

BOARD FOR BARBERS & COSMETOLOGY

ESTHETICS REGULATIONS WORKSHOP MINUTES

The Esthetics Regulations Workshop was held on April 10, 2006 at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulations 3600 West Broad Street, 5th Floor, Conference Room 5W, Richmond, Virginia.

The following board members were present:

L. Saphonia Gee
Laura A. Todd

Panel Members:

Cathy Embrey, The Studio
Christine Gordon, Graham Webb Academy
Celia Hines, American Spirit Institute
Laura West, The International Dermal Institute

DPOR staff present for all or part of the meeting:

David Ashe, Chief Deputy Director
William H. Ferguson, Executive Director
Zelda W. Dugger, Board Administrator
Rashaun K. Minor, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Ferguson called the workshop to order at 9:13 a.m.

Call to Order

Mr. Ferguson introduced the board members, Saphonia Gee and Laura Todd and the panel members Ms. Cathy Embrey an Esthetician with The Studio, Ms. Christine Gordon owner of Graham Webb Academy, Ms. Celia Hines an Esthetician and owner of American Spirit Institute, and Ms. Laura West with The International Dermal Institute. Mr. Ferguson also introduced board staff Ms. Zelda Dugger, Board Administrator, Rashaun Minor, Administrative Assistant, and the Agency's new Chief Deputy Director, Mr. David Ashe.

Introductions

Mr. Ferguson asked if there was any public comment.

Public Comment

Vernell Strecker, of Vienna, Virginia with Scientific Skin Care, stated that since the last workshop she has been further educating her self and agrees that the regulations should protect the public and provide a high standard. Ms. Strecker stated that the Code missed some of the duties provided by an esthetician but the Code does say "but not limited to..." Ms. Strecker stated she has prepared a transcript for the minimum

requirements for the basic level of practice within the definition. Ms. Strecker stated that those states that regulate estheticians recognize the growth within this profession and those who offer fewer hours will cover the same materials; however valuable information will be covered too quickly and students will retain less information. Ms. Strecker submitted her materials to the board for review and consideration. Ms. Strecker advocated for longer training because the profession's needs demands it.

LaFarn Burton, of Richmond, VA with L B Beauty & Training Academy, stated she had concerns regarding the grandfathering period and asked the Board to look closely at what it will require for documentation. Ms. Burton stated it is important that the Board ensures that those who are applying during the grandfathering period are qualified by education/training regardless of the years of practice in the field; education in such areas as ethics, professionalism, salon business management, and infection disease control, before issuing the license. Ms. Burton stated it is her belief that every professional in the field be competent in these areas before licensure is granted.

Azita Shafazand, of Alexandria, VA with the Skin Care Center, brought three instructional books and a catalog on esthetics equipment, stating basically more or less the books are the same in instruction. Ms. Shafazand stated that most of the equipment that is purchased, the Manufacturer provides training on the equipment. Ms. Shafazand stated that many salons require licensed estheticians in their salons, so students have to go to DC or Maryland to obtain licensure and these jurisdictions require 600 hours of training for licensure. It is her opinion that the esthetician training hours be 300 hours and the master esthetician a maximum of 600 hours. The majority of states require a maximum of 600 hours. In addition, if the hours go up the tuition of schools must increase in order to meet the demands of the increased hours of training. This would lead to a financial burden to those students who wish to practice in this field. Ms. Shafazand stated that the majority of students and professionals in this field are single moms, retirees, and those persons seeking to supplement their income. The two tier licensure can also lead to discrimination because salon owners will push for the master esthetician.

Ms. Shafazand also pointed out that in order to buy certain equipment a medical doctor license number is required and many persons are getting their friends who are medical doctors to purchase the equipment for them. The term medical esthetician is misleading because there is no medical esthetician.

Mandonlin Lenhart, of Richmond, VA, a manager with Nesbit Spa in Richmond, read a letter from their General Manager, Kathleen Myers; Ms. Myers recommended a program of at least 600+ hours for the basic and another 600 hours for the masters as appropriate in order to perform the services required in the spa industry.

Ms. Lenhart stated she has personally noticed a difference in those estheticians who have received more of hours training in their level of critical thinking. Ms. Lenhart stated that Nesbit's strives for a superior level of excellence and hiring an esthetician with less than 600 would not portray that level of service.

Ms. Lenhart stated the two tier licensure is not discrimination; it is a level of professionalism. Ms. Lenhart stated the demands from clients far exceed just the basic facials – more customers are seeking peels, microdermabrasion, etc.

Ms. Lenhart concluded by stating as a manager she would not hire an esthetician with less than 600 hours.

Joyce Cayli, of Fairfax, VA with Reflections of You, requested that the Board not allow cosmetologists to perform esthetics without obtaining further training in an approved esthetics program, completing the required hours of training, and applying for the esthetician license. Ms. Cayli stated that the level of knowledge, training, and focus is not covered under cosmetology and would be unfair to the public and to the esthetic profession to assume cosmetologists can perform these services without completing additional training in an approved esthetics program.

