



CALIFORNIA COSMETOLOGY  
PRACTICAL EXAMINATION  
CANDIDATE INFORMATION BULLETIN

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This bulletin contains important information regarding the NIC National Cosmetology Practical Examination content and administration. Please review all information carefully.

### IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- All applicants must present a current valid government issued photographic identification for admittance to the examination. Acceptable forms of identification are as follows: photographic driver license (any state), state identification card (issued by the state Department of Motor Vehicles-any state), U.S. military identification, valid passport (valid foreign passport with valid record of arrival/departure-form I-94 or processed for I-551 stamped in a valid foreign passport), U.S. immigration and naturalization issued identification, certificate of United States citizenship must be current and valid.
- Do not leave the examination area without permission. Permission must be obtained to leave the examination area for any reason, including restroom usage or at the completion of the examination.
- Candidates are required to bring their own kit with sufficient quantity of supplies in sanitary condition. This includes the required implements in proper working order and protective drapes. The kit must be kept closed except when removing or replacing materials for a particular service. The kit will be used during the examination as dry storage and is considered part of the work area.
- Candidates are evaluated at all times. Continue demonstrating until you have completed the entire section.
- Candidates will be given 10 minutes for client protection and to set up the general supplies that they will use throughout the examination.
- Candidates will also be given 2 minutes to set up the supplies for each section of the examination.
- The verbal instructions will be read twice for each section of the examination. Each examination section has a maximum time allowance. Once you have completed all tasks in the section please step back to indicate that you are finished. In the event that all candidates complete the section before the time has elapsed the examiners will proceed to the next section of the examination.
- Candidates must follow all appropriate public protection and infection control procedures during all phases of the practical examination that will ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the public. In the event of a blood spill candidates will be expected to follow the NIC Health and Safety Standards. Failure to do so may result in your dismissal from the examination.
- Cellular phones, pagers, any electronic device, printed materials, and handwritten notes are NOT permitted in the examination room. Talking to other candidates or any examiner is strictly prohibited. Failure to comply with any of these conditions will result in you being dismissed immediately, and your actions reported to the proper authorities. Your examiner has been instructed not to answer any questions concerning your examination. This ensures equal opportunity for all candidates and standardization in testing for the National Practical Examination. If you have an emergency situation please ask to speak with the supervisor.

- Chemicals for Chemical Waving, Virgin Hair Lightening, Hair Color Retouch, Virgin Relaxer Application and Relaxer Retouch will be simulated.
- Manufacturer's labels are required on all disinfectants and sanitizers. An EPA registered disinfectant that demonstrates bactericidal, fungicidal and virucidal properties must be used. Simulated products are NOT allowed for disinfectants and hand sanitizers.

### MANNEQUIN(S)

California Cosmetology candidates are required to use a mannequin head(s) or hand(s) for all services required on the practical examination.

It is the candidates' responsibility to appear at the practical examination with their mannequin head(s), tripod (width of the base must be 29" or less) and mannequin hand(s) with artificial nails attached.

Note: Mannequin heads that have been purchased pre-sectioned indicating the sections by various colors and/or notches are **NOT** allowed during any part of the practical examination.

Mannequin hands with removable fingers (trainer hands) are **NOT** permitted during the examinations. Prior to reporting to the examination candidates **MUST** apply a set of artificial nail tips to the mannequin hand(s). The artificial nail tips must cover the entire nail bed of each finger.

### COSMETOLOGY PRACTICAL EXAMINATION CONTENT SECTIONS

The list below reflects services that may be administered on the National Cosmetology Practical Examination. These services are based on the national job analysis.

#### Domain Services

Set Up and Client Protection  
Blow Dry Styling and Thermal Curling  
Haircutting  
Chemical Waving  
Virgin Hair Lightening Application and Hair Color Retouch  
Virgin Relaxer Application and Relaxer Retouch  
Basic Facial  
Manicure  
Sculptured Nail  
Hair Removal of the Eyebrows

**SET UP AND CLIENT PROTECTION**  
(10 minutes)

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“You will now set up the general supplies that you will use throughout your examination.”*

*“You will also set up the thermal curling supplies.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

*“You will have 10 minutes to complete this section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.”*

**(1)** *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

**(2)** *“You may begin set up.”*

*“Please plug in curling irons at this time.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

