

Connecticut General Statutes
Chapter 386
Barbers

Sec. 20-234. Practice of barbering defined. The following-described practices, when done upon the head, face and neck for cosmetic purposes and done for the public, with or without compensation therefore, shall be construed as practicing the occupation of barber or master barber within the meaning of this chapter: Shaving or trimming the beard; cutting hair; styling or cutting hairpieces and wigs; giving facial and scalp massage or application of oils, creams, lotions or other preparations, either by hand or mechanical appliances; singeing, shampooing or dyeing the hair or applying hair tonic, and applying cosmetic preparations, antiseptics, powders, oils, clays or lotions to scalp, face or neck; provided nothing in this chapter shall permit any of the services or acts herein described to be used for the treatment or cure of any physical or mental disease or ailment.

Sec. 20-235. Examining board. Appointment. Powers and duties. Section 20-235 is repealed.

Sec. 20-235a. Barbers, Hairdressers and Cosmeticians; examining board. There shall be within the Department of Public Health a Connecticut Examining Board for Barbers, Hairdressers and Cosmeticians. Said board shall consist of nine members appointed, subject to the provisions of section 4-9a, by the Governor as follows: Three master barbers, three persons who are registered hairdressers and cosmeticians, and three public members. The Governor shall appoint a chairperson from among such members. Members shall be residents of this state. No member shall be an elected official of a professional association of barbers, hairdressers or cosmeticians or have been such an official for one year immediately preceding his appointment. Said board shall meet at least once during each calendar quarter and at such other times as the chairperson deems necessary. Special meetings shall be held at the request of a majority of the board after notice in accordance with the provisions of section 1-225. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum. Members shall not be compensated for their services. Any member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend fifty per cent of all meetings held during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from office. Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded by the board. No member shall participate in the affairs of the board during the pendency of any disciplinary proceedings by the board against such member. Said board shall (1) hear and decide matters concerning suspension or revocation of licensure, (2) adjudicate complaints filed against practitioners and (3) impose sanctions where appropriate.

Sec. 20-236. Qualifications for license as barber. Licensure without examination. Barber schools. (a) (1) Any person desiring to obtain a license as a barber shall apply in writing on forms furnished by the Department of Public Health and shall pay to the department a fee of one hundred dollars. The department shall not issue a license until the applicant has made written application to the department, setting forth by affidavit that the applicant has (A) (i) successfully completed the eighth grade, (ii) completed a course of not less than one thousand hours of study in a school approved in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, or, if trained outside of Connecticut, in a barber school or college whose requirements are equivalent to those of a Connecticut barber school or college, and (iii) passed a written examination satisfactory to the department, or (B) if the applicant is an apprentice, (i) successfully completed the eighth grade, (ii) completed an apprenticeship approved by the Labor Department and conducted in accordance with sections 31-22m to 31-22u, inclusive, and (iii) passed a written examination satisfactory to the Department of Public Health. Examinations required for licensure under this chapter shall be prescribed by the department with the advice and assistance of the board. The department shall establish a passing score for examinations required under this chapter with the advice and assistance of the board. No license issued in accordance with the provisions of this chapter may be assigned or transferred to another person.

(2) Any person who holds a license at the time of application to practice the occupation of barbering in any other state, the District of Columbia or in a commonwealth or territory of the United States, and was issued such license on the basis of successful completion of a program of education and training in barbering and an examination, shall be eligible for licensing in this state and entitled to a license without

examination upon payment of a fee of one hundred dollars

(3) Any person who holds a license to practice the occupation of barbering in any other state, the District of Columbia, or in a commonwealth or territory of the United States, and has held such license for a period of not less than forty years, shall be eligible for licensure without examination. No license shall be issued under this section to any applicant against whom professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the subject of an unresolved complaint.

(b) (1) Barber schools shall obtain approval pursuant to this section prior to commencing operation. In the event that an approved school undergoes a change of ownership or location, such approval shall become void and the school shall apply for a new approval pursuant to this section. Applications for such approval shall be on forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Public Health. In the event that a school fails to comply with the provisions of this subsection, no credit toward the one thousand hours of study required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be granted to any student for instruction received prior to the effective date of school approval.

(2) The Commissioner of Public Health, in consultation with the Connecticut Examining Board for Barbers, Hairdressers and Cosmeticians, shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to prescribe minimum curriculum requirements for barber schools. The commissioner, in consultation with said board, may adopt a curriculum and procedures for the approval of barber schools, provided the commissioner prints notice of intent to adopt regulations concerning the adoption of a curriculum and procedures for the approval of barber schools in the Connecticut Law Journal not later than thirty days after the date of implementation of such curriculum and such procedures. The curriculum and procedures implemented pursuant to this section shall be valid until such time final regulations are adopted.

Sec. 20-237. Registration as barber; qualifications; examination. Section 20-237 is repealed.

