

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 171, *approved December 19, 2025*
Assembly, No. 4331 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning shops licensed by the New Jersey State Board
2 of Cosmetology and Hairstyling and amending and
3 supplementing P.L.1984, c.205.

4
5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. Section 3 of P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-3) is amended to read
9 as follows:

10 3. As used in P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et seq.):

11 a. "Barber" means any person who is licensed to engage in any
12 of the practices encompassed in barbering.

13 b. "Barbering" means any one or combination of the following
14 practices when performed on the human body for cosmetic purposes
15 and not for the treatment of disease or physical or mental ailments
16 and when performed for the general public, primarily for male
17 customers:

18 (1) shaving or trimming of the beard, mustache or other facial
19 hair;

20 (2) shampooing, cutting, arranging, relaxing or styling of the
21 hair;

22 (3) singeing, dyeing, tinting, coloring, bleaching of the hair;

23 (4) applying cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, tonics, lotions or
24 creams to the hair, scalp, face or neck;

25 (5) massaging, cleansing or stimulating the face, neck or scalp
26 with or without cosmetic preparations, either by hand, mechanical
27 or electrical appliances; or

28 (6) cutting, fitting, coloring or styling of hairpieces or wigs, to
29 the extent that the services are performed while the wig is being
30 worn by a person.

31 c. "Beautician" means any person who is licensed to engage in
32 any of the practices encompassed in beauty culture.

33 d. "Beauty culture" means any one or combination of the
34 following practices when performed on the human body for
35 cosmetic purposes and not for the treatment of disease or physical
36 or mental ailments and when performed for the general public,
37 primarily for female customers:

38 (1) shampooing, cutting, arranging, dressing, relaxing, curling,
39 permanent waving or styling of the hair;

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ARP committee amendments adopted September 12, 2024.

²Assembly amendments adopted in accordance with
Governor's recommendations November 24, 2025.

- 1 (2) singeing, dyeing, tinting, coloring, bleaching of the hair;
- 2 (3) applying cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, tonics, lotions,
- 3 creams or makeup to the hair, scalp, face, neck or upper part of the
- 4 body;
- 5 (4) massaging, cleansing, or stimulating the face, scalp, neck or
- 6 upper part of the body, with or without cosmetic preparations either
- 7 by hand, mechanical or electrical appliances;
- 8 (5) removing superfluous hair from the face, neck, arms, legs or
- 9 abdomen by the use of depilatories, waxing or tweezers, but not by
- 10 the
- 11 use of electrolysis;
- 12 (6) manicuring the fingernails, nail-sculpturing or pedicuring the
- 13 toenails; or
- 14 (7) cutting, fitting, coloring or styling of hairpieces or wigs to
- 15 the extent that the services are performed while the wig is being
- 16 worn by a person.
- 17 e. "Board" means the New Jersey State Board of Cosmetology
- 18 and Hairstyling.
- 19 f. "Board of Barber Examiners" means the State Board of
- 20 Barber Examiners established pursuant to P.L.1938, c.197 (C.45:4-
- 21 27 et seq.).
- 22 g. "Board of Beauty Culture Control" means the Board of
- 23 Beauty Culture Control established pursuant to Chapter 4A of Title
- 24 45 of the Revised Statutes.
- 25 h. "Clinic" means a designated portion of a licensed school in
- 26 which members of the general public may receive cosmetology and
- 27 hairstyling services from senior students in exchange for a fee. The
- 28 clinic shall clearly post the fees for the cosmetology and hairstyling
- 29 services and provide notice to consumers that the services provided
- 30 in the clinic are performed by senior students under the supervision
- 31 of licensed instructors.
- 32 i. "Cosmetologist-hairstylist" means any person who is
- 33 licensed to engage in the practices encompassed in cosmetology and
- 34 hairstyling.
- 35 j. "Cosmetology and hairstyling" means any one or
- 36 combination of the following practices when performed on the
- 37 human body for cosmetic purposes and not for the treatment of
- 38 disease or physical or mental ailments and when performed for the
- 39 general public, for male or female customers:
- 40 (1) shaving or trimming of the beard, mustache or other facial
- 41 hair;
- 42 (2) shampooing, cutting, arranging, dressing, relaxing, curling,
- 43 permanent waving or styling of the hair;
- 44 (3) singeing, dyeing, tinting, coloring, bleaching of the hair;
- 45 (4) applying cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, tonics, lotions,
- 46 creams or makeup to the hair, scalp, face or neck;