- Disinfects work area or uses protective covering
- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Sanitizes hands
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Sets up implements that are visibly clean and sanitary
- Uses neck strip or towel and applies drape
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout setup
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout setup

**BLOW DRY STYLING  
AND THERMAL CURLING**  
(20 minutes)

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*“You have 2 minutes to remove the supplies from your kit for the blow dry styling and thermal curling section of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up.”*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“You will now perform the blow dry styling section of this examination.”*

*“You will blow dry only the top and one side of the head.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

*“You will have 10 minutes to complete this section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.”*

**(1)** *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

**(2)** *“You may begin.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Preparation**

- Sets up implements that are visibly clean and sanitary
- Sanitizes hands

**Demonstration of Blow Drying**

- Directs air flow to protect scalp
- Controls hair with brush
- Demonstrates drying of hair

**The following will be read to all candidates after timing is completed for blow dry styling and all candidates have stepped back:**

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“You will now perform the thermal curling section of this examination.”*

*“You will form three curls on the top of the head and four curls on one side of the head.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

*“You will have 10 minutes to complete this section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.”*

**(1)** *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

**(2)** *“You may begin.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Demonstration of Curling**

- Tests temperature of iron PRIOR to applying to hair
- Subsections hair same width as barrel of iron
- Length of subsection is no longer than 3 inches
- Establishes a base
- Distributes hair evenly around iron
- Forms a complete curl
- Protects scalp from iron with comb
- Forms curl so that the hair is smooth and unmarked

**Safety and Infection Control**

- Uses iron safely at all times
- Maintains neck strip or towel and drape for protection throughout service
- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout service

**HAIRCUTTING**

(30 minutes)

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*"You have 2 minutes to remove the supplies from your kit, wet the hair and brush it straight back for the haircutting section of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up."*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*"You will now perform the haircutting section of this examination."  
 "You will complete a basic layered haircut using shears and a razor."  
 "You will cut the nape section with a razor."  
 "You will complete the haircut using the shears."  
 "Please do not sweep the hair from the floor until you are instructed."  
 "You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures."  
 "You will have 30 minutes to complete this section."  
 "You will be informed when you have 15 minutes remaining."  
 (1) "The instructions will be repeated."  
 (2) "You may begin."*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Preparation**

- Sets up implements that are visibly clean and sanitary
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Sanitizes hands

**Demonstration of Haircutting**

- Uses razor to establish nape guide
- Cuts entire nape section with elevation using razor
- Handles razor safely at all times
- Uses consistent subsections/partings while cutting hair
- Uses established guides
- Handles shears safely at all times

**The following will be read to each candidate after candidate has stepped back to indicate that they have completed their haircut or the timing has elapsed: (Individually)**

*"May I please use your comb to check your haircut?"*

- Cuts nape line to a uniform length
- Cuts sides uniform in length
- Blends haircut evenly
- Cuts at least one inch of hair throughout haircut

**Safety and Infection Control**

**The following will be read to each candidate after checking their haircut: (Individually)**

*"You may clean up only your hair at this time."*

- Removes hair clippings from skin, drape, and work area
- Removes hair from floor completely
- Maintains neck strip or towel and drape for protection throughout service
- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout service

**CHEMICAL WAVING**

(20 minutes)

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*"You have 2 minutes to remove the supplies from your kit for the chemical waving section of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up."*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*"You will now perform the chemical waving section of this examination."  
 "You will wrap the center back section of the head, from crown to nape."  
 "You will be instructed to apply simulated waving lotion."  
 "You will be instructed to demonstrate a test curl."  
 "Once you are finished or if the timing has elapsed, please step back for instructions to demonstrate saturation and a test curl."  
 "Do not remove the perm rods until the examiner instructs you to remove them."  
 "You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures."  
 "You will have 20 minutes to complete this section."  
 "You will be informed when you have 10 minutes remaining."  
 (1) "The instructions will be repeated."  
 (2) "You may begin."*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Preparation**

- Sets up implements that are visibly clean and sanitary
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Sanitizes hands

**Demonstration of Chemical Waving**

- Subsections hair straight and evenly
- Subsections hair no longer than length of rod
- Subsections hair same width as diameter of rod
- Wraps hair evenly and smoothly around rod
- Distributes hair evenly across end paper
- Extends end papers beyond hair ends
- Places bands correctly
- Uses same rod base placement throughout section
- Wraps hair around rod at least 1 1/2 times

