



Northeast District Department of Health Barbershop, Hairdressing, Cosmetology, Nail Salon, and Day Spa Ordinance

Purpose: To define requirements for the inspection, establishment standards, permit fees and penalties for Barbershops, Hairdressing, Cosmetology, Nail Salons and Esthetics, Eyelash, and Day Spas in any town or political subdivision comprising NDDH which include Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, Union, Woodstock supplemental to the Connecticut General Statutes ([CGS](#)), §§19a- 14, 19a-92a, 19a-92g, 19a-231, 20-234, 20-250, the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ([CT Regulations](#)) and the CT Local Health Salon Inspection Guidelines ([CT DPH Guidelines](#)). The Director of Health shall have broad discretionary and determinative authority in the interpretation and application of this ordinance.

I. Definitions

For the purpose of this ordinance,

Barbering: includes any and all described practices permitted by State law when performed by a barber licensed in the State of Connecticut, upon the head, face, scalp, or neck for cosmetic purposes only.

Barbershop: any establishment engaged in the practice of barbering for the public.

Cosmetic Medical Procedure: means any procedure performed on a person that is directed at improving the person's appearance and that does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body or prevent or treat illness or disease and may include, but is not limited to, cosmetic surgery, hair transplants, cosmetic injections, cosmetic soft tissue fillers, dermaplaning, dermastamping, dermarolling, dermabrasion that removes cells beyond the stratum corneum, chemical peels using modification solutions that exceed thirty per cent concentration with a pH value of lower than 3.0, laser hair removal, laser skin resurfacing, laser treatment of leg veins, sclerotherapy and other laser procedures, intense pulsed light, injection of cosmetic filling agents and neurotoxins and the use of class II medical devices designed to induce deep skin tissue alteration.

Cosmetology and Hairdressing: includes any and all described practices permitted by State law when performed by a licensed individual upon the head, face, scalp, arms, hands, body, legs, and feet for cosmetic purposes only.

Director of Health: the NDDH Director of Health or authorized agent.

Disinfect: to use a chemical or physical process to destroy harmful organisms, including bacteria, viruses, germs, and fungi.

Establishment: any premises, building, or part of a building, such as a Salon, Day Spa, rental space, or similar business, engaged in the practice of any barbering, hairdressing, cosmetology, esthetics, eyelash, or nail technician services for the public. The term “establishment” and “salon” shall be used interchangeably.

Esthetician: means a person who, for compensation, performs esthetics; “Esthetics” means services related to skin care treatments, including, but not limited to, cleansing, toning, stimulating, exfoliating or performing any similar procedure on the human body while using cosmetic preparations, hands, devices, apparatus or appliances to enhance or improve the appearance of the skin; makeup application;

beautifying lashes and brows; or removing unwanted hair using manual and mechanical means.

Eyelash technician: means a person, who for compensation performs individual eyelash extensions, eyelash lifts or perms and eyelash color tints.

Independent Contractor: a person who engages in an independent trade, business, or profession in which they offer their services to the public. They are generally not employees of the company and perform services under an expressed or implied agreement.

Nail Technician: means a person who, for compensation, cuts, shapes, polishes, or enhances the appearance of the nails of the hands or feet, including, but not limited to, the application and removal of sculptured or artificial nails.

Operator: any person, including, but not limited to, a licensed hairdresser/cosmetician or barber or independent contractor who is performing tasks allowed under the scope of this ordinance and the CGS.

Permit Holder: the person who applies for and is granted a Permit to Operate and provides the services of Barbershop, Hair Dressing, Cosmetology, Nail Salon, and Spa establishment in the towns covered by NDDH.

Shampoo Station: consists of a shampoo sink (used for no other purpose) with hot and cold running water and a shampoo chair.

Work Area: is defined as a separate room with one or more workstations, or a private room set aside to serve one customer at a time.

Workstation: is defined as a chair, countertop and floor space set aside for the purpose of serving a customer, including floor space for the operator to stand while serving the customer.

