

**TITLE 785. OKLAHOMA WATER RESOURCES BOARD
CHAPTER 35. WELL DRILLER AND PUMP INSTALLER LICENSING**

SUBCHAPTER 3. LICENSING AND CERTIFICATIONS

785:35-3-1.2. Military service occupation, education and credentialing

(a) Expedited temporary, reciprocal, or comity license or certification. Every active duty military personnel and their spouse who is licensed or certified in another state, upon receiving notice or orders for military transfer or honorable discharge to this state, may in advance of actual transfer or discharge submit a completed application to the Board to request an expedited temporary, reciprocal or comity license or certification for their currently held valid license or certification from another state or territory of the United States so such person may upon entering this state be authorized to continue their licensed or certified occupation or profession without delay.

(b) Issuance of the license or certification. The Board shall, upon receipt of an active duty military application submitted and presentation of satisfactory evidence of equivalent education, training and experience on such valid license or certification from another state, accept the valid license or certification and apply all its education, training and experience in the manner most favorable toward satisfying the qualifications for issuance of the requested license or certification in this state. The Board shall issue the requested Oklahoma license or certification within thirty (30) days provided the license or certification from the other state is found to be in good standing and reasonably equivalent to the requirements of this state. In addition, the applicant shall submit an affidavit stating that they have read and understand the rules and regulations of this Chapter.

(c) Temporary, reciprocal, or comity license or certification. The temporary, reciprocal or comity license or certification issued pursuant to this section shall be valid for the same period as authorized for full license or certification in this state, unless the person is notified that there is cause for a denial of the application or that certain documentation required is lacking or unavailable. In such case, a temporary credential shall be issued to allow the person time to obtain the necessary requirement while continuing to be employed in his or her occupation or profession in this state. Any active duty military applicant receiving a notice of denial of full licensure or certification shall have the right to appeal the denial determination as provided in the Administrative Procedures Act to obtain and submit the documentation required to complete full license or certificate requirements in this state.

(d) Fees. The Board shall waive the application fee for active duty military personnel and their spouse and shall further waive the license or certificate fees for the first period of issuance for such temporary, reciprocal or comity license or certificate.

(e) Work performed on military bases. Any active duty military personnel who, pursuant to any federal or military law, rule, or regulation, is not required to be licensed or credentialed while employed and performing their occupation or profession only on the premises of an assigned military base, shall not be required to be licensed or credentialed in this state pursuant to the same law, rule, or regulation.

(f) Eligibility standards, criteria, qualifications and requirements for licensure or certification. Nothing in the Military Service Occupation, Education and Credentialing Act shall be construed to require the issuance of any license or certificate to an applicant who does not otherwise meet the stated eligibility standards, criteria, qualifications or requirements for licensure or certification, nor shall the provisions be construed to automatically allow issuance of

any license or certificate without testing or examination, without proper consideration by the licensing and examination board, or without proper verification that the applicant is not subject to pending criminal charges or disciplinary actions, has not been convicted of any offense prohibiting licensure or certification, and has no other impairment which would prohibit licensure or certification in this state.

SUBCHAPTER 11. PLUGGING AND CAPPING REQUIREMENTS FOR WELLS AND TEST HOLES

785:35-11-1. Plugging and capping requirements for groundwater wells, fresh water observation wells, heat exchange wells and water well test holes

(a) **Temporary capping.** When a groundwater well or fresh water observation well is temporarily removed from service, the top of the well casing will be properly sealed with a pitless adapter cap, sanitary well seal, or well casing cap that cannot easily be removed. A new well shall be properly capped before the well driller leaves the drilling site.

(b) **Time for plugging or completing water well test holes.** Water well test holes shall be properly plugged as provided in this section by the well driller prior to removal of drilling equipment unless the test hole is completed as an observation well for aquifer testing, including the installation of surface casing and cement seals. In the alternative and prior to drilling equipment being removed from site, water well test holes may be temporarily cased with SDR 26 water well casing a minimum of 10 feet below ground and 12 inches above ground. Bentonite shall be installed from 10 feet to 2 feet below land surface and cement grout installed from 2 feet to land surface. The top of casing shall be properly sealed or capped. Permanent completion or plugging shall become the responsibility of the landowner and shall be completed within 60 days of drilling equipment being removed from the site. A written statement from the landowner acknowledging such responsibility shall be obtained and submitted to the Board with the multipurpose completion report. The multi-purpose completion report shall be submitted to the Board within sixty (60) days after plugging or temporary completion of each water well test hole.

(c) **Permanent abandonment.** The following plugging requirements apply if a groundwater well, fresh water observation well, heat exchange well or water well test hole is permanently abandoned, was drilled by a person not holding a valid license or operator certification from the Board, or if the Board determines that the well or test hole was not drilled or completed in compliance with the applicable minimum standards set forth in this Chapter or may otherwise allow pollution to groundwater.

(1) The well driller shall be responsible for plugging the well or test hole if the well drilling equipment is on the drilling site. If a well is abandoned after the well drilling equipment has been removed from the drilling site, the owner of the land where the well or test hole is located shall be responsible for plugging.

(2) If the well or test hole is uncontaminated and unless paragraph 3 or paragraph 5 below applies, fill such well or water well test hole with uncontaminated, compacted drill cuttings and/or uncontaminated surface clay, cement, bentonite pellets or granules, or high solids (a minimum of twenty percent (20%) solids by dry weight) bentonite grout to within fourteen (14) feet of the land surface, and a minimum of ten (10) feet of the annular space and interior of the well casing shall be filled with cement grout to at least four (4) feet below the land surface.

(3) To plug uncontaminated groundwater wells, fresh water observation wells, or heat exchange wells in the alluvium and terrace deposits of the Arkansas, Cimarron, Salt Fork of the Arkansas, North Canadian, Canadian, Washita, North Fork of the Red, Salt Fork of the Red River, Red River, and other streams or rivers authorized by the Board, fill the well with clean, uncontaminated silica sand to within sixteen (16) feet of the land surface, then two (2) feet of bentonite pellets or granules shall be placed on the uncontaminated silica sand, and finally, a minimum of ten (10) feet of cement grout shall be installed in the annular space and interior of the well casing to at least four (4) feet below the land surface.

(4) Hand dug water wells shall be filled with uncontaminated surface clay or grout to within six (6) feet of land surface. The lining of the well shall be removed from the top five (5) feet and a minimum of two (2) feet of cement grout shall be installed. The top four (4) feet shall be filled with compacted uncontaminated native soil, unless otherwise directed by the Board.

(5) If the well or water well test hole is contaminated, or if the well or test hole is located at an underground tank site or within 300 feet of the outside perimeter of an existing wastewater lagoon or is located on a tract of land where a wastewater lagoon is proposed, the casing shall be removed or perforated from the bottom of the casing to twenty (20) feet below land surface. ~~The casing shall be removed from twenty (20) feet below land surface to the surface, then the~~The well or test hole shall be plugged with cement grout from the bottom to within four (4) feet of the land surface. If the total depth of the well is in excess of twenty feet (20') below land surface, the cement grout shall be placed by pumping from the bottom of the hole to within four (4) feet of the land surface. If the well does not meet current minimum construction standards for grouting and sealing the annulus, the casing shall be removed from twenty (20) feet below land surface to the surface.

(6) Vertical closed loop heat exchange wells shall be plugged according to standards set forth by Clause 10.9 of ANSI/CSA/IGSHPA C448.3.