

MAILING ADDRESS

Board of Barbering and Cosmetology
P.O. 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.

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Message from the President



On behalf of the California State Board of Barbering and Cosmetology (Board), I want to express my deep appreciation for the dedication and professionalism the Board's licensees bring to the barbering and cosmetology industry. Licensee commitment to safety, skill, and high quality service strengthens public trust and elevates our profession as a whole. As trends evolve and the industry continues to grow, licensee resilience and creativity ensure that California remains a leader in beauty and personal care. The Board is excited for what is to come and grateful for the important work licensees do each day in serving California communities.

Sincerely,
Tonya Fairley
Board President



Message from the Executive Officer

If a consumer runs into a problem at a salon or barbershop maybe something did not feel safe, clean, or professional the Board has a **formal complaint process** available to protect California consumers. A complaint may include information such as unsanitary conditions, unlicensed activity, misleading advertising, or situations where someone may have acted carelessly or incompetently. To help the Board investigate, anyone filing a complaint is encouraged to share as much detail as possible, such as names, dates, photos, or receipts. And while a complaint can be submitted anonymously, having clear information really strengthens the Board's ability to investigate and take action, if warranted.

The complaint process is really about partnership. Consumers, licensees, and the Board all share the same goal safe, professional, high quality services. When consumers speak up, it helps the Board protect the public. When licensees comply with standards and understand the complaint process, it supports fairness and professionalism. And when the Board responds, it builds trust with the community. In the end, everyone plays a role in keeping the industry healthy, safe, and thriving.

Kristy Underwood
Executive Officer

Board Members



Tonya Fairley, Industry Member, President
Danielle Muñoz, Public Member, Vice President
Anthony Bertram, Industry Member
Michelle Edgar, Public Member
Megan Ellis, Public Member
Taylor Gallanter, Industry Member

Dr. Yolanda Jimenez, Public Member
Sinar Lomeli, Public Member
Tamika Miller, Industry Member
Calimay Pham, Public Member
Steve Weeks, Public Member



Have You Considered Serving as a Board Member?

Would you like to contribute to the growth of the barbering and cosmetology industry within California? The Board currently has two vacancies and is seeking a California-licensed esthetician and an electrologist 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.

Board members are expected to attend quarterly board meetings and the ad hoc committee meetings they are appointed to. 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. The current open positions are appointed by the governor's office. To apply for a board member appointment, visit the following website:

www.gov.ca.gov/join-the-administration/government-appointments/.

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 [Department of Consumer Affairs website](#).

Upcoming Board Meetings



**August 17—
Sacramento**



**November 16—
San Diego**

Board meetings are open to the public, except when specifically noted otherwise in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. The public is given appropriate opportunities to comment on any issue presented in open session before the Board, but the president may apportion available time among those who wish to speak. The public can comment on individual agenda items and are afforded an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting to comment on any item not on the agenda. The Board tries to webcast every public meeting of the Board; however, this is only provided when resources are available. For additional meeting details, please visit https://barbercosmo.ca.gov/about_us/meetings/index.shtml.



Pedicure Safety Tips

Manicurists and cosmetologists are licensed and regulated in California by the Board. The Board works to make sure that manicurists and cosmetologists follow state law and established infection control standards. Here are some tips consumers can keep in mind when receiving a pedicure:

Before Your Pedicure:

- Do not shave your legs before your appointment. Shaving makes you more susceptible to nicks and cuts, which are gateways for bacteria.
- If you have broken skin or lesions on your lower legs, DO NOT GET A PEDICURE.

Salon Selection:

- Make sure the salon you choose to patronize is well ventilated.
- Look around to see if the salon is clean, free of trash, and set up with clean, disinfected tools.
- Make sure the manicurist or cosmetologist license is displayed at the licensee's workstation and that it has not expired.

