license holder satisfies the requirements for renewal set forth in 16.28.7.110 NMAC 1978, Section 61-34-10. As a courtesy, the board will send, via electronic mail, license renewal notifications to licensees or registrants before the license expiration date to the last known electronic mail address on file with the board. Failure to receive the renewal notification shall not relieve the licensee or registrant of the responsibility of timely renewal on or before the expiration date.
- H. Electronic signatures will be acceptable for applications submitted pursuant to NMSA 1978, Sections 14-16-1 through -19.

[16.28.7.8 NMAC - N, 1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.9 FEES:**

- A. The fee for application for community and educational license is \$65.00.
- B. The fee for application for provisional license is \$40.00.

C. The fee for renewal of community and educational license is \$50.00.

D. The fee for compliance review of provisional license is \$25.00.

[16.28.7.9 NMAC - N, 1/15/2014]

**16.28.7.10 RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS:**

A. A license issued pursuant to this section shall not be renewed unless the license holder satisfies the requirements for the issuance and for the renewal of a license pursuant to Chapter 61, Articles 2 through 34 NMSA 1978.

(1) an application for a community signed language interpreter license must also include: a copy of the applicant's current registry of interpreters for the deaf (RID) membership card or verification letter from the registry of interpreters for the deaf RID member portal showing that the applicant holds one or more certifications recognized by the RID at the time of application for licensure with the exception of educational certificate: K-12 (ED: K-12); or

(2) a copy of the applicant's current BEI card showing one of the following certifications:

(a) BEI Advanced.

(b) BEI Master.

(c) BEI IV.

(d) BEI V.

(e) BEI Level IV Intermediary.

(f) BEI Level V Intermediary.

(3) and a copy of the applicant's current RID membership card or verification letter from the RID member portal showing that the applicant is an associate member for purposes of tracking continuing education units (CEU) requirements through the associate continuing education tracking (ACET) program as outlined in Subsection A of 16.28.2.9 NMAC;

(4) an application for an educational signed language interpreter license must also include: proof of educational interpreters performance assessment (EIPA) rating of 4.0 - 5.0 and a copy of the applicant's current registry of interpreters for the deaf RID membership card or verification letter from the RID member portal showing that the applicant holds the ED: K-12 certified member status by virtue of EIPA rating; or a copy of the applicant's current RID membership card or verification letter from the registry of interpreters for the deaf RID member portal showing that the applicant holds one or more certifications currently recognized by the registry of interpreters for the deaf RID, or has passed the educational interpreter performance assessment (EIPA) with a score of 4.0 - 5.0, has passed the EIPA written test, and is an associate member of RID;

(5) an application for a provisional signed language interpreter license must also include: proof of completion of an interpreter education program or interpreter preparation program at an accredited institution; or proof of employment as a community signed language interpreter or an educational signed language interpreter at the time the act became effective (June 15, 2007) and after the applicant reached the age of 18; and a copy of the applicant's current registry of interpreters for the deaf RID membership card or verification letter from the registry of interpreters for the deaf RID member portal showing that the applicant is an associate member (for purposes of tracking continuing education units CEU requirements through the associate continuing education tracking (ACET) program as outlined in Subsection B of 16.28.2.9 NMAC. If the applicant provides proof of completion of an interpreter education program or interpreter preparation program more than one year prior to their application for a provisional license, they must also submit a résumé and one professional letter of reference from an employer, internship supervisor, mentorship director, graduate school, or other applicable source documenting continued involvement in interpreting or the deaf community since the time of completion of the program.

B. Original and renewed community and educational license shall be valid for a period of two years.

C. Original and completed compliance reviewed provisional license shall be valid for a period of one year, not to exceed four consecutive annual compliance review cycles.

D. Prior to the expiration of the license, all licensed interpreters shall apply for license renewal and shall pay the renewal fee as set forth in 16.28.6.9 NMAC.

[16.28.7.10 NMAC - N, 01/15/14; A, 12/16/15; A, 6/18/2017; A, 3/27/2021]

**HISTORY OF 16.28.7 NMAC: [RESERVED]**