



March 5, 2015

CIRCULAR LETTER #15/03

TO: ALL SCHOOLS OF BARBERING, COSMETOLOGY, ELECTROLOGY, AND APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM SPONSORS

SUBJECT: ELIMINATION OF MODELS FOR BARBER CANDIDATES AND TRIPODS AT TESTING SITES

The Board of Barbering and Cosmetology (Board) began administering the NIC Practical examination in October 2011 to California candidates. In an effort to become uniform with the other states that also use the NIC examination we have been slowly introducing changes to reach this goal. Please see below for changes to the model requirement for the barbering examination as well as changes to the equipment/supplies for barbering, cosmetology and esthetician practical examinations.

MODELS FOR BARBER EXAMINATIONS

Most states do not use models for their examinations and all work is done on a mannequin head and/or hand. The models for the cosmetologist, manicurist and esthetician examinations were eliminated effective March 1st 2012. **We are now eliminating the use of models for the barber examination. Barber candidates who are scheduled for the examination on or after May 1st 2015 will no longer be allowed to bring a model for the practical portion of the examination.** Barber candidates should bring at least 2 mannequin head(s) to do all of the services required.

The elimination of the models will also simplify the examination process (i.e., model issues such as unacceptable identifications, late arrivals, no shows, etc.).

Note: Models will still be used for the electrologists examinations.

TRIPODS

The Board will be removing all of its Styling and Barber Chairs from the examination facilities. Therefore, effective **May 1, 2015** candidates for the barber and cosmetologist examinations will be required to bring a 'tripod' to support the mannequin head during the examination. The candidates will no longer need to bring the table clamp after this date as there will no longer be anything on which to attach it. The esthetician candidates will place their mannequin on the manicure table and set up their supplies on the counter of their work station.

Note: Tripods must be designed for the sole purpose of supporting a mannequin head. Makeshift or unstable tripods designed for other purposes will not be allowed. Table clamps cannot be used for any Board examinations.

The Board will be posting sample photos of what the draping will look like for the barber, cosmetology and esthetician examinations. These photos will be up on the Board's website by April 8th, 2015 under the 'Examination Information' or 'Schools' link. The Board will be having a webcast in June 2015 that will include more photos. All schools will be notified the date and time of the webcast at a later date.

The Board and NIC are in the process of revising the Candidate Information Bulletins (CIB) to reflect these changes. They will be posted on our website by April 8th, 2015.

For those candidates who are scheduled for May 1st, 2015, and after, the Board will include an insert with their admission letter which will inform them of these changes.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please email our questions or concerns to barbercosmo@dca.ca.gov and put Circular Letter #15/03 on the subject line.

Sincerely,

Kristy Underwood
Executive Officer