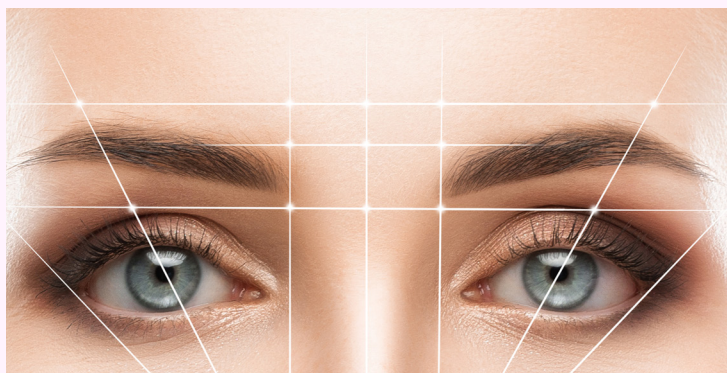
While at the Salon:

- Ask your licensee how the foot spas are cleaned. If they hesitate or refuse to answer, you may want to consider taking your business elsewhere.

- You have the right to view the pedicure cleaning log. Ask to see it. Make sure the foot spa has been cleaned before you receive your service.
- Licensees should wash their hands before serving you. If they do not, ask the licensee to do so.
- Do not allow any nail products that contain methyl methacrylate (MMA) to be used on you. This ingredient can be identified by its strong odor. If you are in doubt, ask your licensee if the product being used is MMA-free.
- Try to avoid breathing in fumes from nail products. Strong fumes can irritate your eyes, skin, and lungs.
- Never allow a licensee to use any razor-edged tool to remove a callus. Your licensee should smooth a callus, not remove it.

Remember—If you see something not quite right, say something, first to your licensee and then to the salon owner. If there is no resolution, say something to the Board by calling (800) 952-5210 or [file a complaint](#) online. Let's work together for a safe, healthy salon experience. Speaking up helps protect the health and safety of California consumers, promotes ethical standards, and assists the Board in its enforcement of the laws of the barbering and beauty industry.





Lash and Brow Perming

Eyelash and eyebrow perming are within the scope of practice for estheticians, cosmetologists, and barbers as of January 1, 2022. Eyelash and eyebrow perming are also known as “lash lifts” and “brow lamination.” These services involve applying specially-formulated products to keep eyelashes and eyebrows lifted, straightened, smoothed, and formed into a more desirable shape for about four to six weeks, following the natural lash and brow growth cycle.

Licensees should be fully trained prior to performing these services to protect the safety of the consumer. The Board cannot recommend specific training vendors or schools, but below are some best practices that any reputable company or school should be teaching and that licensees should keep in mind. The Board encourages licensees to discuss this service with their liability insurance carrier to make sure they meet requirements for coverage.

Best Practices:

- Wash your hands prior to providing any service and consider wearing gloves while providing eyelash and eyebrow perming services.
- Discuss the process, expectations, and aftercare with the consumer prior to the service.
- Perform a patch test per the manufacturer’s suggested protocols. Patch tests are typically

performed 48 to 72 hours before the consumer’s appointment. Follow the manufacturer’s and insurer’s recommendations for this process and refer the consumer to their physician if any reaction should occur from the patch test or the actual service.

- Advise consumers to discontinue the use of retinol products around the eyes for three to five days prior to the service to decrease the potential for skin irritation and sensitivity, especially for brow lamination services.
- Have sterilized water or saline solution readily available in case of an emergency requiring the consumer’s eyes to be flushed (if an eye washing station is not available).
- Confirm that the consumer has removed their contact lenses prior to the service.
- Remind the consumer to keep their eyes closed, avoid movement, talking, and other distractions during the service.
- Examine the consumer’s eye area for redness, swelling, irritation, recent permanent makeup, and other contraindications of the service as advised by the manufacturer and insurer. If present, do not perform the service.
- Gently remove all makeup, dirt, and oil prior to the service. Do not perform or use exfoliating ingredients or techniques prior to providing lash and brow perming services.
- Use products specifically formulated for eyelashes or eyebrows. Do not use perming solution used for the hair as this can cause blindness and damage to the eye area.
- Be sure to remove and neutralize all lash lifting and brow lamination product per the manufacturer’s suggested protocols.

As with any service, licensees are expected to follow all health and safety regulations. For these services in particular, the Board recommends licensees review [California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 979, 981, 988, and 990](#).



Inspections – Tips on How to Avoid a Violation

To assist licensees, the following are common violations, the relevant regulation, and tips on how to avoid a violation.

California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Section 981. Tools and Supplies.

[CCR, title 16, section 981](#), subsection (a), requires all tools and supplies that come into direct contact with a client and cannot be disinfected (such as buffers, pumice stones, wax sticks, toe separators, gloves, cotton pads, sponges, emery boards, and neck stripes) to be disposed of in a waste container immediately after use on a single client.

