



Cosmetology Update

Keeping You On The Cutting Edge

NEED TO GET AWAY?

Inactive Status Allows License Renewal Without Continuing Education

Cosmetologists who are not currently using their licenses but who want to maintain them without completing the required continuing education have an option. Licensees can elect to put their license on inactive status. Inactive status licensees renew their licenses without continuing education courses, but may not work in the cosmetology trade while their license is inactive.

Obtaining inactive status is easy. Cosmetologists need only fill out and submit the "Request for a Change in License Status" form that is available on the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) website at: <http://www.license.state.tx.us/cosmet/forms/changestatus.pdf>. Check the box that indicates you want to change your status to "inactive."

A cosmetologist can remain on inactive status indefinitely and can maintain his or her license by paying the regular renewal fees. Cosmetologists on inactive status do not need to earn continuing education credits to renew their license.

To return to active status, a cosmetologist can fill out the same form, this time checking the box requesting a return to active status. The form must be submitted to TDLR along with a processing fee of \$25. To reactivate a license, a cosmetology must demonstrate that he or she has completed the number of continuing education hours that would have been required since the last time the license was renewed. Continuing education hours do not build up based on the length of time the license was inactive. A cosmetologist whose license has been on inactive status for 10 years must only earn as many continuing education hours as a cosmetologist whose license has been active for two years.

Inactive status is new to the cosmetology program. Prior to the transfer of the program to TDLR on September 1, 2005, cosmetologists could renew their licenses for up to five years after they expired. The law regulating TDLR's licenses, however, allows renewal for only one year after expiration. After a license has been expired more than one year it must, by law, be treated as a new license application, requiring the applicant to take and pass the written and practical examinations again.

So inactive status offers an opportunity for cosmetologists to leave the trade for a period of time to pursue a new profession, stay home and raise children or just to take some time away from the trade. Cosmetologists then can return to the trade without the necessity of testing again.

For more information about inactive status, or to find the form you need to change your license status, visit the TDLR webpage at www.license.state.tx.us.

Please post this update in your beauty supply store, salon or school.
