

Stylist Article – July 2013

What's on your mind concerning the Board of Barbering and Cosmetology? Keeping licensees informed about its activities and significant issues within the beauty industry are major goals of the Board. With nearly a half million licensees, the Board relies heavily on its Web page, at www.barbercosmo.ca.gov, and more recently, its Facebook page and Twitter tweets to provide information to its licensees.

But the real workhorse is the Web site. Want to know how to check the license of an employee or establishment? Click on the "Consumers" link. You'll come across the Board's license verification search engines. Need to find a change-of-address or license renewal form? Again — go to the Web site and click on the "Forms/Publications." You'll not only find the appropriate form for whatever transaction you wish to make with the Board, but also a number of fact sheets and Q&As on a variety of topics, from taking the licensing examination to opening your own establishment. Worried that your salon won't pass inspection? Don't leave it to chance. Check out the "Self Inspection Worksheet." It's available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Footspa cleanliness is a big concern for both licensees and the Board. Want to be sure you're doing it right? Watch the video demonstration on the Board's Web site. All this information is available with a click of your mouse.

But we're always looking for new things to add. What topics would you like to see covered on the Board's Web site? Gives us a tweet (@CA_BBC), or post your ideas on Facebook. We'd love to hear from you.

OPEN HOUSE: The Board held an Open House at Department of Consumer Affairs headquarters on June 10, 2013, to give the licensees and industry representatives a chance to meet Board staff and have their questions answered about the Board's various functions and activities. The event drew a variety of people, from students and licensees to school and industry representatives. Feedback from the event was positive, with attendees praising the information about enforcement, as well as pedicure foot spa disinfection procedures. Licensing attendees also stated they would like more opportunities to interact with Board staff. We're working on it. In fact, the Board is planning another event in September, this one geared toward barbering and cosmetology students. Keep an eye on Facebook and Twitter for details.

INSPECTOR'S CORNER: The Board is mandated by law to inspect both establishments and schools under Section 7313 of the Business and Professions Code. If violations of the Board's regulations are found, the establishment or school can be cited and fined. In cases where significant health and safety violations exist relating to foot spa cleanliness, an establishment's license may be immediately suspended.

Licensees are required by law to give access to all areas of the establishment or school, even to locked drawers and closets. Interfering with an inspection or denying access to the inspector can lead to a fine of \$250 for a first offense, up to \$750 for a third.