To avoid a violation, use the following tips:

- After use on a single client, immediately dispose of any tools and supplies that cannot be disinfected.
- Do not carry tools or supplies in or on your clothing, apron, or smock.

This shows a violation of CCR, title 16, section 981, subsection (a), where the licensee was storing used emery boards and buffers in a container.



CCR, Title 16, Section 986. Neck Dusters and Brushes.

[CCR, title 16, section 986](#) is violated when neck dusters or brushes are not cleaned or stored properly.

To avoid a violation, use the following tips:

- Properly clean neck, nail, facial, or makeup dusters and manicure brushes before use on a client.
- Place clean dusters and brushes in a clean, covered place that is labeled “clean.”
- Place soiled dusters or brushes in a container labeled “dirty,” “soiled,” or “contaminated.”

This photo shows a dirty neck duster on top of a workstation and not in a properly labeled container.





CCR, Title 16, Section 987. Towels.

CCR, title 16, section 987 is violated when towels or other linens are not stored properly.

To avoid a violation, use the following tips:

- After a towel, sheet, robe, linens, or smock has been used once, place it in a closed container to be laundered and sanitized.
- Keep clean towels, sheets, robes, linens, and smocks stored in clean, closed cabinets or containers.

This photo shows soiled towels in an open bin, not a closed container.



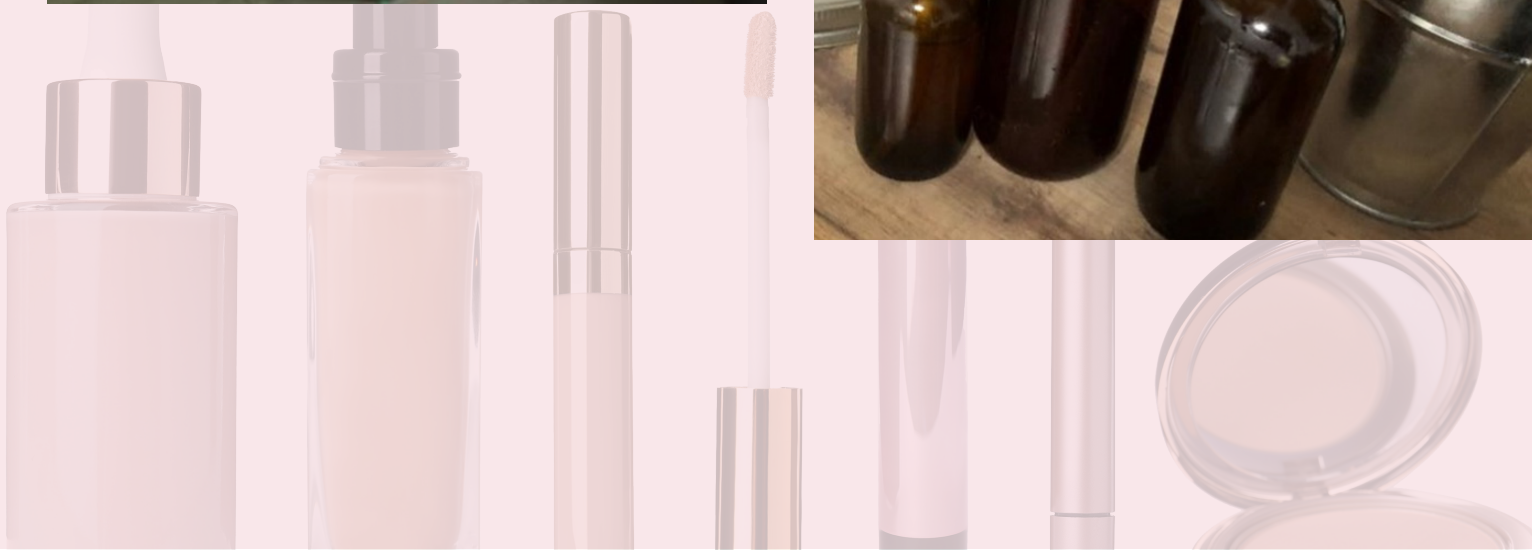
CCR, Title 16, Section 988. Liquids, Creams, Powders, and Cosmetics.

CCR, title 16, section 988 is violated when product bottles and containers are not properly labeled.

