



BarberCosmo
Board of Barbering & Cosmetology

MAILING ADDRESS

Board of Barbering and Cosmetology
PO Box 944226
Sacramento, CA 94244-2260

MISSION

To ensure the health and safety of California consumers by promoting ethical standards and by enforcing the laws of the barbering and beauty industry.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the President..... 1

Message from the Executive Officer.....2

New Hairstylist License Type2

Board Members3

Have You Considered Serving as a Board Member?3

Consumer Corner: Skin Tag and Mole Removal 4

Disinfection Reminder.....4

Expert Consultants Wanted5

Town Halls.....5

Did You Know?6

Message to the Consumer Posting6

‘Will an Inspector Inspect My Station When I’m Not There?’7

‘What Happens After I Receive a Citation?’ 8

Consumers Receiving Board Services and Filing a Complaint.....9

Shared Spaces 10

Cosmetologists and Barbers Needed to Continue Development of Hairstylist Licensing Exam..... 10

All About Electrology..... 11

Interested In Beginning Your State Career? 12

Subscribe to the Board’s Email List 12

Have You Recently Moved?..... 12

Have a Question? 12

Contact Us 12

The **BarberCosmo**
update

Summer 2023 Issue No. 4



Turn to page 11 to learn more about electrology!

Message from the President

Thank you for taking time from your busy day to read this issue of *The BarberCosmo Update!* Whether you are a consumer, licensee, student, or instructor, the Board of Barbering and Cosmetology appreciates you doing your part to stay informed with what’s happening at the Board.

Another great way to stay informed is to attend or watch the Board meetings. This year’s Board meetings have been filled with several significant items and discussions. The Board has been tracking important legislation that will impact the Board’s operations and the beauty and barbering industry. Our last Board meeting for the year will be in October. You can view the Board meeting schedule at <https://barbercosmo.ca.gov> (under “About Us,” click “Meetings”).

Our Board is committed to increasing consumer safety and hope you will join us in this goal.

Calimay Pham
Board President

Message from the Executive Officer

Did you know the California Board of Barbering and Cosmetology has the largest licensee population in the nation? That means it is always a busy time at the Board. While we strive to provide excellent customer service and ensure both the public and licensees can obtain the information they need, we strongly encourage you to always check the Board's website (<https://barbercosmo.ca.gov>) first.

Look for the "Popular Pages" box on the homepage of the website. There, you will find direct links to commonly searched information.

Need to look up a license to verify it is current? Were you harmed during a service and need to file a complaint? Is it time to renew your license? Need exam information? Looking for the next Board meeting date? Need translated publications? Or have a general question? This box contains everything you need!

Please also familiarize yourself with the website and check for updates periodically. It is important for licensees to stay informed!

Kristy Underwood
Executive Officer

★ Popular Pages

- > [License Look Up](#)
- > [File a Complaint](#)
- > [Español](#)
- > [한국어 \(Korean\)](#)
- > [Việt ngữ](#)
- > [BreZe Online Services](#)
- > [Exam Information](#)
- > [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)
- > [Board Meetings](#)

New Hairstylist License Type

The Board began offering the new hairstylist licensing exam on July 1, 2023. This new license type allows an individual to perform hairstyling, arranging, blow drying, cleansing, curling, cutting, dressing, extending, shampooing, waving, or nonchemically straightening the hair of any person using both electrical and nonelectrical devices.

If you are interested in obtaining a hairstylist license, please read the [Hairstylist License Questions and Answers](#) at www.barbercosmo.ca.gov for more information.





Board Members



Calimay Pham, Public Member, President

Tonya Fairley, Industry Member, Vice President

Megan A. Ellis, Public Member

Kellie Funk, Industry Member

Reese A. Isbell, Public Member

Yolanda Jimenez, Public Member

Colette Kavanaugh, Industry Member

Danielle Munoz, Public Member

Jacob Rostovsky, Public Member

Steve Weeks, Public Member

Have You Considered Serving as a Board Member?

The Board of Barbering and Cosmetology currently has three vacancies and is seeking a California-licensed manicurist, barber, and establishment owner or cosmetologist to serve as Board members.

Board members help shape the direction of the beauty and barbering industries with their collective decision-making. Board members provide policy direction, participate in voting on disciplinary matters, and approve regulation packages.