Sec. 20-238. Disciplinary action; grounds. Requirement for operation of shop. (a) No person shall practice the occupation of master barber in this state unless he has first obtained a license as provided in section 20-236. Said department shall furnish to each person to whom a license is issued a card certifying that the holder thereof is entitled to practice the occupation of master barber in this state, and the holder of such card shall post the same in a conspicuous place in front of his working chair, where it may readily be seen by all persons whom he may serve. Said department shall keep a register in which shall be entered the names of all persons to whom such licenses are issued, and said register shall be at all times open to public inspection. The board may suspend or revoke any license or certificate granted by it or take any of the actions set forth in section 19a-17 if the holder of a license is incompetent, is habitually intoxicated or habitually addicted to the use of morphine, cocaine, or other habit-forming drugs, or is a violator of any provision of this chapter or of the regulations adopted pursuant thereto or is suffering from physical or mental illness or emotional disorder or loss of motor skill including but not limited to, deterioration through the aging process. Before any license is suspended or revoked or action taken under section 19a-17, such holder shall be given notice and afforded opportunity for hearing as provided in the regulations adopted by the Commissioner of Public Health. The Commissioner of Public Health may order a certificate or license holder to submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if his physical or mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an investigation. Said commissioner may petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to section 19a-17.

(b) No person, other than a person operating a barbershop on May 17, 1982, may operate any barbershop unless such person has been licensed as a registered barber for not less than two years.

Sec. 20-239. Expiration of license; renewal; fee. All licenses issued to master barbers by the Department of Public Health shall be renewed once every two years, and shall expire in accordance with the provisions of section 19a-88. No person shall carry on the occupation of master barber after the expiration of his license until he has made application bearing the date of his insignia card to said department, accompanied by a fee of one hundred dollars for the renewal of such license for two years. Such application shall be in writing, addressed to said department and signed by the person applying for such renewal.

Sec. 20-241. Inspection of barbershops and schools. All barber shops and barber schools shall be inspected regarding their sanitary condition by the Department of Public Health whenever the department

deems it necessary, and any authorized representative of the department shall have full power to enter and inspect any such shop or school during usual business hours. If any barber shop or barber school, upon such inspection, is found to be in an unsanitary condition, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall make written order that such shop or school be placed in a sanitary condition. All barber shops and barber schools shall post in a conspicuous place the license of any person who engages in the practice of barbering in such shop or school. A director of health for any town, city, borough or district department of health, authorized by the department to enter and inspect barber shops and barber schools, in accordance with the provisions of this section, may assess a civil penalty in accordance with the provisions of section 20-249 against any person owning a barber shop or barber school that fails to post the licenses of persons engaged in the practice of barbering as prescribed in this section.

Sec. 20-242. Regulations. The Commissioner of Public Health, with advice and assistance from the board of examiners established under section 20-235a, may adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 to carry out the provisions of this chapter consistent with the preservation of the public health.

Sec. 20-243. Regulations concerning sterilizing of tools. Sanitation. The Commissioner of Public Health, with advice and assistance from the board established under section 20-235a, may adopt in accordance with chapter 54 such regulations as the commissioner deems necessary to procure adequate sterilizing of tools and implements used by barbers in the practice of their occupation in this state, and for any other purpose that the commissioner deems necessary to improve the sanitary condition of barber shops and their surroundings.

Sec. 20-244. Sanitary appliances and equipment. No barbershop and no barbershop in any school, college, private or public institution shall use or maintain any appliance or equipment that is insanitary or unclean. No towel, other than a fresh, separate and clean towel, and no hot towel other than one made hot by the use of hot, fresh running water, shall be used upon any patron or customer of any barber shop, or any barber shop in any school, college, private or public institution. No powder puff, finger bowl, sponge, styptic pencil, hair duster, lump alum or cuspidor shall be allowed in any barber shop, or in any barber shop in any school, college or private or public institution.

Secs. 20-245 and 20-246. Barber schools and colleges; licenses. Sundays and legal holidays; hours of opening and closing. Sections 20-245 and 20-246 are repealed.

Sec. 20-247. Appeals. Any person aggrieved by a final decision of said board or the Department of Public Health may appeal there from, as provided in section 4-183, except such appeal shall be made returnable to the judicial district of New Britain.

Sec. 20-248. Exceptions. Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit any patient of the Veterans' Home at Rocky Hill from practicing the occupation of a master barber in said home, nor shall the provisions of this chapter be construed to prevent any person holding a registered hairdresser and cosmetician's license under the provisions of chapter 387 from cutting the hair of any person, nor to prevent any person licensed under the provisions of said chapter 387 from carrying on the occupation of hairdresser and cosmetician. Nothing in this chapter nor in chapter 387 shall be construed to prevent a licensed registered hairdresser and cosmetician from working in a barbershop nor a licensed master barber from working in a hairdressing and cosmetology shop.

Sec. 20-249. Penalty. Any licensed master barber who fails to comply with any regulation adopted under this chapter shall forfeit his right to be again licensed. Any person who practices the occupation of a master barber without having obtained a certificate of registration, or who willfully employs a master barber who does not have such a certificate, or falsely pretends to be qualified to practice such occupation, or practices the occupation of a master barber after the expiration of his license, or violates any other provision of this chapter, unless a penalty is otherwise specifically prescribed, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or both.

Sec. 64. of Public Act 10-117 (*effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 20-236 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, on or before October 1, 2011, an applicant for licensure as a barber who has completed a fifteen-hundred-hour course in a barber or hairdressing and cosmetology school, approved in accordance with the provisions of chapter 386 or 387 of the general statutes, may

qualify for licensure as a barber upon passing the written examination required pursuant to subsection (a) of section 20-236 of the general statutes, as amended by this act.