



700 Summer St NE • Suite 320  
Salem, Oregon 97301-1287

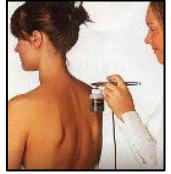
Phone (503) 378-8667

TTY (503) 373-2114

Fax (503) 370-9004

Web site [www.oregon.gov/OHLA](http://www.oregon.gov/OHLA)

E-mail [ohla.info@state.or.us](mailto:ohla.info@state.or.us)



## Board of Cosmetology

Position Statement: Airbrush Tanning

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

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

Advisory Council on Hearing Aids

Advisory Council for Electrologists, Permanent Color Technicians & Tattoo Artists

## Airbrush Tanning Poses Inhalation, Ingestion Risks that Require Regulation to Protect Consumers

The Board of Cosmetology has adopted the following position statement to clarify its position on the regulation of airbrush tanning:

Airbrush tanning as practiced by an individual fits within the statutory definition of esthetics under Oregon Revised Statutes 690.005(7) effective January 1, 2006: *“...skin care practices performed on the human body for the purpose of keeping the skin healthy and **attractive** and not for medical diagnosis or treatment of disease or physical or mental ailments: (a) The use of the hands or **mechanical or electrical apparatuses** or appliances for cleansing, stimulating, manipulating, exfoliating or **applying lotions or creams....”***

Even if there were not concerns about inhalation and ingestion of the airbrush tanning solution in the eyes, nose and mucous membranes, the fact that airbrush tanning fits the statutory definition for esthetics is enough evidence for the Board to determine it is a regulated practice. Other esthetic services may not pose high risks to consumers – such as basic facials or applying makeup – yet they are still regulated practices.

After research by the Board’s Product Safety / Public Protection Committee and personal experience by Board members, those safety concerns were confirmed, including information from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA recommends protective measures for the eyes, nose and mucous membranes.

Evidence of training in the safe and effective use of airbrush tanning equipment must be provided upon request from the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA).

The Board is aware that “self-serve” tanning booths in which no practitioner directly applies the tanning solution are beyond its regulatory control. As a result, OHLA will be conducting public outreach to educate consumers about the potential risks from both individual airbrush spray tanning and self-serve booth tanning. Consumers are urged to become knowledgeable about both methods of spray tanning.

*The Board of Cosmetology adopted this position statement on May 8, 2006.*