



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD
FALLS CHURCH VA 22042

IN REPLY REFER TO
BUMEDINST 1500.20A CH-1
BUMED-M7
9 Mar 2020

BUMED INSTRUCTION 1500.20A CHANGE TRANSMITTAL 1

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: FUNDING PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATION
EXAMINATIONS

Encl: (1) Revised page 2

1. Purpose. To clarify subparagraph 6a, specifically the professional licensure or certification of enlisted Service members. Currently, budget submitting office 18 does not have any mandatory professional licensure or certification requirements for enlisted Service members.
2. Action. Remove page 2 of the basic instruction and replace with enclosure (1) of this change transmittal.
3. Records Management
 - a. Records created as a result of this change transmittal, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy Directorate for Administration, Logistics, and Operations, Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.
 - b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this change transmittal or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the Department of the Navy Directorate for Administration, Logistics, and Operations, Directives and Records Management Division program office.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. D. Shaffer", is positioned above the printed name.

G. D. SHAFFER
Acting

Releasability and distribution:

This change transmittal is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via the Navy Medicine Web site at,

<http://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Pages/BUMEDInstructions.aspx>

5. Definitions

a. Board Certification. A term that describes the certification via either examination(s) or MOC granted by a professional specialty board that a physician or other health professional has passed and has been certified by that board as a specialist in that subject or discipline.

b. MOC. A term that describes the annual requirement for a board certified physician or other health professional to maintain specialty board certification and credentialing in his or her specialty that occurs in the time period between initial certification and recertification. MOC is required annually for physicians and is a requirement to participate in their American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) or American Osteopathic Association (AOA) specialty board certification and recertification examinations.

c. Certification. The process by which a governmental or non-governmental agency or association evaluates and recognizes a person who meets predetermined standards.

d. Credentials. The documents that constitute evidence of appropriate education, training, licensure, experience, and expertise of a healthcare provider.

e. Licensure. The granting of permission by an official agency of a State, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States to provide health care within the scope of practice for a discipline.

6. Policy

a. Contingent upon availability of funds, Navy Medicine activities may pay expenses for Navy Medical Department Service members to obtain professional credentials, including expenses for professional board certification or recertification, examinations, and MOC to obtain such credentials. Navy Medicine activities may not fund examinations that are a prerequisite or requirement for an individual's initial appointment in the Military Services. Officers are personally responsible for obtaining and maintaining a current, active, unrestricted State professional license. Navy Medicine may fund a professional license or certification for an enlisted Service member if the Service member meets the eligibility requirements set forth within reference (d).

b. In limited situations involving Navy medical department officers assigned to civilian medical facilities for training or research, Navy Medicine activities may pay for a State professional license when such facilities require the Service member to possess a license from the State in which the facility is located as a condition of patient care activities. Other requests for payment of a State professional license may be considered on a case-by-case basis as long as the