

Executive Summary for Rules Governing the Advisory Board For Interpreters Between Hearing Individuals and Individuals Who Are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard Of Hearing, or Oral Deaf and Rules Governing the Licensure Of Provisional And Qualified Interpreters

Table of Contents

Renumbering of Sections, page numbers and the Table of Contents.

Added words to match the subtopic title of the document

Deleted a subtopic title that was moved under the appropriate subtopic

Added Apprenticeship Section- Act 811

Section 202 Powers and Duties of the Advisory Board

Deleted “for Interpreters” from title of Section as redundant.

Section 301 Application for Qualified Interpreter License

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, and typographical errors)

Moved the following sentence to subsection (d):

Renewals based on out-of-state credentials and CEU documentation will be assessed individually to determine equivalency with these requirements.

Changed the deadline for renewal applications before re-licensure requires new application such that any application filed after January 31 must be made as a new application, not renewal.

Section 302 Application for Provisional Licensure

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, and typographical errors)

Grammatical Errors

Legislative

Act 135

Act 725

General Update

Removed due to outdated terms or revised language for legislation.

Changed the deadline for renewal applications before re-licensure requires new application such that any application filed after January 31 must be made as a new application, not renewal.

Section 303 Application for Temporary Provisional Licensure

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, typographical errors, and cross-reference errors)

Section 304 Application for Automatic Licensure

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, and typographical errors)

Revised language to confirm to changes made by Act 135 of 2021 for automatic licensure for military and armed service members (and spouses), as follows:

- (a) The Board shall grant automatic licensure to an individual who holds a substantially equivalent occupational license with similar scope of practice issued by another U.S. state, territory, or district and is:
 - (1) A uniformed service member stationed in the State of Arkansas;
 - (2) A uniformed service veteran who resides in or establishes residency in the State of Arkansas; or
 - (3) The spouse of a person under 101(a)(1) or 101(a)(2) above; including:
 - (A) uniformed service member who is assigned a tour of duty that excludes the spouse from accompanying the uniformed service member and the spouse relocates to Arkansas; or
 - (B) uniformed service member who is killed or succumb to his or her injuries or illness in the line of duty if the spouse establishes residency in Arkansas.

Removed Military Personnel and Returning Military Veterans due to legislative changes and updated language found on page as stated above page 58.

Section 305 Reciprocity

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, typographical errors, and cross-reference errors)

Added following language to clarify licensure qualifications: “..credentials recognized by the Advisory Board for Interpreters.”

Section 306 Licensing Individuals from a State that Does Not License Interpreters

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, typographical errors, and cross-reference errors)

Deleted following language to avoid confusion: "...sustained by CEUs and..."

Section 309 - Fees

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, and typographical errors)

Added following language to change deadline for renewal application, after which re-activation application is required: "(if application is delivered after February 1)"

Deleted following language to avoid confusion: "(Dependent upon Advisory Board for Interpreters review.)"

Section 310 – Waiver of Licensure Fee

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, and typographical errors)

Added the following: Act 725

- (a) Pursuant to Act 725 of 2021, an applicant may receive a waiver of the initial licensure fee, if eligible. Eligible applicants are applicants who:
 - (1) Are receiving assistance through the Arkansas, or current state of residence equivalent, Medicaid Program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (SSNP), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TEA), or the Lifeline Assistance Program (LAP);
 - (2) Were approved for unemployment within the last twelve (12) months; or
 - (3) Have an income that does not exceed two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty income guidelines.
- (b) Applicants shall provide documentation showing their receipt of benefits from the appropriate State Agency.
 - (1) For Medicaid, SNAP, SSNP, TEA, or LAP, documentation from the Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS), or current state of residence equivalent agency;
 - (2) For unemployment benefits approval in the last twelve (12) months, the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, or current state of residence equivalent agency; or
 - (3) For proof of income, copies of all United States Internal Revenue Service Forms indicating applicant's total personal income for the most recent tax year e.g., "W2," "1099," etc.

- (c) Applicants shall attest that the documentation provided under 101(b) is a true and correct copy and fraudulent or fraudulently obtained documentation shall be grounds for denial or revocation of license.

Removed Military Personnel and Returning Military Veterans due to legislative changes and updated language found on page as stated above page 58.

Section 500 Definitions

Corrected grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, and typographical errors)

Moved Definitions to the end of the rules.

Added the following definitions under Act 135 of 2021:

- (a) “Automatic licensure” means the granting of occupational licensure without an individual having met the occupational licensure requirements by the Rules of the Advisory Board for Interpreters or under the Arkansas Code.
- (b) “Uniformed service member” means an active or reserve component member of the United States Air Force, United States Army, United States Coast Guard, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Space Force, or National Guard; an active component member of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps; or an active or reserve component member of the United States Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service.
- (c) “Uniformed service veteran” means a former member of the United States uniformed services discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

Revised the following definition of “Interpret” to include video relay services (VRS) and video remote interpreting services (VRI):

- (1) “Interpret” shall include providing interpreting services through the use of electronic communications, information technology, asynchronous store and forward transfer, or synchronous interaction to one or more persons located in Arkansas, including, but not limited to, video relay services (VRS) and video remote interpreting services (VRI).
- (d) "Interpreting agency" means an entity that provides qualified interpreter services for a fee.

Certification

Page number revision

Act 135- To establish and modify automatic Arkansas occupational licensing of uniformed service members, veterans, and spouses.

Act 725- Requires licensing entities to waive initial licensure fees for individuals receiving public benefits.