To avoid a violation, use the following tips:

- Store all liquids, creams, waxes, shampoos, gels, and other cosmetic preparations in clean and closed containers. Powders may be kept in clean shakers.
- Distinctly label all bottles and containers of their contents. For example, label a bottle with "water," "hair gel," or "cuticle oil," to reflect the contents in the bottle.
- When only using a portion of a cosmetic preparation, remove it from the container in such a way as to not contaminate the remaining portion.

In the photo below, the bottles of products are not labeled. This can be dangerous as you could accidentally use the wrong product on a client.





Groom & Glow

Hair and Skin Safety

The “Groom & Glow” campaign was created by the Board to help consumers stay safe and confident with their hair, skin, and nail care during the summer months. By choosing reputable licensees, looking for clean workspaces, communicating clearly, asking questions, and listening to your body, you can enjoy your services while keeping your well-being a top priority.

Here are some tips consumers can use during services:

- **Communicate your needs clearly.** Be clear and specific about what you want from the service. Whether you are getting a haircut, skincare treatment, or makeup application, communicate your preferences, any allergies or sensitivities, and any concerns you may have.
- **Understand the risks.** Understand the potential side effects or risks associated with the service you are considering and ask the provider any questions you may have.
- **Ask about products used during the service, especially if you have sensitive skin or specific preferences.** Request products that are suitable for your skin type and tell your service provider about any allergies you may have.
- **Listen to your body.** Pay attention to how your body reacts to the service. If you experience any discomfort, irritation, or adverse reactions, tell your licensee immediately. Do not be shy or afraid to speak up.



License vs. Certification

What's the difference between a license and a certification?

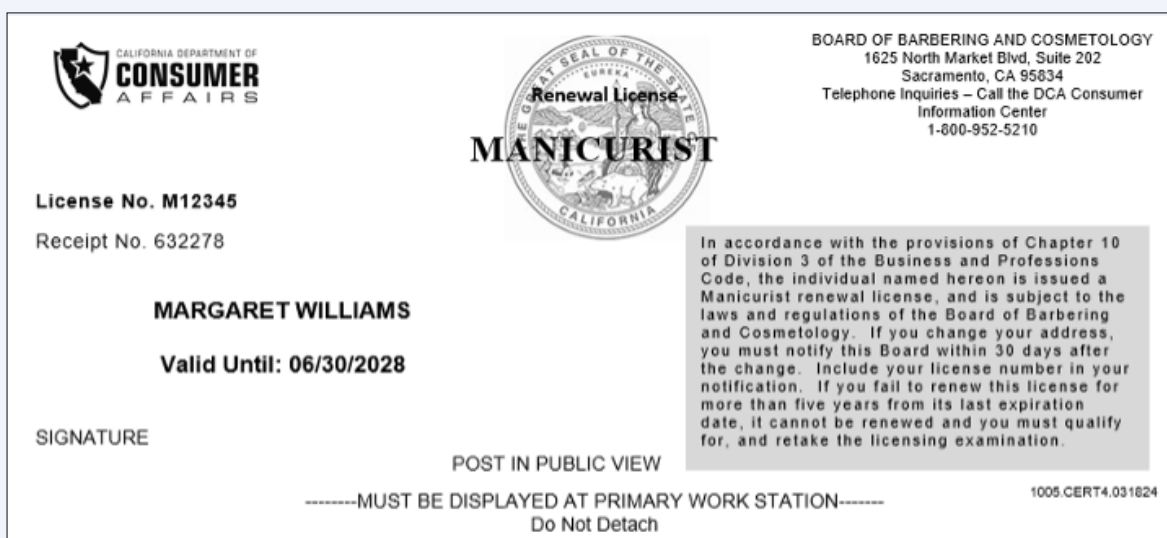
In California, a license issued by the Board is required to perform barbering or cosmetology services.

If a licensee receives training in a specific service or skill, the licensee can receive a certification. A certification alone does not authorize that person to perform that activity without a license issued by the Board. For example, companies may provide

"eyelash extension certification," but without a valid cosmetologist or esthetician license, an individual CANNOT provide eyelash extension services.

When looking into certification programs, be sure to research that the skill being taught is within the scope of practice for your license. You can review all scopes of work for each license at <https://barbercosmo.ca.gov/licensee>.

Below is an example of a Board-issued license.