II. Plan Review and Pre-Operation Inspections

- A. A plan review application and layout design plan must be completed and submitted along with a Board of Health approved fee, to the Health Department for review and approval prior to opening a new salon or the remodeling or alteration of an existing salon.
- B. Prior to an establishment opening, the Director of Health or authorized agent shall conduct a pre-operational inspection to determine compliance with the approved plans, with the requirements of this ordinance and the CT Regulations.
- C. The permit holder must obtain a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) from the Building Department and Zoning approval from the Planning and Zoning Department, in order to be permitted by NDDH.

III. Permits, Fees, and Enforcement

- A. All permits are valid for one (1) year or a portion thereof and are renewable on or before January 1st of each year. Renewal applications and fees must be remitted prior to December 15th or later and penalty fees will be assessed as specified in the fee schedule determined by the NDDH Board of Health Permit fees shall not be prorated. A water test must be submitted with the annual application if the establishment is on a private water supply (well) (required by CT CGS 19-B101). A current service license must be available on the CT eLicense Website for all applicants at the time of the application.
- B. No person shall maintain or operate any barbershop or hairdressing and/or cosmetology, esthetics, eyelash, nail establishment without a valid permit issued by the Director of Health. Only a person who complies with the requirements of this ordinance shall be entitled to receive or retain such a permit. An independent contractor renting space, including a work area or workstation, in any barbershop or hairdressing and/or cosmetology establishment shall retain a valid permit.
- C. Every barbershop, hairdressing, cosmetology, esthetics, eyelash, and nail establishments must comply with local Planning and Zoning regulations and all other applicable codes before being issued a permit.

- D. Every applicant for a permit to operate a barbershop, hairdressing, cosmetology, salon or as an independent contractor shall pay an annual permit fee as listed in the fee schedule determined by the Northeast District Department of Health Board of Health. Any applicant whose check is returned unpaid to the Northeast District Department of Health shall be required to pay a returned check fee as specified in the fee schedule.
- E. The NDDH permit must be posted in a prominent location within the establishment where patrons can observe it.
- F. The establishment must keep a copy of licenses for all employees performing services. Services that require CT State licensure must have the license posted at the workstation or at the front desk.
- G. Independent Contractors working in a permitted establishment shall be independently permitted by the Director of Health. A CT State license and permit must be posted in a prominent location at the workstation where patrons can observe it.
- H. Permits shall not be transferable from person to person or from location to location. Any planned change in ownership of a facility must be reported promptly to the Northeast District Department of Health, and such changes must be approved by the Northeast District Department of Health prior to the issuance of an operating license.
- I. Enforcement interpretation. The Director of Health or authorized agent shall enforce this Ordinance.
- J. The Director of Health or authorized agent, after proper identification, shall be permitted to enter, during normal operating hours, any portion of any salon or establishment for the purpose of conducting inspections to determine compliance with this ordinance and the CT Regulations.
- K. Penalties. Any person who operates an establishment without a valid permit shall be subject to monetary penalty and further legal action as provided in the CT CGS, 19a-230, each day that such violation continues shall constitute a separate and distinct violation.

IV. Establishment Inspections

- A. The Director of Health or authorized agent shall conduct an annual inspection of each establishment permitted as barbershop, hairdressing, cosmetology, esthetics, eyelash, or nail salon and day spa establishment and shall make as many additional inspections as are necessary for the enforcement of this ordinance and CT Regulations including personal belongings in the service area.
- B. Annual inspections are conducted based on the permit holder and the applicable employees working at the permitted location.
- C. Independent contractors are inspected annually at the place of business of the permit holder and are given a separate permit to perform services under an agreement with said permit holder.

