



**July 29, 2020**

## **Pennsylvania Temporarily Expands Distance Education Hours Permitted for Barbers**

The State Board of Barber Examiners recently reexamined the issue of distance education and concluded that 300 hours of distance education provided for in the guidance the Department of State issued earlier this year has proven to be inadequate to meet the needs of the student barber community.

The Department, with the support of the Board, proposed that the following additional measures be implemented to temporarily allow up to 50% of barber, barber teacher, and barber cross-over training (theory course work) to be delivered through distance education for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency plus an additional 90 days after the emergency ends. The Governor approved this request.

### **Barber curriculum:**

Of the 1,250-hour barber curriculum, the Department received approval to allow the State Board of Barber Examiners to accept up to 625 hours of theory-based course work delivered through distance education, as set forth below:

Curriculum	Distance Learning Hours Permitted	Total Required In Regs.
Honing and stropping	20	25
Shaving and various uses of the straight razor	60	240
Haircutting, hair styling and hair pieces	120	535
Shampoo and scalp massages	20	25
Haircoloring	20	25
Massaging (facials)	20	25
Hair waving or curling (perms) and straightening	20	25
Scalp and skin disease	50	50
State barber law and rules and regulations	50	50
Physiology	50	50
Sterilization and sanitation	45	50
Hygiene	25	25
Bacteriology	25	25

Electricity (ultraviolet, high frequency, infrared, curling irons)	25	25
Professional ethics and barbershop demeanor	25	25
Manager-barber instructions, instruments, shop management, orientation and preparation for related examination	50	50
Total	625 hours permitted	1,250 total hours

**Cross-over curriculum** (for licensed cosmetologists who wish to take the barber examination):

Of the 695-hour cosmetologist-barber cross-over curriculum, the Department received approval to allow the State Board of Barber Examiners to accept up to 327 hours of theory-based course work delivered through distance education, as set forth below:

Curriculum	<u>Distance Learning Hours Permitted</u>	<u>Total Required In Regs.</u>
State barber law and rules and regulations	50	50
Haircutting, hair styling and hair pieces	147	330
Shaving and various uses of the straight razor	60	240
Honing and stropping	45	50
Manager-barber instructions, instruments, shop management, orientation and preparation for related examination	25	25
Total	327 hours permitted	625 total hours

**For Students Studying in Barber Shops:**

Of the 1,250-hour curriculum for students studying in barber shops, the Department received approval to allow the State Board of Barber Examiners to accept up to 350 hours of theory-based course work delivered through distance education, as set forth below:

Curriculum	<u>Distance Learning Hours Permitted</u>	<u>Total Required In Regs.</u>
Honing and stropping	0	25
Shaving and various uses of the straight razor	0	240

Haircutting, hair styling and hair pieces	0	535
Shampoo and scalp massages	0	25
Haircoloring	0	25
Massaging (facials)	0	25
Hair waving or curling (perms) and straightening	0	25
Scalp and skin disease	50	50
State barber law and rules and regulations	50	50
Physiology	50	50
Sterilization and sanitation	50	50
Hygiene	25	25
Bacteriology	25	25
Electricity (ultraviolet, high frequency, infrared, curling irons)	25	25
Professional ethics and barbershop demeanor	25	25
Manager-barber instructions, instruments, shop management, orientation and preparation for related examination	50	50
Total	350 hours permitted	1,250 total hours

**Barber Teacher curriculum:**

Section 3(d) of the Barbers' License Law requires that an applicant for a barber teacher's license have either five years' experience as a barber in a licensed shop or be a barber manager who has trained for 1,250 hours under a licensed barber teacher in a licensed barber school.

Notwithstanding the fact that there is no specific curriculum for barber teachers identified in the Board's regulations, the Department received approval for the State Board of Barber Examiners to temporarily authorize barber schools to deliver up to 625 hours of theory-based course work of their **barber teacher curriculum** through distance education.