1 (5) massaging, cleansing or stimulating the face, neck or upper
2 part of the body, with or without cosmetic preparations, either by
3 hand, mechanical or electrical appliances;

4 (6) removing superfluous hair from the face, neck, arms, legs or
5 abdomen by the use of depilatories, waxing or tweezers, but not by
6 the use of electrolysis;

7 (7) manicuring the fingernails, nail-sculpturing or pedicuring the
8 toenails;

9 (8) cutting, fitting, coloring or styling of hairpieces or wigs to
10 the extent that the services are being performed while the wig is
11 being worn by a person.

12 (9) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2018, c.126)

13 k. "Manicurist" means a person who holds a license to engage
14 in only the practice of manicuring.

15 l. "Manicuring" means any one or combination of the
16 following practices when performed on the human body for
17 cosmetic purposes and not for the treatment of disease or physical
18 or mental ailments and when performed for the general public, for
19 male or female customers:

20 (1) manicuring of the fingernails;

21 (2) pedicuring of the toenails;

22 (3) nail sculpturing; or

23 (4) removing superfluous hair from the face, neck, arms, legs or
24 abdomen by the use of depilatories, waxing or tweezers, but not by
25 the use of electrolysis.

26 m. "Owner" means any person, corporation, firm or partnership
27 who has a financial interest in a school or shop entitling him to
28 participate in the promotion, management and proceeds thereof. It
29 does not include a person whose connection with a school or shop
30 entitles him only to reasonable salary or wages for services actually
31 rendered. "Owner" shall also mean any person, corporation, firm or
32 partnership who has a financial interest in a hair braiding shop
33 entitling the person, corporation, firm or partnership to participate
34 in the promotion, management and proceeds thereof.

35 n. "Practicing licensee" means any person who holds a license
36 to practice barbering, beauty culture, cosmetology and hairstyling,
37 manicuring or as a skin care specialist.

38 o. "Registered student" means a person who is engaged in
39 learning and acquiring a knowledge of any of the practices included
40 in the definition of cosmetology and hairstyling, including beauty
41 culture, barbering, manicuring and skin care specialty, under the
42 direction and supervision of a person duly authorized under
43 P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et seq.) to teach cosmetology and
44 hairstyling and who is enrolled in a program of instruction at a
45 licensed school of cosmetology and hairstyling, completion of
46 which may render him eligible for licensure pursuant to P.L.1984,
47 c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et seq.) but does not mean a person who is
48 enrolled in a public school vocational program in cosmetology and

- 1 hairstyling approved by the State Board of Education or in any
2 other cosmetology and hairstyling program approved by the State
3 Board of Education.
- 4 p. "Registration card" means a document issued by the board to
5 a registered student upon receipt of documentation from a licensed
6 school of cosmetology and hairstyling that the student is enrolled.
- 7 q. "School" means an establishment or place licensed by the
8 board to be maintained for the purpose of teaching cosmetology and
9 hairstyling, beauty culture, barbering, manicuring, hair braiding or
10 skin care specialty to registered students.
- 11 r. "Senior student" means a registered student who has
12 successfully completed one-half of the total hours of instruction
13 required for licensure as a cosmetologist-hairstylist, beautician,
14 barber, manicurist or skin care specialist in a licensed school of
15 cosmetology and hairstyling, as determined by the board pursuant to
16 regulation, or in any public school vocational training program
17 approved by the State Board of Education.
- 18 s. "Student permit" means a permit issued to a senior student
19 which enables him to practice cosmetology and hairstyling, beauty
20 culture, barbering, manicuring or skin care specialty, as appropriate,
21 based on the course of instruction in which the student is enrolled,
22 in a school clinic or shop while a registered student at a licensed
23 school of cosmetology and hairstyling or enrolled in an approved
24 vocational training program.
- 25 t. "Shop" means any fixed establishment, mobile facility, or
26 place where one or more persons engage in one or more of the
27 practices included in the definition of cosmetology and hairstyling,
28 barbering, beauty culture, manicuring, hair braiding or skin care
29 specialty.
- 30 u. "Teacher" means any person who is licensed by the board to
31 give instruction or training in the theory or practice of cosmetology
32 and hairstyling, beauty culture, barbering, manicuring or skin care
33 specialty.
- 34 v. "Temporary permit" means a permit issued to applicants for
35 licensure awaiting scheduling or results of an examination.
- 36 w. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2009, c.162)
- 37 x. "Skin care specialist" means a person who holds a license to
38 engage in only the practices included in the definition of skin care
39 specialty.
- 40 y. "Skin care specialty" means any one or combination of the
41 following practices when performed on the male or female human
42 body for cosmetic purposes and not for the treatment of disease or
43 physical or mental ailments and when performed for the general
44 public, primarily for male customers:
- 45 (1) applying cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, tonics, lotions,
46 creams or makeup to the scalp, face or neck;

