DEBUTANTES
SCHOOL OF beauty

STATE LICENSING INFORMATION

Illinois Licensing FAQs

Your questions, answered

COSMETOLOGY • ESTHETICS • NAIL TECHNOLOGY

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Illinois Cosmetology, Esthetics, Nail Technology License FAQ's

01

What type of education does the State of Illinois require to obtain your Cosmetology License, Esthetics License, or Nail Technology License?

Someone applying to become a licensed Cosmetologist, Esthetician, or Nail Technician must successfully graduate from an Illinois State licensed Cosmetology School by completing no less than 1500 clock hours of supervised education for Cosmetology, no less than 750 clock hours of supervised education for Esthetics, and no less than 350 clock hours of supervised education for Nail Technology.

02

Is there a State Exam required in order to obtain your Cosmetology License, Esthetics License, or Nail Technology License?

Yes, upon completion of your Cosmetology education you must complete and pass the Illinois Cosmetology State Board exam with a 75% or higher. This test is not administered at your Cosmetology School and does require a fee

03

I'm a licensed Cosmetologist, Esthetician, and/or Nail Technician in another State. How do I go about obtaining my license in Illinois?

Contact the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations at 217-785-0820 (Springfield Office) or 312-814-4500 (Chicago Office) with questions regarding obtaining your license in Illinois

04

Will a criminal record prevent me from obtaining my license in Illinois?

Contact the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations at 217-785-0820 (Springfield Office) or 312-814-4500 (Chicago Office) with questions regarding the specifics of your situation

05

Are there additional requirements in order to renew my license?

Yes, Licensed Cosmetologists, Estheticians, and/or Nail Technicians must take a minimum of 14 hours (Cosmetology), 10 hours (Esthetics), or 10 hours (Nail Technology) of continuing education classes every 2 years in order to renew their professional license and pay a bi-annual renewal fee.

06

Outside of the education requirements, what skills does it take to become a licensed Cosmetologist, Esthetician, and/or Nail Technician in the State of Illinois

Cosmetologists, Estheticians, and/or Nail Technicians should have a pleasant personality, be trust-worthy and reliable, be active listeners, develop time management skills, be aware of others' reactions and how to respond to them, and be flexible with working long hours, weekends, or holidays.

07

Where can I find out more information about the rules and regulations governing the obtainment of a Cosmetology License, Esthetics License, or Nail Technology License?

For more information please visit the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation's website at www.idfpr.com.

08

What compensation can a successful graduate reasonably expect in the Cosmetology, Esthetics, or Nail Technology Field?

Compensation can vary greatly in the cosmetology, esthetics, or nail technology field. Due to the ever changing environment of the industry, full/part time work, commission structures of different salons, and the ability to market/sell oneself are all dependent on possible earning potential. Below is a list of median salary ranges for each field. Debutantes will not guarantee any individual will make a certain salary upon graduation.

According the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median salary in Illinois for each field is listed below. (May 2024)

Cosmetology:

	Employment	Mean hourly wage	Mean annual wage
	13,770	$16.95	$35,250

Percentile	10%	25%	50% (Median)	75%	90%
Hourly Wage	$11.82	$13.97	$16.95	$23.22	$33.76
Annual Wage	$24,580	$29,060	$35,250	$48,300	$70,220

Nail Tech.:

	Employment	Mean hourly wage	Mean annual wage
	2,490	$16.60	$24,330

Percentile	10%	25%	50% (Median)	75%	90%
Hourly Wage	$14.00	$14.25	$16.60	$17.49	$21.73
Annual Wage	$29,120	$29,630	$34,520	$36,380	$45,200

Esthetics:

	Employment	Mean hourly wage	Mean annual wage
	1,630	$18.55	$38,580

Percentile	10%	25%	50% (Median)	75%	90%
Hourly Wage	$14.16	$16.05	$18.55	$22.86	$37.26
Annual Wage	$29,460	$33,380	$38,580	$47,550	$77,500

09

What are the physical/safety demands or the cosmetology, esthetics, or nail technology field?

As a cosmetologist, nail technician, or esthetician, you will be spending long hours standing or sitting, bending, reaching and repeating the same motions. Any repeated activities can cause fatigue and pain in various parts of the body, sometimes even serious injury. Some aches and pains and injuries develop slowly over a long period of time. In many cases, health challenges can be prevented through improved posture, better work habits and proper equipment.