



Barber Update

Keeping You On The Cutting Edge

On February 2, 2006, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation adopted new rules for the barbering profession that will have a significant impact on barbers, shops and schools. The rules, which go into effect on March 1, were developed in close collaboration with representatives from the barbering profession. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) conducted public meetings in July and August and again in December and January at locations across the state to gather information from members of the profession. TDLR also outlined important changes for licensees with messages through the agency's subscription email service. In addition, the rules were reviewed and recommended for approval by the Advisory Board on Barbering, which is a body made up of practicing barbers and shop and school owners who represent the interests of the industry. These changes were made to streamline the rules and implement TDLR's common-sense approach to regulation.

Some key changes to the rules are outlined below. To read the complete rules package, go to <http://www.license.state.tx.us/barbers/barberrules.htm>.

Inspections

- All new or relocated establishments (shops and schools) must be inspected by TDLR **before** opening for business. §82.51. A \$35 fee will be charged for reinspection of a shop if the shop is not approved on the initial inspection. §82.80.
- All shops will be inspected at least once every two years. §82.52. Schools will be inspected at least once each year.
- Shops and schools that have significant sanitation and unlicensed practice violations will be put on a risk-based inspection schedule and inspected more frequently, up to 4 times per year.. §82.53. A \$150 fee will be charged for each risk-based inspection. §82.80.

Licensing

- A person must submit a license application before taking the examination; there will no longer be an examination application or examination fee paid to TDLR. Instead, the examinee will pay the exam vendor. An examinee must pass the written examination before taking the practical examination. Examinees must wear a smock for the practical exam. §82.21.
- Barbers coming to Texas from other states or countries can get a provisional (temporary) license that will allow them to work for up to 6 months while TDLR verifies the their credentials and processes their application for a reciprocal license. §82.28.
- Schools must provide a current financial statement to obtain licensure. §82.23.
- Student certificates will be valid for a two year period instead of one year. §82.31.

Practice

- Shops may now sell products that are unrelated to barbering. §82.71
- Exterior sign requirements for shops have been simplified. Under current rules the shop's sign containing the word "barber" must be on the entrance door or window of the shop in letters at least three inches high. Under the new rules, the sign just needs to be on the exterior of the building or premises. §82.71.

Health and Safety

- Reusable instruments used for manicures or pedicures must be **sterilized** between use on clients by using an autoclave, dry heat sterilizer, or an ultraviolet (UV) light. §§82.100 – 82.114.
- Formalin tablets (a dry sanitizer/fumigant) will no longer be allowed in shops. §82.112.
- Liquid monomer MMA will be banned. MMA is a chemical sometimes used in the manicure process. §82.112.

Please post this notice in your barber supply store, shop, or school.
