



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

March 10, 2017

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Barbering, Cosmetology, and Nail Technician Programs Requirements

The Virginia Board for Barbers and Cosmetology establishes the minimum standards for training and examination requirements to ensure licensees are able to practice without causing harm to the public. To this end, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) in collaboration with the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulations (DPOR) is providing [guidelines](#) for requirements of Barbering, Cosmetology, and Nail Technician programs for (1) public high schools; (2) public adult occupational preparation; and (3) private licensed schools.

Students who successfully complete the public high school and public adult occupational preparation programs may take the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology examinations by meeting the following requirements:

- Barbering and Cosmetology programs
 - Minimum of 840 hours of instruction.
 - Competency based instruction offered in a two- or three-year coherent sequence of courses.
- Nail Technician program
 - Minimum of 150 hours of instruction.
 - Competency based instruction offered in a two-year coherent sequence of courses.

If you have questions regarding public high schools or public adult occupational preparation Barbering, Cosmetology, and Nail Technician programs, please contact J. Anthony Williams, Specialist for Trade and Industrial Education and Related Clusters, at cte@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-3119.

If you have any questions regarding the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology requirements, please contact Demetrios J. Melis, Executive Director, Department of Professional and Occupational Regulations, at demetrios.melis@dpor.virginia.gov.

SRS/LBH/aab