

Stylist Article – November 2020 – Board Overview Q&A

Q: What is the purpose of the Board?

A: The primary purpose of any regulatory board is to serve the public by ensuring competent practice within an occupation. Section 7301.1 of the Business and Professions Code states that protection of the public shall be the highest priority of the Board in exercising its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions.

Q: Who makes up the membership of the Board?

A: The Board consists of nine members. Of those nine members, the majority (five) are members of the public, meaning they have no financial connection to the industry. The remaining four members are members of the industry. The Board's current industry members include one cosmetologist/salon owner, one dual-licensed barber/cosmetologist/salon owner, one barber/shop owner, and one manicurist/salon owner.

Q: What does the executive officer do?

A: The Board's executive officer (EO) is appointed by the Board. The EO oversees all the daily operations of the Board including enforcement, examinations, licensing, and administrative functions.

Q: How are Board meetings held?

A: Board meetings are held in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. This act requires that meetings of a public body shall be open to the public. The act sets many other requirements on how the Board must conduct its public board meetings. For example, the agenda must be published at least 10 calendar days prior to the meeting date, and the public must be allowed to make comments on motions made by the Board.

Q: Why are Board members not allowed to respond to questions during the public comment period?

A: The Board can only discuss items that have been specifically posted on the agenda. Any other items that the public brings up cannot be discussed based on the fact that there was no agenda item to notify the public there would be a discussion on the topic that was brought up by the public.

Q: Why doesn't the Board advocate for the industry?

A: The Board is, by law, a consumer protection agency. It does not have the legal authority to advocate on behalf of the industry. The role of industry advocate falls to the industry associations.

The information above is presented in a new flyer on the Board's website, which can be accessed at https://www.barbercosmo.ca.gov/forms_pubs/board_overview_en.pdf. For updates on the Board, please continue to visit our [website](#) and subscribe to the Board's interested party email list at:

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