V. Permit Suspensions

- A. Failure to comply with the provisions of this ordinance and applicable State regulations shall be grounds for suspension of any permit issued under the provisions of this section.
- B. In the event that the Director of Health or authorized agent, finds unsanitary conditions in the operation of an establishment, the Director of Health may issue an Order to Correct to the permit holder, citing such conditions, specifying the corrective action to be taken and time frame within which action shall be taken. If correction is not made in the allotted time, the permit may be suspended.
- C. The Director of Health may suspend, without warning, prior notice or hearing, any permit to operate a salon:
 - 1. If the operation constitutes an imminent hazard to public health; or
 - 2. If the owner, operator, or person in charge has interfered with the performance of the Director of Health's duties or has prohibited access to conduct an inspection; or

3. If there is an unsupervised and unlicensed individual performing procedures requiring licensure by the State of Connecticut; or
 4. A water test from a private water supply (well) has not been submitted within the first three months since the issuance of the annual permit.
- D. An imminent health hazard shall include, but is not limited to, any of the following:
1. An ongoing outbreak of an infectious, pathogenic, or toxic agent capable of being transmitted to clients; or
 2. The absence of an approved sanitizer/disinfectant or evidence that sanitizer/ disinfectant is not being used properly to thoroughly clean and sanitize equipment after each client; or
 3. The absence of potable water, supplied under pressure, at an adequate temperature and quantity capable of meeting the needs of the facility; or
 4. A sewage backup into the facility; or
 5. If there is an unsupervised and unlicensed individual performing procedures requiring licensure by the State of Connecticut.
- E. Suspension shall be effective immediately upon documentation of imminent public health hazard and/or interference with the Director of Health or authorized agent in the performance of official duties. A written order to cease and desist to the permit holder of the facility from the Director of Health will follow within 24 hours. All operations within the establishment shall cease immediately and shall not resume until full compliance is verified and written approval to resume has been issued by the Director of Health.
- F. Any permit holder who is aggrieved by such action of the Director of Health may appeal the written order as provided in the CT CGS, 19a-229. An appeal does not stay the order.

VI. Permit Revocation/Nonrenewal

- A. Revocation/Nonrenewal of permit shall be effective immediately for serious or repeated violations of any of the provisions of this ordinance, or for cases where the permit to operate has been obtained through nondisclosure, misrepresentation, or intentional misstatement of a material fact.
- B. The Director of Health shall notify the permit holder of the specific reason(s) for such revocation or non-renewal within 24 hours. All operations within the establishment shall cease immediately. The permit holder who is aggrieved by such action of the Director of Health may appeal the written order as provided in the CT CGS, 19a-229. An appeal does not stay the order.
- C. After a period of thirty (30) days from the date of revocation or refusal to renew, a written application may be made for the issuance of a new permit. This application will be treated as a new application. All appropriate procedures, fees and inspections will be required, including a plan review, prior to the issuance of a new permit.

VII. Equipment and Facilities

A. Water

1. All sinks in the establishment must have hot and cold running water, under pressure, from an approved source at all times. Hot water shall be provided at a maximum of 115°F. Establishments with a private water supply must submit a water test with annual permit application in compliance with 19-13-B101 or upon the request of the Director of Health.
2. Equipment must be of commercial grade and designed for such purposes. Plumbing fixtures shall be clean and free from defects.
3. Wastewater from all plumbing fixtures shall be discharged into municipal sewers or approved subsurface sewage disposal systems as defined in CT CGS 19-B103c.
4. Plumbing fixtures shall be maintained and shall conform to applicable building and plumbing codes; proper devices to prevent back siphonage or cross-connections are required.

5. A separate and designated utility or mop sink shall be provided. Establishments in operation prior to enactment of this ordinance may submit written request for an exemption from this requirement based on physical constraints of the establishment.

B. Floors, Walls, and Cove Base

1. Floors in work areas and walls must have non-porous, easily cleanable coverings and shall be kept clean and in good repair.
2. Hair clippings shall not be allowed to accumulate on floors or chairs. Hair clippings shall be removed to a covered receptacle after serving each patron.
3. Cabinets, shelves, furniture, shampoo bowls, and fixtures shall be kept clean and free of dust, dirt, and hair droppings. Arms, seats, and rests of chairs shall be wiped of hair droppings after serving each customer.
4. Ceilings shall be kept clean and in good repair.
5. All establishments shall have a properly fitted sanitary cove base installed where walls meet floors.

