

Board of Cosmetology

The **Board of Cosmetology** consists of six certified practitioners (who are not associated with the manufacture, sale or distribution of cosmetic appliances or supplies) and one public member.

The HLO boards and councils provide profession-specific expertise and consultation but are not responsible for the HLO central office administration.

HLO

The **Health Licensing Office (HLO)** is a state office of licensing and regulation within the Oregon Health Authority. The HLO is unique among Oregon's regulatory agencies — it oversees multiple professions under a central office administration.

For more information, visit our website at www.oregon.gov/OHLA.

Consumer Protection

If you can't resolve a problem or issue with a practitioner or business, The HLO can help.

Contact us at **(503) 378-8667** or via e-mail at hlo.info@state.or.us.

We respond to every inquiry and have the authority to take disciplinary action against practitioners and businesses.

Consumer's Bill of Rights

Consumers of services offered by professionals authorized to practice by the Health Licensing Office (HLO) have a legal right to:

- ✦ Receive competent professional services
- ✦ Verify the names, titles and credentials of professionals providing services
- ✦ Receive clear explanations of the services offered and cost for the services
- ✦ Refuse any services offered
- ✦ Receive information on complaints that have resulted in final action
- ✦ File a complaint with the HLO regarding a practitioner, facility, or an unlicensed/uncertified person
- ✦ Request reasonable accommodations to access professional services as outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act
- ✦ Be treated with courtesy and respect
- ✦ Have service options and consequences explained

Oregon
Health
Authority

HEALTH LICENSING OFFICE

700 Summer Street NE, Suite 320
Salem, OR 97301-1287

☎ 503-378-8667 • FAX 503-370-9004

✉ hlo.info@state.or.us

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Nail Salons

Consumer Information



Oregon
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HEALTH LICENSING OFFICE

NAIL TECHNOLOGY

Safe in the Salon

We want to keep Oregon safe from bacterial skin infection outbreaks that have harmed hundreds of customers of nail salons in other states.

Thankfully, Oregon has avoided such outbreaks, and we want to keep it that way. To do so, the HLO conducts routine safety and infection control inspections in nail salons.

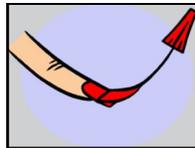
For more information on salon safety, visit www.oregon.gov/OHLA/COS/Pages/publications.aspx.

Nail Services

Nail technology is one of five individual fields of practice in cosmetology licensed and regulated in Oregon. The other four fields are barbering, esthetics, hair design, and natural hair care.

Nail technicians are licensed practitioners who may provide the following in a licensed facility:

- Cut, trim, clean, polish, color or tint natural nails;
- Massage the hands and feet and cleanse, treat and beautify the hands and arms (below the elbow) and legs (below the knee); and
- Apply, sculpt and remove artificial nails.



Look for Licenses

Salons are required to post a facility license. Practitioners must also post a license listing the fields of practice in which they are certified.

These licenses must be posted in public view and can't be photocopies.

Unlicensed salons and practitioners are prohibited.

Disinfect or Dispose

After hand washing with soap, nail technicians are required to take the following steps between each customer:

- ***Clean and disinfect tools approved for reuse, or***
- ***Dispose of tools not approved for reuse***, such as single-use files and buffer blocks; and products such as powders and lotions.

Customers may keep their own nail files and bring them back for use at the next appointment, but ***it is prohibited for salons to keep a customer's nail files, buffer blocks, orangewood sticks, and sanding drums, wheels and bands.***

For more information, see the brochure *Tool Safety for Nail Technicians*.

- Nail practitioners are also ***required to obtain basic customer information*** such as your name and address (in case of an infection outbreak). For details, see the brochure *Required Customer Records*.

Pedicure Pointers

Here are a few tips to keep your pedicure experience a safe one:

- ***Don't shave your legs 24 hours or less before a pedicure*** to avoid creating microscopic cuts that increase the risk of infection.
- Avoid receiving a pedicure if you have any open cuts or sores on skin where services will be performed.
- Observe the foot spa before receiving a pedicure. Has it been properly cleaned and disinfected? Ask if you're not sure. For details, see the brochure *Nail Technician Foot Spa Safety*.
- Be particularly observant of the screen in circulating foot spas. Screens ***MUST*** be cleaned and disinfected after each customer.



The Air in There

Methyl methacrylate monomer (MMA) emits an odor described as a "pungent, bitter chemical smell" that's strong enough to make your eyes water. The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) calls MMA a "poisonous and deleterious substance."

The use of MMA is prohibited in Oregon. For details, see the brochure *Stay Away from MMA*.