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How to Open a Hair Cutting Booth in a Barber Shop or Salon

By:
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(1) Obtain a Class A Barber Certificate or Cosmetology Operator License

Barber Certificates and Cosmetology licenses are regulated by different boards. Class A Barber Certificates are issued by the Texas State Board of Barber Examiners. In order to obtain a Class A Certificate you must have completed the seventh grade and be at least 16 years old.

Cosmetology Licenses are issued by the Texas Cosmetology Commission. In order to obtain an operator license you must have a high school diploma or GED.

Both of these licenses require 1500 hours of training in a school accredited by the board which issues the license or certificate you wish to obtain. Cosmetology hours may not counted toward Barber hours and vice versa. After completing the 1500 hours of training you must pass an exam for your license or certificate. (Medical Certificate not required by TCC anymore.)

The major differences between the two licenses are:

- Only cosmetologists may wax and tweeze.
- Only barbers may shave with a straight blade.

Other differences:

- There are more Cosmetology schools than Barber Schools.
- Some high schools have a Cosmetology Department.
- Only a few Barber schools offer manicure training.

	Regulator	Education	Training	Licenses
Barber	Texas State Board of Barber Examiners	Complete 7 th grade and be at least 16 years of age	1500 hours in an accredited school	Booth Rental Permit
Cosmetologist	Texas Cosmetology Commission	High school diploma or GED	1500 hours in an accredited school	Independent Contractor License

(2) Obtain a Booth Rental Permit or Independent Contractor License

If you work as an independent contractor (you withhold your own taxes), you must have either a Booth Rental Permit or an Independent Contractor License. The Booth Rental Permit is required for Barbers who wish to work as independent contractors. The Independent Contractor License is required for Cosmetologists who wish to work as independent contractors.

Booth rental permits and independent contractor licenses are essentially the same thing. Both allow you to work as an independent contractor in either a barber shop or salon. The difference is that the Texas State Board of Barber Examiners and Texas Cosmetology Commission refer to them by different names.

A booth rental permit application may be downloaded at <http://www.tsbbe.state.tx.us/webpages/boothapp.pdf>, or you may request an application by calling the State Board of Barber Examiners at (888) 870-8755.

An application for an independent contractor license may be downloaded at <http://www.txcc.state.tx.us/Forms/License/pdf/ictapp.pdf>. The independent contractor application and requirements may also be requested from the Texas Cosmetology Commission by calling (800) 943-8922.

Texas State Board of Barber Examiners Contact Information:

Web site: <http://www.tsbbe.state.tx.us/index.html>
Phone: (888) 870-8755
Address: 5717 Balcones Dr. Suite 217
Austin, Texas 78731

Texas Cosmetology Commission Contact Information:

Web site: <http://www.txcc.state.tx.us/>
Phone: (800) 943-8922
Address: 5717 Balcones Drive P.O. Box 26700
Austin, Texas 78755

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