The Board holds quarterly meetings with the full Board, in addition to committee meetings whenever necessary. Board members are expected to attend

Board meetings and committee meetings. Board members must also commit time to reviewing meeting materials and attending all trainings.

The first step to becoming a board or committee member is to apply to the office of the appropriate appointing official. To apply for a Board member appointment, visit www.gov.ca.gov and click on the "Appointments" tab.

Here is contact information for the appointing office:

Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

1021 O St., Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 445-2841

Once you've applied, you may be contacted for an interview, and a final selection will be made to confirm an appointment. If you have further questions about being a board member, please visit the California Department of Consumer Affairs website at www.dca.ca.gov (click on "About Us" and scroll to "Board Member Information").

Consumer Corner: Skin Tag and Mole Removal

Estheticians and cosmetologists are licensed to provide skin care services, such as cleansing, exfoliating, and applying cosmetic products to your face. One service they cannot provide, however, is skin tag and mole removal. Skin tags are common skin growths that look like a small piece of soft hanging skin. A mole is a small spot on the skin that is usually dark-colored and raised.

While online retailers and manufacturers may sell products and equipment to anyone, cosmetologists, barbers, hairstylists, manicurists, estheticians, and electrologists are prohibited from removing skin tags and moles. Do not be tempted by a low price or convenient location.



Board licensees do not receive education or training on skin tag or mole removal services. Board licensees are not trained to know if they are removing a benign (noncancerous) lesion or a malignant (cancerous) one. They also would not know the best course of removal. There are risks of infection, scarring, and pain; plus, if not done correctly, the skin tag or mole could return.

The Board of Barbering and Cosmetology highly encourages you to contact your doctor to have this type of service performed.

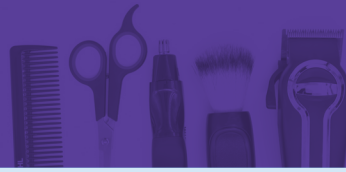
Disinfection Reminder

When disinfecting tools, ensure there is enough disinfectant solution in the container to allow for total immersion of tools. If tools do not completely fit in the container, find a different container. The entire tool needs to be disinfected, not only the portion that touches a consumer.

Look at this photo for an example of what **NOT** to do.

See how the handle of the razor is sticking out and the container is open? The entire tool should be immersed, and the container should be closed to ensure the tool is properly disinfected.





Expert Consultants Wanted

Most licensees are familiar with Board’s inspection program in which the Board may issue a citation for a violation of its regulations. However, for more serious cases involving harm to consumers, the Board may take formal disciplinary action that can lead to a license being placed on probation or even revoked. In these instances, the Board uses experts gleaned from the ranks of the professions themselves to evaluate the evidence against a licensee and, if needed, testify at administrative hearings.

This is where expert consultants come in. Expert consultants review case materials and investigative reports, prepare written opinions, and possibly testify at administrative hearings involving licensees accused of incompetence, gross negligence, or unprofessional conduct.

An expert consultant must possess the following minimum qualifications:

1. A current and active license in their profession.
2. The license must be in good standing with no prior disciplinary actions or convictions, no pending investigations, and no outstanding administrative fines.
3. The applicant must be currently working in the specific field of expertise and have five years of experience in that field.



4. A current, working knowledge of the Board’s laws, rules, and regulations.
5. Consistent, ongoing face-to-face client contact in a licensed establishment.
6. Strong persuasive writing skills with the ability to express ideas logically and critically.
7. Willingness to serve as an expert consultant for three consecutive years.

For more information and review the application, please visit www.barbercosmo.ca.gov (click on the “Enforcement” tab and scroll to “Expert Consultant Application”).

Town Halls

To connect more with licensees, the Board has been holding more virtual town hall events. These are your opportunities to ask the Board any questions you may have.

If you missed the [Most Common Violations Townhall on May 1, 2023](#), the [About the Board Townhall on June 19, 2023](#), or the [Questions and Answers Townhall on August 28, 2023](#), the recordings are available online for viewing.

Be sure to follow the Board on social media or [subscribe](#) to the Board’s interested parties list so you don’t miss an invite to the next event: Visit www.barbercosmo.ca.gov and search for “subscribe.”

Did You Know?

