

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 236, *approved January 12, 2026*
Assembly, No. 2903 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning the practice of cosmetology and hairstyling and
2 amending P.L.1984, c.205.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. Section 28 of P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-28) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 28. a. Applicants possessing a license to render services in
10 another state or a foreign country, which services are included
11 within the definition of cosmetology and hairstyling as set forth in
12 P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et seq.), may be issued a license as a
13 cosmetologist-hairstylist, beautician, barber, manicurist, hair
14 braiding or skin care specialist, as appropriate, without
15 examination, provided, however, that the state or country has
16 established eligibility criteria substantially similar to those
17 established in this State, and the applicant has paid a fee as required
18 by the board and submitted certification from the licensing
19 jurisdiction. A person possessing a license to practice cosmetology
20 and hairstyling, beauty culture, barbering, manicuring, hair braiding
21 or skin care specialty services issued by a licensing authority from
22 another state or a foreign country which has established eligibility
23 criteria with respect to cosmetology and hairstyling, beauty culture,
24 barbering, manicuring, hair braiding or skin care specialty training
25 which are, in the opinion of the board, less stringent than those
26 required in this State may, nevertheless, be eligible for licensure
27 without examination, if he can present satisfactory evidence of prior
28 practical experience of three years working in a licensed shop in the
29 practice in which the applicant is seeking licensure.

30 b. **【There is established a】** The three-year pilot program **【,】**
31 established pursuant to P.L.2019, c.20 (C.45:5B-28) shall be
32 extended for an additional three-year period. The program shall
33 continue to be administered by the board in consultation with the
34 Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public
35 Safety **【, in】** and be applicable to ¹**【any city of the second class**
36 **having a population of not less than 69,000 persons or more than**
37 **80,000 persons that is located in a county of the second class having**
38 **a population of not less than 500,000 persons or more than 510,000**
39 **persons, according to the 2010 federal decennial census, to issue】**¹
40 a ¹pilot city. A ¹temporary permit ¹shall be issued¹ to a person
41 possessing a license to render barbering services in another state or

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 March 14, 2024.

1 foreign country or who certifies that prior to moving to New Jersey
2 the person rendered barbering services in a professional capacity in
3 another state or foreign country that does not issue licenses to
4 render barbering services, which services are included within the
5 definition of barbering as set forth in section 3 of
6 P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-3), to practice as a barber upon first
7 arrival in this State and while awaiting the issuance of a license as a
8 barber pursuant to subsection a. of this section. A temporary permit
9 issued under the pilot program pursuant to this subsection shall be
10 valid for a period of 120 days, and shall be subject to extension if
11 the applicant continues to meet the requirements of the pilot
12 program and the application for the issuance of a license remains
13 pending. A person that renders barbering services **【without a**
14 **license,】** pursuant to a temporary permit issued under the pilot
15 program **【established】** pursuant to this subsection **【,】** shall not be in
16 violation of section 14 of P.L.1995, c.82 (C.45:5B-12.1) or any
17 other provision of P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et seq.) that
18 prohibits the practice of barbering without a license, provided that
19 the person has made a good faith effort to obtain a license in this
20 State pursuant to the provisions of subsection a. of this section and
21 the person is under the direct supervision of a barber licensed in this
22 State pursuant to P.L.1984, c.205 (C.45:5B-1 et seq.).

23 c. **‘【(1)】’** The board, in consultation with the Division of
24 Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety,
25 shall submit a report evaluating the effectiveness of the pilot
26 program **【established】** pursuant to subsection b. of this section to
27 the Governor and, pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of
28 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), the Legislature upon completion of
29 the pilot program.

30 ¹d. As used in this section,

31 “Pilot city” means the cities of Elizabeth, Passaic, Paterson, and
32 Perth Amboy.¹

33 (cf: P.L.2019, c.20, s.1)

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35 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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40 Concerns licensure of persons rendering barbering services in
41 another state or foreign country.