DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

GREGORY BIALECKI
SECRETARY OF HOUSING
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
1000 Washington Street • Boston • Massachusetts • 02118

BARBARA ANTHONY
UNDERSECRETARY OF OFFICE
OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND
BUSINESS REGULATION

MARK R. KMETZ
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

NOTICE: VALOR ACT II

Waiver of Initial License & Application Fees for Active Military, Veterans, and Relocated Spouses

The Division of Professional Licensure (DPL) is pleased to announce that under new legislation signed into law by Governor Patrick, beginning July 3, 2014 initial license and application fees will be waived for active duty military service members, veterans, and relocated military spouses who are entitled to benefits under the original VALOR Act.

The new law, known as VALOR Act II, follows in the footsteps of the original VALOR Act (Veterans' Allowances, Labor, Outreach, and Recognition). Under the original VALOR Act, signed into law by Governor Patrick in 2012, DPL and its 31 professional licensing boards provided the following benefits:

- The acceptance of relevant education, training, and service completed by an applicant for licensure while a member of the armed forces or the military reserves toward the qualifications required for licensure, by each of DPL's boards;
- The extension of license expiration dates for members of the armed forces who are on active duty while their license expires, allowing the license to remain valid until he or she is released from active duty, and for 90 days thereafter; and
- The expedited approval of licensing applications for military spouses who are licensed in other states and have left employment there to accompany a spouse relocated to the Commonwealth due to a military transfer.

Now, under VALOR Act II, the Commonwealth's portion of the initial licensure and application fee is being waived for those who qualify for the original VALOR Act benefits. Applicants are advised that they may still be required to pay fees charged by private vendors who assist DPL in processing license applications. The new law does not change other fee requirements, including renewal fees. For information on provisions applicable to occupational schools, click here.

To apply for any of these benefits, interested parties must self-identify as a service member, military spouse, or veteran, by visiting www.mass.gov/dpl/valor, downloading and completing the appropriate affidavit form, and returning it to DPL along with other requested documents. For more information, please consult the applicable statutory definitions webpage, or call (617) 727-4992.