While some manufacturers may market their tools as “washable” and “reusable,” that may not necessarily be the case.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations section 981(a), porous, disposable items such as emery boards, buffers, orange sticks, and gloves must be thrown away immediately after use. They cannot be saved or stored in the establishment—even if you plan to use them on the same client.

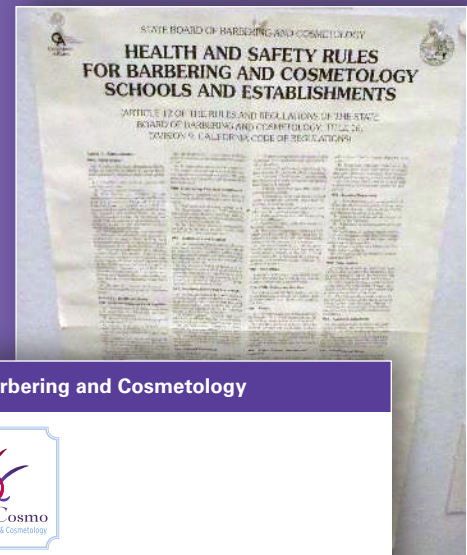


Message to the Consumer Posting

The Board still receives emails from establishment owners who want a copy of the “big poster.”

Since January 1, 2018, the Board’s Health and Safety Rules poster no longer needs to be displayed in the reception area of the establishment. The new “Message to the Consumer” poster must be posted in the reception area of the establishment instead.

You may print the required Message to the Consumer poster on the Board’s website at www.barbercosmo.ca.gov (click on the “Forms and Applications” tab, choose “Establishments/Mobile Units,” then scroll to “Message to the Consumer”). The poster can be printed in either color or black and white ink, but it must be printed on an 8 ½ x 11” sheet of paper at full size.



California State Board of Barbering and Cosmetology



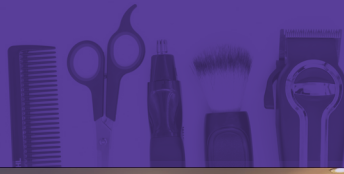
MESSAGE TO THE CONSUMER

TO FILE A COMPLAINT, PLEASE CONTACT THE BOARD AT
www.barbercosmo.ca.gov
(800) 952-5210

The Board’s laws and regulations can be found on the Board’s Web site at www.barbercosmo.ca.gov or in B&P Code Sections 7301-7426.5 and Title 16 CCR Sections 901-999.



PGE 21-113



'Will an Inspector Inspect My Station When I'm Not There?'

Yes. Pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 7313, the Board shall have access to, and shall inspect, any establishment during business hours or at any time in which barbering, cosmetology, or electrolysis are being performed. So regardless of whether you are at your station, it is subject to inspection if the establishment is open and/or licensees are working at other stations.

Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- If you lock any drawers or cabinets at your station, make sure you leave a key with the owner or manager. That way, if an inspector visits, they will be able to unlock the drawers or cabinets for the inspector to verify everything at your station is in compliance with the Board's laws.
- Always leave your station in compliance with the health and safety regulations when you leave for the day. It's easy to leave out dirty towels and tools that you'll "put away tomorrow," but an inspection could occur first thing in the morning.
- Inspectors will inspect all cabinets and drawers at your station even if labeled "personal." Do not leave any tools (even if you use them on yourself) in your "personal" drawer. For example, a cosmetologist should not store their own hairbrush in a drawer marked "personal" because soiled tools are supposed to be in a container labeled "dirty," "soiled," or "contaminated." The inspector does not know whether the tool was used on yourself or a consumer. If you have personal items such as tools used on yourself, medication, or money, leave them in your handbag, backpack, or car.