C. Lighting and Ventilation

1. Lighting fixtures shall be in sufficient number and properly placed so as to provide adequate illumination.
2. The establishment shall be properly and adequately ventilated so as to remove chemical vapor emissions, excess heat, and odors. Ventilation shall comply with state and local building codes and ordinances.
3. Nail salon establishments using nail polishes, enamels, basecoats, hardeners, and chemical solvents are deemed to create indoor vapor emissions and shall not pollute nor negatively affect the indoor air quality of adjacent premises.
4. Indoor vapor emissions from solvents and polymers shall be controlled by ventilation systems to remove the contaminating agent at the source. Discharge shall be to the outside and shall not be re-circulated into any space.

D. Garbage and Waste Disposal

1. Containers inside the establishment shall consist of covered containers for hair droppings, paper, and other waste material. The containers shall be emptied daily and maintained in a sanitary manner.
2. Exterior commercial refuse storage and disposal service shall be provided.
3. Wastewater from all plumbing fixtures shall be discharged into municipal sewers or approved subsurface sewage disposal systems. Oils, greases, toxic chemicals industrial/commercial wastes, and wastewater that are not sewage, shall not be discharged to a subsurface sewage disposal system as defined in CT Regulations.

E. Toilet and Sink Facilities

1. Adequate toilet facilities and hand washing sinks must be provided for customers and employees. Such facilities and washbasins shall be kept clean and in working order.
2. Adequate and conveniently located hand washing facilities shall be provided with hot and cold running water, a sanitary soap dispenser and single-use towels for customers and employees.
3. A utility sink shall be provided for proper cleaning of surfaces and equipment.
4. A covered refuse receptacle shall be provided in the bathroom facilities.
5. At least one hand washing facility shall be located in or adjacent to each private treatment room work area in order to provide proper handwashing before each customer.

F. Workstations

- a. All products not stored in the original container must be clearly labeled.

- b. A container with a sufficient amount of disinfectant shall be located within easy access of each eyelash, nail, and pedicure station. Hair salons may keep a container of disinfectant for brushes and combs at workstations or designated areas in the establishment.

G. Salon Establishment Located in Residence

1. A salon located in a residence must be confined to a separate room or separated with ceiling-high partitions and be provided with a separate entrance.
2. The area within a home operated as a salon must be equipped with all the facilities and instruments required in all such establishments and in conformance with all sections of this ordinance and Zoning approval from the Planning and Zoning Department.

VIII. Infection Control.

A. Barbershop, Hairdressing, Cosmetology and Day Spa Establishments

1. All implements shall be disinfected using an EPA-approved disinfectant diluted to the correct concentration and used in accordance with the manufacturer's label.
2. All surfaces or implements that have come in contact with blood and/or body fluids shall be thoroughly cleaned with warm, soapy water prior to disinfection. An appropriate disinfectant includes an EPA-approved tuberculocidal and/or products registered against HIV/HBV/HVC (Hepatitis B and C Virus), or household bleach (5.25%).
3. Items used to clean up minor cuts should be double-bagged and placed in normal trash.
4. All shaving implements are required to be single use.
5. All shaving implements are required to be disposed of in a medical grade sharps container.
6. Tanning and spray tanning facilities should be properly ventilated, provide protection from inhalation, exposure through eyes, mucous membranes, and lips and utilize proper hygienic practices.
7. Materials to stop blood flow or a first aid kit shall be readily available.