Social Media

Stay connected and informed by following the Board on social media, where important updates, announcements, and resources are posted for both licensees and consumers. Join the Board on its [Vietnamese Facebook](#) page, [Spanish Facebook](#) page, or [main Facebook](#) page. You can also follow the Board on [Instagram](#) at @cabarbercosmo and on [X](#) at @ca_bbc. Staying engaged can help you receive timely information and remain connected to the latest news impacting the barbering and cosmetology community.



[Main](#) | [Vietnamese](#) | [Spanish](#)





Frequently Asked Questions

► How can I change my address with the Board?

A licensee can change the address associated with their license online through [BreEZe](#), by printing and mailing the [Change of Address form](#), or emailing a request to change address to barbercosmo@dca.ca.gov.

► How can I change my name on my license?

To submit a name change application, log in to your [BreEZe](#) account, click the dropdown under “Manage your license information” and select “Change of name.” You will need to upload and attach a copy of your current government-issued ID reflecting your new name, and a legal document showing your name change, such as a marriage certificate or naturalization document. Please allow up to five weeks for the Board to process your name change.

Once the name change application has been approved by the Board, if you would like a duplicate license with your new name, you will need to apply for a duplicate license online through [BreEZe](#) and pay the \$10 fee.

► I just bought a salon – what forms do I need to fill out? Do I have to schedule a Board inspection?

If you purchased a salon from a previous owner, added an owner to a partnership, or removed an owner from a partnership, you must submit a new [Establishment Application form](#). An establishment license is only valid for the location and owner(s) it is issued to. Because an establishment license will only be issued for one establishment at a time, your application may be delayed if the Board has to investigate the ownership and/or closure of an existing establishment.

To avoid delays in processing your application, you are encouraged to ask the current establishment owner to submit to the Board a [Request for Closure of an Establishment License](#). Submitting that request benefits the current owner as they would no longer have to renew the establishment license.

The Board does not schedule inspections. Board inspections are performed randomly by inspectors in your area. You may want to review the [Self-Inspection Worksheet \(Korean\)](#) [\(Spanish\)](#) [\(Vietnamese\)](#) [\(Simplified Chinese\)](#) to verify your salon is in compliance with California statutes and regulations.

► What does the “status” of a license mean on the Board’s website?

Information on each license is posted online through the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Search website (<https://search.dca.ca.gov>). On each license webpage, the license status is displayed. Below are the license statuses that may be indicated on the license webpage:

- **Current:** license holder has completed all renewal requirements.
- **Delinquent:** license holder has not complied with renewal requirements.
- **Probated/Suspension:** license holder cannot practice due to a Board disciplinary action.
- **Suspension:** license holder received a disciplinary action of suspension by the Board.
- **Revoked:** license holder received a disciplinary action of revocation by the Board.
- **Canceled:** license was not renewed within five years following expiration of the license.

**Mailing Address:**

Board of Barbering and Cosmetology
P.O. Box 944226
Sacramento, CA 94244-2260

In-Person Payments Accepted at the Following Location:

Department of Consumer Affairs
1625 North Market Blvd., Ste. 100
Sacramento, CA 95834

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
(excluding state holidays)

Download and bring any forms needed from:
www.barbercosmo.ca.gov/

Only cash (for the exact amount), checks, cashier's checks, and money orders are accepted.

Credit card payments are not accepted in person.

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.

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**. Licensees are required by law to notify the Board within 30 days if they change their address of record.

Interested In Beginning Your State Career?

Visit the Board's **[Job Opportunities page](#)** at **www.barbercosmo.ca.gov** 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 off.
- Hybrid telework options.

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

<https://barbercosmo.ca.gov/webapplications/apps/subscribe/index.shtml>.

Have a Question?

Check out the boards **Frequently Asked Questions** webpage at www.barbercosmo.ca.gov.

Contact Us:

- Applicants, licensees, and members of the public may call 1 800 952 5210 or email [**barbercosmo@dca.ca.gov**](mailto:barbercosmo@dca.ca.gov) for questions not answered on our **FAQs page**.
- School owners and administrators: email [**BBC.Schools@dca.ca.gov**](mailto:BBC.Schools@dca.ca.gov).
- Apprenticeship sponsors: email [**BBC.Apprentice@dca.ca.gov**](mailto:BBC.Apprentice@dca.ca.gov).



