



INFORMATION ON OPENING A SCHOOL OF BARBERING, COSMETOLOGY, OR ELECTROLOGY

Thank you for your interest in becoming an approved Board of Barbering and Cosmetology (Board) school of barbering, cosmetology, or electrology. Below you will find information to help you understand the requirements for Board-approved schools. All schools must obtain Board approval and be issued a school code number before opening. Any hours a student obtains before a school is approved will not be accepted by the Board.

Schools Approved by the Board

The Board approves schools of barbering, cosmetology, or electrology that offer courses within the Board's jurisdiction (barbering, cosmetology, skin care, nail care, and electrology) that meet the minimum requirements to qualify for a Board examination. Please see Business and Professions Code (BPC) sections 7362(a) and 7362.1 through 7362.3 for Requirements of a School Approved by the Board. Please see BPC sections 7362.5, 7364, 7365, 7366 (and California Code of Regulations section 950.5) for the minimum curriculum requirements for courses under the Board's jurisdiction.

The Board does **not** approve of manicuring, esthetics, make-up, or eyelash extension schools only. Any services that fall under the branch of cosmetology (manicuring, esthetics, make-up, and eyelash extension services) must be taught in an approved school of cosmetology that meets all the space and equipment requirements of a school of cosmetology and offers the full cosmetology course. Also, individuals performing any manicuring, esthetics, make-up, or eyelash extension services for compensation must have a cosmetology, manicuring, or esthetician license issued by the Board (unless exempt). Please see Business and Professions Code section 7319* for exemptions.

Please be aware the Board does **not** have jurisdiction over training courses that solely focus on lash extensions and/or make-up as these services require a cosmetology and/or esthetician license to legally perform for compensation. Also, the Board does **not** have jurisdiction over permanent makeup (i.e. microblading, microshading, ombre, etc.) as these are courses and/or services that are not within the Board's jurisdiction. Any hours obtained taking these training courses cannot be used to qualify for a Board examination.

Private Schools

Private schools that wish to become a Board-approved school of barbering, cosmetology, or electrology must apply with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE)** and obtain an "intent to approve" letter before being approved by the Board. Schools can submit the applications simultaneously with the Board and the BPPE; however, the Board will not move forward with an application without an "intent to approve" letter from the BPPE. Private schools must obtain Board approval and obtain final approval from the BPPE before opening, and any hours a student obtains before a school is approved by both the Board and the BPPE will not be accepted to qualify an individual for a Board examination.

To apply with the BPPE, please visit <https://www.bppe.ca.gov/schools/applications.shtml>.

Branch and Satellite Locations

Unlike the BPPE, the Board does not have any language in law or regulation regarding “branch” or “satellite” locations; therefore, each school location is considered a separate entity that requires a separate Application for School Approval and will be issued a separate approval and school code number.

Public Schools

Public schools are not under the jurisdiction of the BPPE and an “intent to approve” letter from the BPPE is not required. Therefore, public schools are only required to submit an Application for School Approval with all required documents listed on the application.

Inspection Requirement

Once the Board receives a **completed** application package with all the required documents listed on the application, an inspection will be requested to ensure the school location meets the space and equipment requirements of a school of barbering, cosmetology, or electrology. Please see Business and Professions Code section 940* for the equipment requirements for schools.

*The Board’s laws and regulations are available at
https://www.barbercosmo.ca.gov/laws_regs/index.shtml

** Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education

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