1 (2) massaging, cleansing or stimulating the face, neck or upper
2 part of the body, with or without cosmetic preparations, either by
3 hand, mechanical or electrical appliances; or

4 (3) removing superfluous hair from the face, neck, arms, legs or
5 abdomen by the use of depilatories, waxing or tweezers, but not by
6 the use of electrolysis.

7 z. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2009, c.162)

8 aa. "Hair braider" or "hair braiding specialist" means a person
9 who holds a license to engage in only the practice of hair braiding.

10 bb. "Hair braiding" means the twisting, wrapping, weaving,
11 extending, locking, or braiding of hair by hand or with mechanical
12 devices. "Hair braiding" may include the use of: natural or
13 synthetic hair extensions or fibers, decorative beads, and other hair
14 accessories; minor trimming of natural hair or hair extensions
15 incidental to twisting, wrapping, weaving, extending, locking, or
16 braiding hair; making of wigs from natural hair, natural or synthetic
17 fibers, and hair extensions; and the use of topical agents in
18 conjunction with performing hair braiding, including conditioners,
19 gels, moisturizers, oils, pomades, and shampoos.

20 cc. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2023, 231)

21 dd. "Mobile facility" means a shop capable of being moved from
22 one place to another as or by a motor vehicle that shall be properly
23 registered, insured, and inspected in accordance with all applicable
24 motor vehicle laws and regulations and in compliance with all
25 appropriate municipal laws and regulations including, but not
26 limited to, licensing and land use approvals and permits, if
27 applicable.

28 ee. "Chair or booth rental" means a business arrangement
29 entered into by a written contract whereby a practicing licensee
30 rents or leases a chair or booth from the owner of a licensed shop.

31 ff. "Limited cosmetic retail service license" means a license
32 issued to a cosmetic retail service establishment for the purposes of
33 providing cosmetic retail services in exchange for compensation for
34 the services pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
35 Legislature as this bill).

36 gg. "Cosmetic retail service establishment" means any fixed
37 retail establishment ²[of at least 750 square feet,]² wherein the
38 primary business conducted is the offering for sale to the general
39 public of skincare, hair care, makeup, and cosmetic products ²[and
40 which provides services]² to consumers ²[to] , which products
41 may² include: cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, tonics, lotions,
42 creams, or makeup for application to the hair, scalp, face, neck,
43 fingernails, toenails, or other parts of the body, and tools or small
44 appliances attendant to beauty culture ², and which provides
45 cosmetic retail services to consumers².

46 hh. "Cosmetic retail services" means the provision of any one or
47 combination of the following practices by a licensed skin care
48 specialist: (1) applying cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, tonics,

1 lotions, creams or makeup to the face or neck; (2) massaging,
2 cleansing or stimulating the face or neck, with or without cosmetic
3 preparations,² [either]² by hand ²[, mechanical or electrical
4 appliances]²; or (3) removing superfluous hair from the face or
5 neck by the use of depilatories² [, waxing]² or tweezers, but not by
6 ²waxing or² the use of electrolysis.

