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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.