B. Nail Establishments

1. Single-service emery boards, orange sticks, buffing blocks, waxing sticks, cosmetic sponges, and other material shall be disposed of immediately after use and shall not be used again. Exception: orange sticks, emery boards, buffing squares, cosmetic sponges and disposable nail bits may be kept for the original customer if kept in a covered container labeled with the customer's name.
2. All equipment and implements that come in contact with a customer must be washed with a soap product, rinsed, and then in a disinfectant diluted to the correct concentration, in accordance with the manufacturer's label after each customer submersion.
3. Sole use of UV systems to sanitize equipment and implements is prohibited as this does not meet the minimum requirements for cleaning, rinsing, and disinfecting.
4. Pedicure Basins must be cleaned and sanitized after each customer.
5. Manicure and Pedicure Implement storage:
 - a. Cleaned, disinfected, and dried implements shall be stored in a covered container, clean drawer, or to allow UV in addition to cleaning and sanitizing, or shall be stored fully emerged in approved containers that contain an EPA-approved disinfectant.
 - b. Each pedicure and manicure station should have a minimum of two (2) sets of clean and disinfected implements per station.
6. Materials to stop blood flow or a first aid kit shall be readily available.

IX. Maintenance and Operation.

A. General Cleanliness

1. Establishments shall be maintained to provide a safe and sanitary environment. All facilities shall be kept clean, sanitary and in good repair.

D. Disinfection, Sanitation, Storage, and Use Of Equipment and Implements

1. Hairbrushes, combs, and all other implements used on a customer shall be kept clean and sanitary at all times and shall undergo thorough cleansing and sanitizing after serving each customer or single-service disposable implements shall be used. Each hair cutting station shall be provided with a container of sanitizing or disinfecting solution.
2. All nail salon equipment and implements must be washed with soap, rinsed, and disinfected after each customer.
3. Cleaned and sanitized implements shall be stored in sanitary-covered containers which shall contain an EPA-approved disinfectant, in a clean drawer, or as otherwise approved by the Director of Health.
4. After each use on a customer, all electrical and non-electrical instruments shall be thoroughly cleaned to remove foreign matter, treated with an EPA-approved disinfectant, and stored in a protected manner until their next use.
5. Disinfectants shall be changed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure complete disinfection. No sediment from the item being disinfected shall be allowed to remain in the bottom of the disinfection container.
6. Single-service, emery boards, orange sticks, buffing blocks, waxing sticks, cosmetic sponges, and other material shall be disposed of immediately after use and shall not be used again. Exception: orange sticks, emery boards, buffing squares, cosmetic sponges and disposable nail bits may be kept for the original customer if kept in a covered container labeled with the customer's name.
7. A commercial linen service shall be used for laundering if not done on the premises. Laundering conducted on site shall be located in a separate room and only the hot water cycle shall be used for all laundering.
8. All linens and towels shall be deposited in a covered cleanable receptacle after each patron.
9. Clean towels and linens shall be stored off the floor in a clean, protected location.
10. A sanitary neck strip or clean towel shall be placed around a patron's neck so that the cape does not come in contact with the skin of the neck. Neck strips shall be discarded after use on each patron.
11. Capes shall be cleaned as often as necessary to ensure a sanitary condition and shall be stored off the floor between uses.
12. The headrest of chairs shall be covered with a single-use disposable cover.
13. When only a portion of a cream, liquid, powder, or other cosmetic preparation is to be removed from the container, it shall be removed in such a way as not to contaminate the remaining portion.
14. Multi-use of cosmetic applicators is prohibited. This includes the use of lipsticks, powder puffs, makeup brushes and sponges which are not disposable.
15. Lotions and powders shall be dispensed from a sanitary self-dispensing container.
16. Eyebrow pencils shall be sharpened after each use.

E. Hygiene Of Operators and Customers

1. Operators shall thoroughly wash their hands with soap and water immediately after using the toilet, eating, or smoking. Before serving each customer, operators shall thoroughly wash their hands with soap, shampoo, or hand disinfectant.
2. Operators shall wear clean, washable garments.
3. Combs and other instruments shall not be placed or carried in the pockets of the operator.
4. All operators shall have an exclusion policy for people with a communicable disease that may

be transmitted through the services of a barber, hairdresser, cosmetologist, or nail technician. This includes customers known to be afflicted with any infectious disease.

