

2007 Current Fiscal Year Report: Professional Certification and Licensure Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Veterans Affairs

2. Fiscal Year

2007

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Professional Certification and Licensure Advisory Committee

3b. GSA Committee No.

10724

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

03/02/2005

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

12/31/2006

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

38 U.S.C. 3689

8c. Actual Term Date

12/31/2006

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Yes

10b. Legislation Pending?

Enacted

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

38 U.S.C. 3689

13. Effective Date

03/14/2001

14. Committee Type

Ad hoc

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

1

16b. Report Date

04/23/2007

Report Title

Final Report

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a. Open 1 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 1

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

The meeting opened with remarks from Ms. Sandra Winborne, Committee Chair. The Committee discussed their final report and recommendations to the Secretary, reviewed current licensure and certification data, and received certificates of appreciation, statements from the public, old business, and any new business.

Start

End

10/26/2006 - 10/26/2006

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members

Current FY Next FY

\$780.00 \$0.00

18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff

\$8,500.00 \$0.00

18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$11,280.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.10	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

During its five years of deliberations, the Committee has worked with VA's Education Service to (a) develop requirements for organizations offering certification and licensing tests and (b) ensure that appropriate testing standards were maintained so that VA educational assistance could be paid to veterans for the costs of those tests. The Committee has recommended that the Secretary propose changes to Public Law 106-419 to define some terms, as used in the section on licensing and certification, and clarify the law, and make it easier for VA to administer the program. The Committee has also recommended that the Licensing and Certification Approval System (LACAS) be improved with funding provided in PL 106-419.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Committee consisted of seven members with expertise in matters relating to licensing and certification tests. The Secretaries of Labor and Defense, or their designees, served as ex-officio members.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee met at least three times per year. The Committee discussed such topics as: State approving agency's approval of licensing and certification tests for VA purposes; VA's Education Service marketing and outreach plan, increasing usage through outreach; quality assurance process and regulation; and the intent of legislation allowing VA to pay benefits for taking approved licensing and certification tests.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

This Committee was established in compliance with section 3689 of Title 38, U.S.C. The advice provided by the Committee was during implementation of the licensing and certification reimbursement program because VA's experience in educational assistance had been focused on more traditional academic pursuits rather than curricula that lead to professional licenses or certifications.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

The meetings were open to the public.

21. Remarks

Public Law 109-461 created a demonstration project (to be managed by the Labor Department) to match military occupational specialties to civilian jobs that require certification and/or licensure. The law calls for coordination between DoD, VA, state employment agencies and state licensure/certification groups. That measure would also create a task force to monitor the project, and it is expected that membership on the task force would demand the same expertise that current Committee members have. That leaves open the possibility that Committee members could serve on the task force.

Designated Federal Officer

Stacey R St. Holder DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Baker, Carolyn	12/09/2005	12/31/2006	Ex-Officio Member, Department of Defense	Ex Officio Member
Clark, Michael	07/10/2003	12/31/2006	General Manager, National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Delk, Wade	07/22/2005	12/31/2006	Executive Director, National Organization of Competency Assurance (NOCA)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Drach, Ronald	03/24/2005	12/31/2006	Ex-Officio Member, Department of Labor	Ex Officio Member
Harris, William	06/01/2004	12/31/2006	Executive Director, Association of Test Publishers (ATP)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Horne, Ronald	02/04/2004	12/31/2006	Ex-Officio Member, Department of Defense	Ex Officio Member
Hubbard, James	06/05/2001	12/31/2006	Ex-Officio Member, Department of Labor	Ex Officio Member
Lutz, Lisa	06/01/2004	12/31/2006	President, Solutions for Information Design, LLC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Mooney, Donna	05/23/2003	12/31/2006	President of the Council on Licensure Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Swift, Roy	07/10/2003	12/31/2006	Program Director, American National Standards Institute, (ANSI)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wilborne, Sandra	06/01/2004	12/31/2006	Program Manager, Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 11

Narrative Description

The Committee evaluates VA's implementation of licensing and certification test provisions contained in 38 U.S.C. and recommends administrative and/or legislative changes to improve that program. The Committee also monitors the nationwide consistency of the licensure and certification test approval process.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

18

Number of Recommendations Comments

This is a total of recommendations for FY 2003 through termination of the Committee in FY 2007.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

78%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

NA

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

17%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

NA

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

Agency feedback was provided by written Department response to the Committee.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

Access Comments

N/A