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## Board of Cosmetology

Position Statement: Laser Tattoo Removal

Athletic Trainers

Barbers

Body Piercing  
Technicians

Denturists

Direct Entry  
Midwives

Electrologists

Environmental  
Health Specialists

### Estheticians

Hair Designers

Hearing Aid  
Specialists

Nail Technicians

Permanent Color  
Technicians

Respiratory  
Therapists

Sex Offender  
Therapists

Tattoo Artists

Waste Water  
Specialists

Board of Athletic  
Trainers

### Board of Cosmetology

Board of Direct Entry  
Midwifery

Board of Denture  
Technology

Environmental  
Health Registration  
Board

Respiratory  
Therapist Licensing  
Board

Sex Offender  
Treatment Board

Advisory Council on  
Hearing Aids

Advisory Council for  
Electrologists,  
Permanent Color  
Technicians & Tattoo  
Artists

## Estheticians May Not Remove Tattoos with Lasers, According to OHLA, Board of Cosmetology

Laser tattoo removal, or tattoo removal by any other means, is not within the scope of practice of estheticians, according to the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) and Board of Cosmetology.

OHLA/the Board recommend that consumers consult with a licensed dermatologist for tattoo removal. Dermatologists are licensed by the [Oregon Medical Board](#).

Unlicensed "tattoo removal specialists" are not held to any state health and safety standards and **SHOULD NOT** be a viable option for consumers.

Tattoo artists and permanent color technicians, two professional categories also regulated by OHLA, cannot remove tattoos with lasers or by any other means.

Estheticians in Oregon currently are allowed to use lasers and other devices for hair removal, skin rejuvenation and any other service that is within the esthetics scope of practice and whose **intended use** is specifically for services within their professional scope.

*OHLA and the Board of Cosmetology adopted this position statement on September 22, 2008.*