7 (cf: P.L.2023, c.231, s.1)

8
9 2. Section 8 of P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-8) is amended to read
10 as follows:

11 8. No person shall offer or render any of the services
12 encompassed within the definition of cosmetology and hairstyling,
13 beauty culture, barbering, manicuring, hair braiding **[and]**, skin
14 care specialty services, and cosmetic retail services in a place which
15 is not licensed as a shop or school, except that a practicing licensee,
16 duly licensed pursuant to **[this act]** P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et
17 seq.), may render the services which he is licensed to offer:

18 a. Upon patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and other
19 licensed health care facilities;

20 b. Upon inmates and residents of institutions of the Department
21 of Corrections or the Department of Human Services;

22 c. Upon a person with a disability in the person's place of
23 residence, if the practicing licensee is sponsored by a licensed shop
24 and a record of those services is maintained by that shop;

25 d. Upon performers or models, prior to, in anticipation of or
26 during a performance; or

27 e. Upon potential consumers of cosmetic preparations, lotions,
28 creams, makeup or perfume which are intended for home use if the
29 application of the product is made for the purposes of effecting a
30 retail sale and the person neither accepts payment from the
31 consumer for the service, nor makes the provision of the service
32 contingent upon the purchase of any product or service.

33 Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to preclude a
34 student enrolled in a school of cosmetology and hairstyling licensed
35 in this State, or in a public school approved by the State Board of
36 Education to offer a vocational program in cosmetology and
37 hairstyling, or a student enrolled in a cosmetology and hairstyling
38 program approved by the State Board of Education, from engaging
39 in any activities incident to the instruction provided in such school
40 or program.

41 (cf: P.L.2021, c.275, s.2)

42
43 3. Section 9 of P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-9) is amended to read
44 as follows:

45 9. a. No person, firm, corporation, partnership or other legal
46 entity shall operate, maintain or use premises for the offering of or
47 rendering of any one or more of the services encompassed in the
48 definition of cosmetology and hairstyling, beauty culture, barbering,

1 manicuring, hair braiding, **[and]** skin care specialty, and cosmetic
2 retail services without first having secured a shop license from the
3 board.

4 b. No licensed shop owner shall permit any person:

5 (1) to be in the shop owner's employ;

6 (2) under the shop owner's supervision or control; or

7 (3) as an independent contractor in the shop; and

8 practice cosmetology, hairstyling, or other ancillary services who
9 does not possess the appropriate requisite license or registration
10 issued by the board.

11 (cf: P.L.2023, c.231, s.8)

12

13 4. Section 11 of P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-11) is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 11. A shop licensed by the board shall employ at least one
16 experienced practicing licensee to generally oversee the
17 management of the shop. The practicing licensee shall:

18 a. Hold a cosmetologist-hairstylist license and have three years
19 of experience as a cosmetologist-hairstylist; or

20 b. (1) If the shop performs only beauty culture services, hold a
21 cosmetologist-hairstylist or beauty culture license and have three
22 years of experience as a cosmetologist-hairstylist or beautician; or

23 (2) If the shop performs only barbering services, hold a
24 cosmetologist-hairstylist or barbering license and have three years
25 of experience as a cosmetologist-hairstylist or barber; or

26 c. If the shop performs only manicuring services, hold a
27 cosmetologist-hairstylist, beautician or manicurist license and have
28 three years of experience as a cosmetologist-hairstylist, beautician
29 or manicurist; or

30 d. If a shop performs only skin care specialty services or
31 cosmetic retail services, hold a cosmetologist-hairstylist, beautician
32 or skin care specialty license and have three years of experience as
33 a cosmetologist-hairstylist, beautician or skin care specialist; or

34 e. If a shop performs only hair braiding services, hold a
35 cosmetologist-hairstylist, beautician or hair braiding license and
36 have three years of experience as a cosmetologist-hairstylist,
37 beautician or hair braiding specialist.

