

## **Rule 375-3-1-.16 Eligibility for Veterans', or Honorary ~~or~~ Distinctive Driver's License and Identification Cards**

- (1) (a) Veterans', or honorary ~~or distinctive~~ driver's licenses and identification cards which have the "veteran" designation with the American flag symbol printed on said driver's license or identification card, shall be issued to veterans who have satisfied all other requirements for issuance of a driver's license upon receipt by the Department of a Certificate of Eligibility issued for said veteran by the Georgia Department of Veterans Service or by presenting their Armed Forces Separation Papers (DD-214) with an acceptable separation/discharge.
- (b) In order to be eligible for a Certificate of Eligibility, a veteran of the United States Armed Forces, or United States allies, ~~or~~ must present evidence of the following:
- (i) Residence:
- 1) A veteran must be a resident of the State of Georgia at the time of application for the license; and
- (ii) Service:
- 1) A veteran must have served in the active military, naval, or air service; and
  - 2) A veteran must have been discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.
  - 3) A member of the National Guard or Reserve Forces who has served twenty (20) years of creditable service.
- (2) ~~A member of the National Guard or Reserve Forces shall obtain a letter from their Commanding Officer in the Georgia National Guard stating they served on active duty or evidencing twenty (20) or more years creditable service therein. This letter shall be forwarded to the Department.~~
- (2)(3) A surviving spouse, of a deceased veteran, who would have been eligible for a veterans' license shall follow the procedure in paragraph (1) and may then be issued an honorary license. The surviving spouse is eligible for such license as long as they have not remarried.
- (a) ~~Any license to such spouse shall be valid as long as that person remains unmarried.~~
- (43) A spouse of a veteran who is or would have been eligible for a veteran's license but has been disabled to the extent that he or she is unable to operate a motor vehicle safely, shall acquire an honorary license by having the disabled veteran surrender his license to the Department, or if he or she has no license notify the Department of his disability. Such surrender of license or notification must be accompanied by a letter from a physician evidencing the disability. The applicant shall then follow the procedure set out in paragraph (1).
- (54) Once eligibility is established pursuant to paragraphs (1) through (43) the licensee need not reestablish eligibility.
- (65) Any customer who would be eligible for a free driver's license under the provisions of this regulation shall also be eligible for an identification card at no charge.
- (7) ~~National Guard driver's licenses shall be issued free of charge by the Department to any guardsman who meets the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 40-5-36. Each guardsman shall present to any driver's license examiner a completed Certificate of Eligibility for Georgia~~

~~National Guard Driver's License, their current National Guard identification card and surrender their existing Georgia driver's license or instructional permit to such examiner. The National Guard driver's license shall be valid for eight (8) years or until the Department receives written notice from the Adjutant General, or his agent, that the guardsman is no longer a member of the Georgia National Guard in good standing.~~

**Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 40-5-4, 40-5-36, 40-5-103.**

## **SYNOPSIS**

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND MAIN FEATURES OF PROPOSED RULE**

The purpose of this amendment is to align the rule with current procedure and to create a separate rule for eligibility of active-duty National Guard members who have not served 20 years to receive a free driver's license.

### **DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EXISTING AND PROPOSED RULE**

The word "distinctive" is removed because there are only veterans' or honorary licenses. Reference to the "veteran" designation with the American flag symbol printed on a veterans' driver's license or identification card is added. Veterans now have the option of presenting their Armed Forces Separation Papers (DD-214) with an acceptable separation/discharge to the Department. The eligibility of active-duty National Guard members who have not served 20 years to receive a free driver's license is moved to Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 375-3-1-.32. The rule title is updated to reflect to what this rule is referring.