



Cosmetology Digest

December 2017

Statutory Changes to Cosmetology and Barbering During the 2017-19 Biennium

For your reference, [here](#) is a link to all Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative Codes regarding the practice of Cosmetology and Barbering. Below are updates from the current biennium.

[2017 Wisconsin Act 81](#) made the following changes to licensure for barbering, cosmetology, aesthetics, electrology, and manicuring. Act 81 applies to applications for licensure received on November 29, 2017 or after.

Continuing Education (CE)

- Eliminated the authority of the Cosmetology Examining Board (“the Board”) and the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) to impose CE requirements as a condition of license renewal for licensed barbers, cosmetologists, aestheticians, electrologists, and manicurists.
- Allows the Board and DPS to require continuing education for a licensee as a part of the disciplinary process to ensure competency.

Digest Requirement

- Requires DPS to send to each licensee, by electronic mail at the time notice of license renewal is given, a digest that describes changes to statutes and rules that affect the practice of barbering, cosmetology, aesthetics, manicuring, or electrology.
- DPS must make the digest available on its website.
- A license for barbering, cosmetology, aesthetics, electrology, or manicuring may not be renewed unless the person certifies that he or she has reviewed the current digest.

Reciprocal Licensure

- Eliminated the requirement that an applicant have at least 4,000 hours of experience in licensed practice in order to receive a reciprocal license and instead requires that an applicant complete a one-hour course educating the applicant on statutes and rules that apply to the practice of barbering, cosmetology, aesthetics, electrology, or manicuring.
- The Board or DPS may issue a reciprocal license if the applicant completes the one-hour course, has never been disciplined by the licensing authority of another jurisdiction, and is not a party to a proceeding before the licensing agency.



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[2017 Wisconsin Act 82](#) made the following changes to licensure for barbering, cosmetology, aesthetics, electrology.

Instructor Certificate

- Allows a licensed barber, cosmetologist, aesthetician, electrologist, or manicurist to provide practical instruction in a licensed school without obtaining an instructor certificate.
- DPS will continue to issue instructor certificates under the same criteria as above.
- No person may use a title that implies he or she is a Wisconsin certified instructor, or represent him or herself to be a certified instructor, unless the person is certified as an instructor.
- There is no renewal required for a Wisconsin certified instructor.

Manager License

- Eliminates the cosmetology manager and barbering manager licenses and instead requires an owner of a cosmetology establishment to employ at least one person as a manager who is a licensed cosmetologist and the owner of a barbering establishment to employ at least one person as a manager who is a licensed barber or cosmetologist.
- Managers must manage the establishment on a full-time basis and is responsible to ensure compliance with state law.
- On November 29, 2017, a licensed cosmetology manager becomes a licensed cosmetologist, and a licensed barbering manager becomes a licensed barber.

Practice Outside of a Licensed Establishment

- A person may practice barbering, cosmetology, aesthetics, or manicuring outside of a licensed establishment if all of the following apply:
 - 1) The person owns, manages, is employed by, or is affiliated with a licensed establishment.
 - 2) The person brings his or her license certificate, or a copy of it, to the location where barbering, cosmetology, aesthetics, or manicuring is practiced.
 - 3) The service provided by the person does not involve the use of a chemical process, except for the use of a chemical process in cutting or styling hair or applying cosmetics, oils, lotions, clay, creams, antiseptics, powders, or tonics.
- Requires the licensing authority to promulgate rules related to practice outside of a licensed establishment.
- The licensing authority must promulgate rules permitting the practice of electrology outside of a licensed establishment.