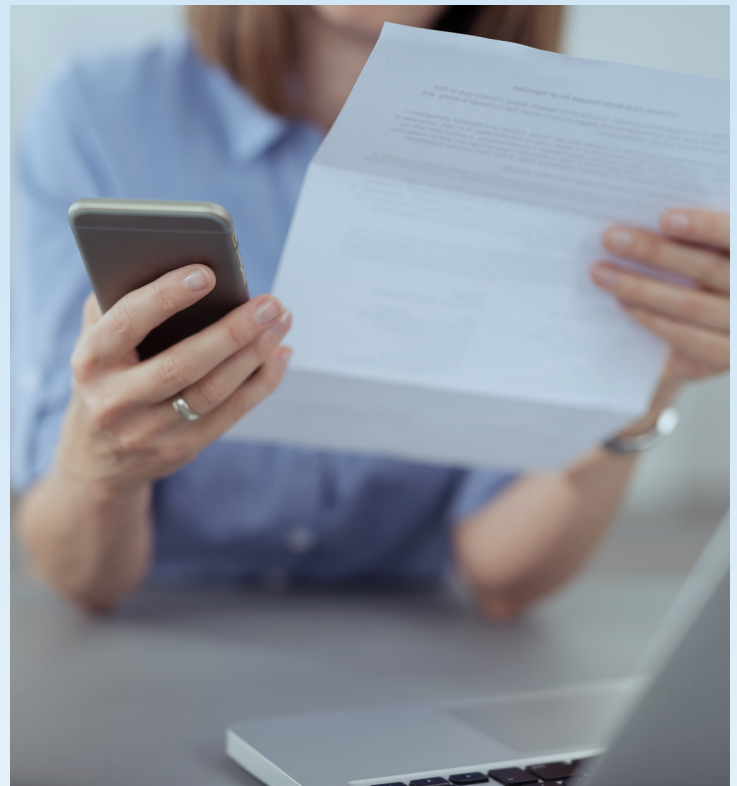
‘What Happens After I Receive a Citation?’

If you receive a citation in the mail, be sure to read it carefully. The citation paperwork includes a cover letter, statement of correction and/or request for appeal, the citation, and a notice.

The cover letter explains that an inspection was conducted, and you are being issued a citation with a due date 30 days from the date of issuance. If you would like to submit an appeal to contest the violation or violations, your appeal must be postmarked by the due date.

Next is the Statement of Correction and/or Request for Appeal. You can either sign and date the top portion of the form acknowledging receipt of the citation and that the violations have been corrected or you can request an appeal on the bottom half of the page. You would list which violations you are appealing. If you are not appealing all violations, submit payment for the violations not being appealed. Again, the appeal must be postmarked by the due date of the citation, or it will be denied.

The citation itself will contain which violations you were cited for, a brief explanation of the violation, the offense number, the fine amount, the date of inspection, date of issuance, and due date. The offense number means how many times you’ve been cited for this particular violation in a five-year span. Fine amounts increase up to the third offense. Please note that repeated violations can lead the Board to take disciplinary action against your license. It is important that you correct and violations and remain in compliance with the laws and regulations.



Lastly, included in the packet is a notice explaining your right to appeal before the Disciplinary Review Committee and the requirements to do so.

How to Pay a Fine

If you choose not to appeal or only appeal a portion of the citation, you may pay for your violation(s) online, by mail, or in person. Fines are due 30 days after the issuance of a citation.

To pay online, go to www.breeze.ca.gov and log in or create an account to pay.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

To pay by mail, you can mail a check or money order to the Board of Barbering and Cosmetology, P.O. Box 944226, Sacramento, CA 94244. The Board recommends you use a check, so it is easier to track the payment (make your check payable to "Board of Barbering and Cosmetology"). Please write your citation number and license number on your check.

In-person cash payments for the exact amount are accepted at the California Department of Consumer Affairs headquarters location:

California Department of Consumer Affairs
1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S-100
Sacramento, CA 95834

The office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (excluding state holidays).

How to Request a Payment Plan

If your administrative fine exceeds \$500, you may request a formal payment plan with no more than 12 monthly installments. You must request the payment plan in writing. The Board will provide you a schedule of payments indicating the due date and amount of the payment.

Your payment plan will be canceled by the Board if you fail to follow any of the terms and conditions of the payment plan. If your payment plan is canceled by the Board, you will not be allowed to:

1. Renew any Board-issued license you hold until all outstanding fines are paid in full.
2. Request a payment plan for any subsequent administrative fine.

A licensee who is paying an administrative fine in accordance with their formal payment plan shall be permitted to renew any Board-issued license they hold even if the fines have not been paid in full by the renewal date.

Consumers Receiving Board Services and Filing a Complaint

The Board has created a new complaint fact sheet to provide consumers with information on the Board, Board-regulated services, how to prepare for a service, what to do if you are injured during a service, and how to file a complaint. It is available under the "Consumers" tab at www.barbercosmo.ca.gov.

