



# Cosmetology Update

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## *Keeping You On The Cutting Edge*

### **PRACTICAL CONVENIENCE**

#### ***TDLR to Offer Cosmetology Exams at Locations Across the State***

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) will begin offering cosmetology practical exams at eight locations around the state on March 1, 2006. Currently, the practical exam aspiring cosmetologists must pass to become licensed is offered only at a centralized testing facility in Austin.

The change will come concurrent with a change in private companies to administer the exams for TDLR. The agency has signed a contract with PSI to begin providing the examinations on TDLR's behalf on March 1.

"We believe this change will be very beneficial for cosmetology students because it will greatly reduce the expenses they incur when they take their practical exams," said William Kuntz, TDLR's executive director. "Right now they have to travel to Austin to take the exam. After March 1 the test will be offered at locations much closer to their homes, reducing or eliminating travel time and expenses for lodging and meals."

The practical exam will be offered in several cities, including Austin, San Antonio, the DFW Metroplex, the Greater Houston area, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Midland and Amarillo. The testing location in Austin also will change. The lease at TDLR's Cosmetology testing facility expires at the end of February and can not be renewed. The location of all new testing facilities will be announced when space agreements have been finalized.

The written exam applicants must pass also will change with the change in test providers. The written exam currently is offered at the Austin test facility and in a computer-based format at Lasergrade facilities around the state. Beginning March 1, when PSI begins testing, the computer-based tests will continue to be offered in 17 cities around the state, but will be offered at new locations. Those new locations will be announced.

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

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