Ms. Cayli stated she owns a salon and works with a plastic surgeon and every esthetician might not need a 1200 hour program this can be a very high number; it all depends on the needs and demands from your clients and the services you are providing in your business.

Ms. Cayli stated she is in strong support of education and interns her employees for 40 hours in order to develop a more prepared individual in the industry and this may be an option the Board may want to consider.

Marissa Buchanan, of Richmond, VA has been licensed in Delaware for seven years as an esthetician. Ms. Buchanan stated she did a 300 hours course and it was fine for entry level, but did not give a confidence level for accessing the skin.

Ms. Buchanan recommends that the Board consider 200 “hands on” hours with clients to ensure students are prepared and adequately trained to perform services on the public. The 300 hour course of study she took did not adequately prepare her for real world experiences.

Cathie Hilton, of Norfolk, VA with Anti-Aging Solutions, Inc. represents the manufacturing companies. Ms. Hilton stated the manufacturing companies are not responsible for educating estheticians on the equipment. Ms. Hilton stated the manufacturing companies demonstrate how to operate and trouble shoot the equipment.

Ms. Hilton stated that a 600 hour training program is a sufficient amount for microdermabrasion and chemical peels, but for those persons who wish to pursue further training and for the prestige a program like the CIDESCO (Comite International D’Esthetique Et De Cosmetologie) is fine but to make it mandatory would place a financial burden on those who could not fund the additional training.

Elizabeth Kirkland, of Norfolk, VA with Anti-Aging Solutions, Inc. is international trained and is a Virginia licensed cosmetologist. Ms. Kirkland stated she furthered her education in esthetics by taking post graduate classes. Ms. Kirkland stated that the concern is how the schools will meet the requirements for training. Ms. Kirkland stated “masters” is just a word; there are programs out there giving a masters level esthetics course for 300 hours with no previous training. Ms. Kirkland stated if the Board is looking for a proficiency level the CIDESCO exam probably would speak higher than master esthetician; the exam it recognized around the world.

Tricia Boor, of Richmond, VA with Metamorphosis is the spa owner. Ms. Boor stated she has hired estheticians from other states and noticed that schools need to provide more training and education in physiology and how to work with various products. Ms. Boor stated she would like to see a curriculum with more awareness of physiology, anatomy, and chemical reactions and to include more case studies as well as an exam with a theory and practical portion. Ms. Boor emphasized students need more case studies and “hands on” experience.

Duyen Tang, of Richmond, VA stated that students are concerned about the grandfathering period. Ms. Tang asked the Board to require evidence of education before issuing the license; otherwise, it would be unfair for those students who are currently pursuing and to those students who have completed their training and education in an institution of higher learning. Ms. Tang stated education is very

important in this field because you come in contact with various skin conditions such as acne and a competent esthetician must demonstrate a skill level supported by education.

Ms. Dugger initiated the workshop panel discussion by distributing for the panels review copies of the curriculum and performance standards from the esthetics regulations for Alaska, Nebraska, Oregon, and South Carolina. Ms. Dugger informed the panel that this information was being provided so that they could have examples of how different states have addressed training and performance requirements for esthetics licensing.

Workshop Panel Discussion

The panel convened for a 10 minute break and reconvened at 11:00am.

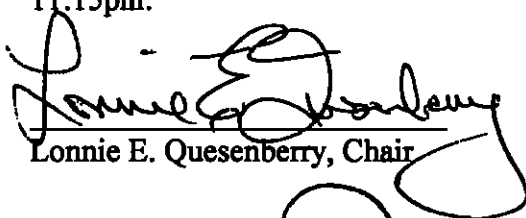
Break

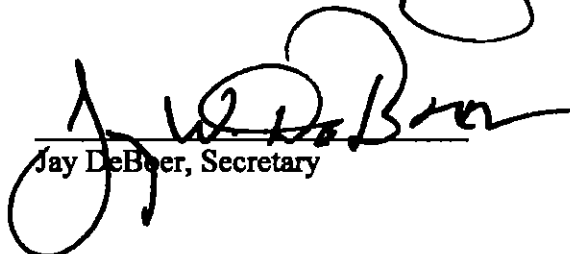
Ms. Dugger asked the panel members for their input, suggestions, and any information that they had prepared for consideration by the full panel. Ms. Gordon and Ms. Hines submitted their suggestions and research information. Ms. Embrey expressed the importance of sanitation of facilities and the process as well as a standardized terminology. Ms. Embrey also stated the importance of students having a full understanding of anatomy and physiology in the curriculum. Ms. Embrey emphasized qualifications of instructors also be included in the regulations. Ms. West expressed concerns about instructor training. Ms. Todd and Ms. Gee advised that they are working together on recommendations and that the information would be provided directly to board staff.

Workshop Panel Discussion

Mr. Ferguson thanked the board members, panel members, and participates for their attendance, comments, and suggestions, there being no further business Mr. Ferguson adjourned the workshop at 11:15pm.

Adjourn


Lonnie E. Quesenberry, Chair


Jay DeBoer, Secretary

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