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 provide profession-specific expertise and consultation but are not responsible for the HLO central agency administration.

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, HLO may be able to 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

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

Phone: 503-378-8667 • FAX 503-370-9004
E-mail: hlo.info@state.or.us
Website: www.oregon.gov/OHLA
Airbrush Tanning

Airbrush tanning is becoming a popular alternative to UV-based (ultraviolet) tanning beds and systems. While more and more evidence points to the dangers of ultraviolet radiation, less is known about the health risks associated with airbrush tanning.

FDA: Only External Use Allowed
The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has determined that the most widely used color additive in airbrush tanning solutions — dihydroxyacetone, or DHA — is restricted to external application.

While DHA has been approved by the FDA as a tanning additive since 1977, it should not be sprayed in or on the eyes, mouth or nose. FDA officials state that DHA should not be ingested, inhaled or exposed to the eye area or mucous membranes because “... the risks, if any, are unknown.”

Certification Required
All airbrush tanning practitioners must be certified in esthetics to legally practice in Oregon. You must also provide services only in a licensed cosmetology facility.

To gain certification in esthetics, practitioners must graduate from an Oregon private career school and pass practical and written examinations.

For more information on education requirements, visit HLO’s website at www.oregon.gov/OHLA/COS, or call us at 503-378-8667.

For a list of private career schools, go to www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=1403, then click on the Cosmetology School Directory link.

OHA Regulates UV-Based Tanning
UV-based tanning devices, usually tanning beds, are regulated by the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health. For more information, visit http://public.health.oregon.gov/HealthyEnvironments/RadiationProtection/Tanning/Pages/index.aspx.

Precautions to Take
The FDA recommends protective measures for the eyes, nose and mucous membranes:

- Goggles for the eyes
- Nose plug for nostrils
- Ear plug for ears
- Balm or other coating for lips
- Keep your mouth closed during service

Consumers should be offered these protective measures prior to the airbrush tanning service. Client records must be kept to avoid adverse reactions or in the event of infection outbreaks.

Any of the materials above that come into direct contact with the customer must be either disposed of or cleaned and disinfected between each use.

Avoid Violations
All airbrush tanning practitioners must follow the requirements of certification as specified in Oregon Revised Statutes and Oregon Administrative Rules for cosmetology, found under Laws & Rules at www.oregon.gov/OHLA/COS.

“Self-Serve” Tanning Booths Not Regulated: Both consumers and practitioners should be aware that spray tanning booths in which the practitioner does not directly apply the tanning solution are not currently regulated. However, precautions (above right) should be heeded to prevent inhalation or ingestion of the spray tanning solution.