

Hair Braiding Registration Requirement Repealed

Date: July 1, 2019

The Legislature repealed the requirement for hair braiders to register annually with the Board and exempts hair braiding from Board regulation. Below are some frequently asked questions regarding this new law.

What is hair braiding?

As defined by MN Statute 155A.28, "Hair braiding" means a natural form of hair manipulation that results in tension on hair strands by beading, braiding, cornrowing, extending, lacing, locking, sewing, twisting, weaving, or wrapping human hair, natural fibers, synthetic fibers, and hair extensions into a variety of shapes, patterns, and textures predominantly by hand and by only using simple braiding devices, and maintenance thereof. Hair braiding includes what is commonly known as "African-style hair braiding" or "natural hair care" but is not limited to any particular cultural, ethnic, racial, or religious forms of hair styles. Hair braiding includes the making of customized wigs from natural hair, natural fibers, synthetic fibers, and hair extensions. Hair braiding includes the use of topical agents such as conditioners, gels, moisturizers, oils, pomades, and shampoos. Hair braiding does not involve the use of penetrating chemical hair treatments, chemical hair coloring agents, chemical hair straightening agents, chemical hair joining agents, permanent wave styles, or chemical hair bleaching agents applied to growing human hair. For purposes of this section, "simple hair braiding devices" means clips, combs, curlers, curling irons, hairpins, rollers, scissors, needles, thread, and hair binders including adhesives, if necessary, that are required solely for hair braiding.

The only service I perform is hair braiding and I am not licensed by the Board. Can I work in a licensed salon?

Yes, as long as you do not perform any regulated cosmetology services.

Will hair braiders be inspected by the Board?

No. The Board does not inspect hair braiders.

I have more questions. Who can I contact?

If you have questions regarding the repeal of hair braiding registration, please email the Board at cosmetology@state.mn.us.