5. Operators shall not eat or drink while providing services to a customer.

F. Prohibited Equipment, Procedures and Products

1. It is prohibited to use or store the following items in a salon except for display or historical purposes:
 - a. Lancet or any other device used to break the skin
 - b. Razor blade (Credo blade) callus shaver
 - c. Shaving brushes, shaving mugs, and brush neck dusters.
 - d. Metal food rasps/grater
2. No operator shall perform any cosmetic medical procedure, such as the use of a prescriptive laser device; the performance of a cosmetic medical procedure, as defined in section 19a-903c; any practice, activity or treatment that constitutes the practice of medicine; an injection, teeth whitening, nor utilize any medical device, eyebrow threading as a means of shaping and removing unwanted hair on the face and around the eyebrows; makeup application at a rented kiosk located in a shopping center or the practice of hairdressing and cosmetology by a hairdresser and cosmetician licensed pursuant to this chapter that is within such licensee's scope of practice.
3. No operator shall use any substance banned by the Food and Drug Administration, including liquid methyl methacrylate monomer (MMA) and methylene chloride.

G. Animals and Pets

1. No animals or pets with the exception of designated service animals, are allowed in establishments.

H. Food and Beverages

1. Food and beverages shall not be prepared or sold on the permitted premises.
2. A separate employee break room shall be provided if food and beverages are to be consumed by the employees. Those establishments in operation prior to enactment of this ordinance may submit written request for an exemption from this requirement based on physical constraints of the establishment.

I. Permanent Make-Up

1. Operators applying permanent make-up on a customer shall have a valid tattoo license from the State of Connecticut and shall comply with all designated statutes included in Section 20-226n through Section 20-226s of the Connecticut General Statutes.
2. Cosmetology Establishments conducting permanent make-up shall be equipped with a properly functioning autoclave. The autoclave shall be tested for efficacy as often as the manufacturer's label specifies, or more often as determined by the Director of Health and/or supervising medical doctor.
3. The operator must acquire the services of a medical doctor to provide a professional letter to the Health District which states that the permanent make-up operation has been reviewed, and under his/her supervision is adequately designed, maintained and that sterilization procedures are appropriate. A new professional letter from a medical doctor shall be submitted every year upon annual licensing, indicating that the medical doctor overseeing the permanent make-up operation has recently reviewed, and under his/her supervision is adequately designed, maintained and that sterilization procedures are appropriate.
 - It is a Class D misdemeanor to engage in permanent make-up or tattooing without a tattoo license from the State of Connecticut.
 - The customer must be at least eighteen (18) years of age to receive permanent make-up, or accompanied by a parent or legal guardian who shall give written permission prior to

a customer receiving permanent make-up treatment. Written permission from a parent or legal guardian is required to be kept for no less than five (5) years by the cosmetology establishment and available upon request of the Director of Health or his/her authorized agent.

G. Med Spa

1. Operators of medical spas providing cosmetic medical procedures on a customer shall comply with all designated statutes included in Ch. 368ll Sec. 19a-903c of the Connecticut General Statutes.
2. The operator must acquire the services of a physician, physician assistant (PA), or advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) with specified training and experience as outlined in the Public Act 14-119 SB 418.

X. Smoking Prohibited

Establishments must adhere to Connecticut Statutes regarding smoking in public places.

XI. Technical Standards

The Director of Health shall have the authority to adopt technical standards and associated inspection procedures to assure proper sanitary maintenance and safe operation of barbershops, beauty salons, and nail salon establishments. Such standards and inspection shall not contravene any of the provisions of this ordinance or any state or municipal laws, ordinances, or regulations, and may be amended or revised by the Director of Health. Failure of an establishment to achieve and maintain minimum requirements of these technical standards shall constitute a violation of this ordinance.

XII. CONFLICT OF REGULATIONS

- A. In any case where a provision of this ordinance is found to be in conflict with a regulation of the State Department of Public Health or any other state law or regulation. The provision which establishes the higher standard for the promotion and protection of the health and safety of the people shall prevail.
- B. Effective Date: January 8, 2026