



## **Board for Barbers and Cosmetology**

### **GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

**Effective:** September 1, 2024

### **Implementation of 1,000-hour cosmetology curriculum**

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#### **I. Background**

On December 7, 2023, the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology (“Board”) approved a final regulation reducing the minimum required cosmetology training hours from 1,500 hours to 1,000 hours. The Board also approved revised standards for curriculum and performances for the cosmetology program. The revised cosmetology curriculum ensures that training is no more burdensome than necessary while preparing students to be minimally competent practitioners. The regulatory change will become effective September 1, 2024. The Board adopted a guidance document for cosmetology schools to follow for student training and meeting the new requirements. Board-approved cosmetology schools may continue to enroll new students in the 1,500-hour program until August 31, 2024. Schools are permitted to continue training students in the 1,500-hour program until August 31, 2026, or until the program is completed, whichever date is the earliest. Schools may begin teaching their new board-approved 1,000-hour program no earlier than September 1, 2024.

#### **II. Applicable Regulations**

Schools are mandated by 18 VAC41-20-200 to submit their curricula for approval by the Board. 18VAC41-20-210.D amended the cosmetology curriculum in the regulations. The outline included the required courses that aligns with the cosmetology scope of practice outlined in Code of Virginia definitions. VAC41-20-220.E regulatory change updated the mandatory minimum performances students must perform in the cosmetology program. 18VAC41-20-20.B.1 is relevant because any student currently in a 1,500-hour program (or who will be within the timeframe established by the guidance) is considered to have met the training requirements to qualify for the licensing examination. The guidance document outlines the timeline for schools to discontinue the 1500-hour cosmetology training and transition to offering the minimum 1000- hour curriculum.

### **III. Consideration of Board Policy**

During the Board meeting on July 8, 2024, the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology approved the below guidance document for cosmetology students completing the 1500-hour program and cosmetology school requirements. The Board aims to establish protocols for students already enrolled in the 1500-hour program and outline school responsibilities in meeting the minimum 1000-hour cosmetology program requirements.

### **IV. Guidance Document**

#### **Implementation of 1,000-hour cosmetology curriculum**

Cosmetology schools currently approved by the Board must meet the new minimum standards for curriculum in 18VAC41-20-210.D and performances in 18VAC41-20-220.E. All schools must submit updated school packets, including instructional hours, course syllabus, detailed course outline, and breakdown of hours and performances to the Board by September 1, 2024.

Cosmetology schools currently approved by the Board may continue to enroll new students in the 1,500-hour program approved by the Board until August 31, 2024.

Students taking the minimum 1500-hour program and students enrolled prior to the school's new minimum 1000-hour curriculum must complete the program no later than August 31, 2026.

SCHEV Certified schools may receive preliminary approval of the new 1,000-hour curriculum upon submission of the revised syllabus and detailed course outline showing conformance to the Board's regulatory requirements.

Schools may not teach the minimum 1,000-hour curriculum until September 1, 2024.

Schools may not teach the minimum 1,000-hour curriculum until approved by the Board.

Schools failing to meet any of the required deadlines will be out of compliance and could face disciplinary action.

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*The Board for Barbers and Cosmetology will be taking public comment on this proposed guidance document. A 30-day comment period will begin on July 29, 2024.*

*If you wish to comment on the proposed guidance document, you may do so via the Town Hall website or you may submit written comments so that they are received by August 28, 2024.*

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