38 A shop which satisfies the requirements of this section by
39 employing a practicing licensee who holds a beautician, barber,
40 manicuring, hair braiding or skin care specialty license is precluded
41 from employing senior students other than those being trained in the
42 practice for which the practicing licensee holds a license unless the
43 shop also employs a practicing licensee who holds a license as a
44 cosmetologist-hairstylist and has at least three years of experience
45 as a cosmetologist-hairstylist.

46 (cf: P.L.2018, c.126, s.8)

1 5. Section 12 of P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-12) is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 12. In addition to any practice declared unlawful pursuant to
4 P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.), it shall be unlawful for any
5 person to engage in the following practices:

6 a. Advertise in a manner which would tend to mislead
7 consumers of cosmetology and hairstyling, beauty culture,
8 barbering, manicuring, hair braiding **【or】**, skin care specialty
9 services, or cosmetic retail services;

10 b. Advertise, practice or attempt to practice under another's
11 name or trade name;

12 c. Continue to practice while knowingly having an infectious,
13 contagious or communicable disease which could reasonably be
14 expected to be transmitted during the course of rendering
15 cosmetology and hairstyling, beauty culture, barbering, manicuring,
16 hair braiding or skin care specialty services;

17 d. Engage in fraudulent practices for the purpose of securing
18 financial aid from any institution or agency offering that aid to
19 students of cosmetology and hairstyling, beauty culture, barbering,
20 manicuring, hair braiding or skin care specialty;

21 e. Aid, abet, or knowingly permit a person not licensed
22 pursuant to **【this act】** P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et seq.) to render
23 any of the services encompassed within the definition of
24 cosmetology and hairstyling, beauty culture, barbering, manicuring,
25 hair braiding or skin care specialty;

26 f. Fail to display a practicing license at any place at which the
27 licensee renders services; or

28 g. Engage in one or more of the practices included in the
29 definition of cosmetology and hairstyling, beauty culture, barbering,
30 manicuring, hair braiding **【or】**, skin care specialty services, or
31 cosmetic retail services in premises not licensed as a shop or a
32 school, except as provided in section 8 of **【this act】** P.L.1984,
33 c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et seq.).

34 (cf: P.L.2018, c.126, s.9)

35

36 6. (New section) a. The board shall issue a limited cosmetic
37 retail service license to a cosmetic retail service establishment
38 provided that the premises shall:

39 (1) comply with the federal “Americans with Disabilities Act of
40 1990” (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.);

41 (2) display a permanent sign indicating the name of the cosmetic
42 retail services establishment, which shall be clearly visible to the
43 general public from the exterior of the shop;

44 (3) have a minimum of 750 square feet of floor space;

45 (4) have one lavatory including a toilet, hand washing facilities,
46 and a door;

47 (5) have one sink basin with hot and cold running water;

(6) have a designated area for cleaning and disinfecting implements and tools;

(7) have one ultrasonic unit for cleaning metal implements and tools;

(8) have a clean, closed receptacle for storage of sanitized implements and tools at each work station;

(9) have a closed container for clean linens;

(10) have a closed container for soiled linens;

(11) have a closed waste container accessible to each work station; and

(12) have a dispensary or place where supplies are prepared and dispensed.

b. A cosmetic retail service establishment licensed by the board pursuant to this section shall be permitted to have ²one workstation with a chair up to four workstations with chairs² for the performance of cosmetic retail services ²for every 750 square feet of retail space the establishment occupies, provided that all of the workstations are situated in proximity to one another². ²Not more than one workstation within the premises shall be equipped to perform massaging, cleansing, or stimulating the face or neck by mechanical or electrical appliances.²

¹c. The issuance of a limited cosmetic retail service license to a cosmetic retail service establishment shall not change the pre-existing use and occupancy classification of an establishment under the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code.¹

²d. It shall be unlawful for:

(1) a licensee to provide services beyond those within the definitions of cosmetic retail services while on the premises of a cosmetic retail service establishment; and

(2) a cosmetic retail establishment licensed by the board to permit any licensee by the board to provide services beyond those within the definition of cosmetic retail establishment while on the premises of the cosmetic retail establishment.

e. The board may promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to effectuate the provisions of this section.²

7. This act shall take effect immediately.

Establishes licensure for cosmetic retail services.