Be sure to check it out and share it with your friends and family who receive Board services!



Consumers Receiving Board Services and Filing a Complaint

MISSION OF THE BOARD

Ensuring the health and safety of California consumers by promoting ethical standards and by enforcing the laws of the beauty and barbering industry.

BOARD LICENSING

The Board of Barbering and Cosmetology licenses and regulates barbers, cosmetologists, hairstylists, electrologists, estheticians, and manicurists. The Board works to ensure that all licensees follow state law and infection control standards to protect consumers.

Licensees receive education and training on how to safely provide services and are required to pass an exam to receive a license.

BOARD-REGULATED SERVICES

Barbers are licensed to shave and trim the beard, cut hair, give facial and scalp massages, shampoo hair, chemically wave or relax hair, dye hair, style hair, and apply cosmetic preparations to the scalp, face, or neck.

Cosmetologists are licensed to provide hair, skin, and nail care. They can provide the same services as hairstylists, estheticians, and manicurists, in addition to chemical hair services such as permanent waving, relaxing, bleaching, dyeing, and coloring of hair.

Hairstylists are licensed to arrange, blow dry, shampoo, cut, style, curl, or nonchemically straighten hair. They cannot use chemicals that alter the hair structure (such as bleach, dye, perm solutions, etc.).

Estheticians are licensed to provide skin care. This includes providing facials, massaging and cleansing the face, scalp, neck, hands, arms, feet, legs, or upper part of the human body. Estheticians may also tint and perm eyelashes/brows, provide eyelash extensions, and remove hair by tweezers, waxing, or other depilatory products.

Manicurists are licensed to provide nail care. This includes trimming, polishing, manicuring, pedicuring the nails, and massaging/cleansing from the elbow to the fingertips or from the knees to the toes of any person.

Electrologists provide electrolysis, which is the practice of removing/destroying hair on the human body using an electric needle. Only electrologists may provide electrolysis.

Licensees are not able to provide injections, use microneedling devices, treat ingrown toenails, shave calluses, or remove moles or skin tags. Braiding, wig styling, threading, and cosmetic tattooing are not regulated by the Board.



Shared Spaces

The Board does not have regulations specific to shared spaces or mixed-use rooms. Establishments are expected to follow all Board rules and regulations. If permanent makeup is provided in the same room as esthetic services, the Board recommends keeping permanent makeup tools separate from esthetic tools in labeled drawers or containers so the inspector can easily see that they are used for permanent makeup. The esthetician license that is displayed should also be removed while providing permanent makeup services.

Cosmetologists and Barbers Needed to Continue Development of Hairstylist Licensing Exam



The Board of Barbering and Cosmetology and the California Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Professional Examination Services are recruiting licensed cosmetologists and barbers to assist with the continued development of the California Hairstylist licensing examination.

Cosmetologists and barbers are needed to serve as subject matter experts (SMEs) in examination development workshops. SMEs are needed with various levels of experience and from diverse practice settings.

Licensees with less than five years of experience are especially needed to ensure that the licensure examination maintains an entry-level perspective.

Participant Requirements

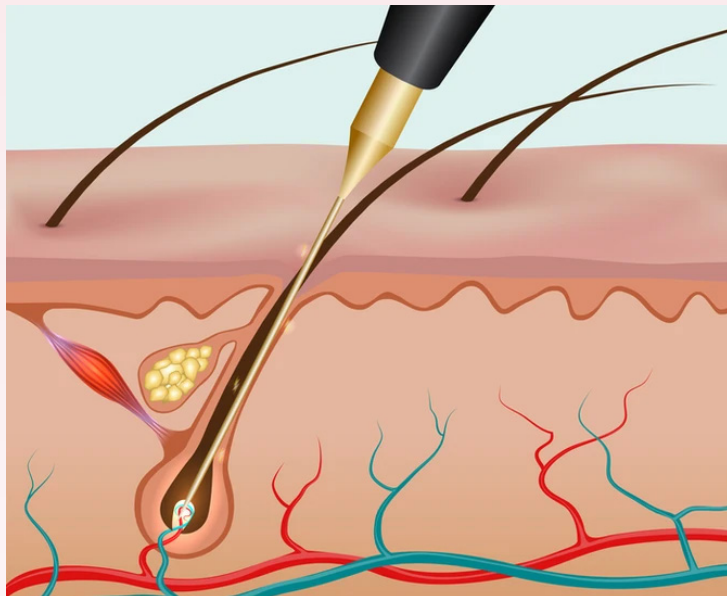
The Board is currently seeking licensees who:

