



THE OHIO STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

To protect and support the public through regulation and education, while promoting the integrity of the industry.

1929 Gateway Circle Grove City, Ohio 43123

Phone: (614) 466-3834 Fax: (614) 644-6880 www.cos.ohio.gov

Thomas Taneff, Chairperson

We are writing to share information with you about upcoming changes related to the Ohio State Barber Board and the Ohio State Board of Cosmetology. As you may have already heard, Am. Sub. H.B. 49, signed into law on July 1, 2017, creates the State Cosmetology and Barber Board, effective January 21, 2018. Under this new law, the Ohio State Barbers Board will be abolished and combined with the Ohio State Board of Cosmetology.

We understand that Cosmetologists and Barbers alike will have questions concerning this change. The following information is being provided at this time to help answer some of these questions regarding the upcoming transition:

What is known?

For the next 6.5 months (until January 21, 2018), both Boards remain separate entities. During this time, the public and persons licensed by each distinct Board will experience no difference in service levels, licensing requirements, or inspection standards. Please continue to contact the specific Board for your particular licensing needs during this time.

What will change?

Effective January 21, 2018, the responsibilities and staff of the two Boards will merge and will be renamed the State Cosmetology and Barber Board. The law adds two licensed barbers, appointed by the Governor, to the membership of the renamed Board.

What's the impact?

- (1) Each Board is working together to complete this transition by the effective date of January 21, 2018. An implementation plan is being developed that will focus on the seamless merger of both entities into a new single licensing agency that regulates both groups' licensees.
- (2) The new law does not change the underlying licensing standards for each professional group. In other words, barbers are still licensed under Chapter 4709 of the Ohio Revised Code and cosmetology, branches of cosmetology, and tanning are still licensed under Chapter 4713 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- (3) There should be no immediately noticeable changes. Most of the changes will be back office and administrative in nature.

The new law does remove restrictions under the Ohio cosmetology law that require cosmetology salons to be inspected by licensed cosmetologists. While this change will allow the new Board to cross-train field inspection staff to better serve Ohioans, it would not be an immediate change.

What the new law doesn't do:

- (1) The new law does not eliminate or change educational, examination, or licensing requirements for any group regulated by either Board. Barber education, examination, and licensing requirements remain the same as they are today. Similarly, the new law does not change or in any way eliminate any education, examination, or licensing requirements for cosmetology or branches of cosmetology.
- (2) Licensing and license numbers remain unchanged. The license renewal requirements are established by law for each group and those requirements are unchanged under the new law.


As both Boards work together over the coming months, we will continue to provide you with information you need to know to successfully and conveniently conduct business with us. Please periodically visit our websites for new information.

Because we use email as a cost-saving, efficient way to communicate, please be sure that we have your email address in our records. To provide us with your email address, please send your name, license number, and your email address to ed.highley@brb.state.oh.us or Ohiocos@cos.ohio.gov. We will update our files and you will be sure to receive any future communications.

We look forward to working together to continue to serve you and the citizens of Ohio.



CHAIR, Ohio State Board of Cosmetology



CHAIR, Ohio State Barbers Board