- Hold a current California cosmetologist or barber license.
- Currently provide hair services in a California-licensed establishment.
- Have not received a violation from the Board within the past five years.
- Are not currently school instructors or owners.
- Agree to comply with all applicable health and safety laws and regulations and the state agency's specific health and safety requirements and policies.

If you are interested in participating, please review the recruitment flyer and application at www.barbercosmo.ca.gov (click on the "New" announcement at the top of the homepage).



All About Electrology



Electrology is permanent hair removal. The licensed electrologist inserts a thin wire into the hair follicle under the surface of the skin. An electric current then moves down the wire to the bottom of the follicle and destroys the hair root.

Modalities

There are three types of modalities that may be used in electrology: galvanic, thermolysis, and blend.

Galvanic

Direct current (DC) is also known as “true electrolysis.” This is a chemical method that utilizes DC to convert normal body salt and water in the follicle into a sodium hydroxide or lye, which is a compound capable of destroying the dermal papilla and hair germ cells to achieve permanence. The chemical is produced only in the follicle and does not affect any other area. One probe or several probes working simultaneously can be used during this process.

Thermolysis

Alternating current (AC), sometimes referred to as “high frequency” or “short-wave,” is a method that uses a high frequency current to produce heat in the area influenced by the current. This heat cauterizes and destroys the dermal papilla. One sterile probe is used for this type of process. Two variations of thermolysis are “flash” (or “automatic”) thermolysis, which uses a split-second impulse of current at a higher intensity, and “manual” thermolysis, which requires several seconds at a lower intensity to achieve permanence.

Blend

The blend method combines both DC and AC together (sequentially or simultaneously) in the same probe. Thermolysis enhances the action of the galvanic method to produce a faster process. The best method will be selected based on a client’s hair type, skin characteristics, and sensitivity.

Service

The amount of electrology treatments an individual may need depends on several factors, such as location of hair on the body, consistency of appointments, whether they stopped tweezing or waxing, if their hair growth is medically related, etc. Therefore, the number of treatments can vary from a few months up to a couple of years. Electrology can be a lengthy process because the service is performed on each individual hair follicle in the area that is being treated. Individuals can receive treatments weekly, biweekly, or monthly depending on which method is best for the client’s needs.

If you have electrolysis performed, keep in mind that after the service, your skin will usually be slightly red and may be irritated for several hours. If you have scabbing or blistering, contact your doctor.



Interested In Beginning Your State Career?

Visit the Board's [Job Opportunities webpage](http://www.barbercomso.ca.gov) at www.barbercomso.ca.gov (click on the "About Us" tab and choose "Job Opportunities") to view current job announcements and information on how to apply.

Benefits include:

- Opportunities for career advancement.
- Great state retirement and medical/dental plans.
- Free on-site parking and access to public transportation.
- Work hours 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday–Friday, weekends off, and paid holidays.
- Hybrid telework options available.

Subscribe To the Board's Email List to Receive Updates on Regulations, Board Meetings, Important Bulletins, and More!

https://www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/barber/subscribe_email.php

Have You Recently Moved?

It is important that the Board has accurate addresses on file should the Board need to contact its licensees or applicants. Government mail is not forwarded by the post office. Remember to update your home address through [BreEZe](https://www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/breze). Licensees are required by law to notify the Board within 30 days if they change their address of record.

Have a Question?

Check out the [Frequently Asked Questions](http://www.barbercomso.ca.gov) webpage at www.barbercomso.ca.gov for answers to your questions!

Contact Us

- Applicants, licensees, and members of the public may call (800) 952-5210 or email barbercosmo@dca.ca.gov for questions not answered on our [FAQs page](http://www.barbercomso.ca.gov).
- School owners and administrators may email BBC.Schools@dca.ca.gov.
- Apprenticeship sponsors may email BBC.Apprentice@dca.ca.gov.