**The following will be read to each candidate: (Individually)**

*"Please demonstrate saturation."*

- Applies cotton and/or protective cream at nape
- Wears gloves during application of simulated product
- Applies simulated product across entire rod safely

**The following will be read to each candidate: (Individually)**

*"Please demonstrate a test curl."*

- Unwraps rod at least 1 1/2 turns and hair is held to relax

**Safety and Infection Control**

- Maintains neck strip or towel and drape for protection throughout service
- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout service

**The following will be read to the entire group of candidates when the timer goes off:** *"Please stop the chemical waving procedure. Do not remove the perm rods until the examiner instructs you to remove them."*

The following will be read to the entire group of candidates after examiners have finished checking all candidates:

*“Please remove all rods from the head and brush the hair straight back.”*

**VIRGIN HAIR LIGHTENING APPLICATION  
AND HAIR COLOR RETOUCH  
(20 minutes, in two 10 minute segments)**

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*“You have 2 minutes to remove the supplies from your kit for the virgin hair lightening application and hair coloring retouch sections of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up.”*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“You will now perform the virgin hair lightening application section of this examination.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

*“You will have 10 minutes to complete the virgin hair lightening section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.”*

*“Upon completion, you will step back until instructed to apply the hair coloring retouch section.”*

*“You will have 10 minutes to complete the hair coloring retouch section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.”*

(1) *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

(2) *“You may begin.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Preparation**

- Sets up implements that are visibly clean and sanitary
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Sanitizes hands
- Performs Predisposition/Patch Test with simulated product behind the ear or in the fold of the arm
- Divides head into four equal sections
- Applies protective cream around hairline
- Wears gloves during application of simulated lightener and hair color products

**Demonstration of Virgin Hair Lightening Application (10 minutes)**

- Subsections hair 1/8 inch wide or less
- Applies simulated product 1/2 inch from scalp
- Applies simulated product up to but not including last 1 inch of hair
- Completely covers subsections with simulated product

**Candidates will be asked to step back until the hair color retouch begins.**

The following will be read to all candidates after timing is completed for virgin hair lightening and all candidates have stepped back: *“You have 10 minutes to complete the hair coloring section. “You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.” “You may begin.”*

**Demonstration of Hair Color Retouch (10 minutes)**

- Outlines hair color retouch quadrant with simulated product
- Subsections hair 1/2 inch wide or less
- Applies simulated product on the scalp out to 2 inches
- Completely covers subsections with simulated product

**Safety and Infection Control**

- Keeps perimeter skin free of product

- Maintains neck strip or towel and drape for protection throughout service
- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout service

**VIRGIN RELAXER APPLICATION AND  
RELAXER RETOUCH  
(20 minutes, in two 10 minute segments)**

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*“You have 2 minutes to remove the supplies from your kit for the virgin relaxer application and relaxer retouch section of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up.”*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“You will now perform the virgin relaxer application section of this examination.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

*“You will have 10 minutes to complete the virgin relaxer section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.”*

*“Upon completion, you will step back until instructed to apply the relaxer retouch section.”*

*“You will have 10 minutes to complete the relaxer retouch section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.”*

(1) *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

(2) *“You may begin.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Preparation**

- Sets up implements that are visibly clean and sanitary
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Sanitizes hands
- Applies protective cream around hairline
- Wears gloves during application of simulated relaxer product

**Demonstration of Virgin Relaxer Application (10 minutes)**

- Subsections hair 1/4 inch wide or less
- Applies simulated product 1/2 inch from scalp
- Applies simulated product up to but not including last 1 inch of hair
- Completely covers subsections with simulated product

**Candidates will be asked to step back until the relaxer retouch application begins.**

The following will be read to all candidates after timing is completed for virgin relaxer and all candidates have stepped back: *“You have 10 minutes to complete the relaxer retouch section. “You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.” “You may begin.”*

**Demonstration of Relaxer Retouch (10 minutes)**

- Subsections hair 1/4 inch wide or less
- Applies simulated product starting slightly off scalp, up to 1/4 inch from scalp and out to 2 inches
- Completely covers subsections with simulated product

**VIRGIN RELAXER APPLICATION AND  
RELAXER RETOUCH CONTINUED**

**The following will be read to each candidate: (Individually)**

*“Please demonstrate smoothing the relaxer retouch product.”*

- Demonstrates smoothing of subsection in direction of hair growth and cuticle with moderate tension

**Safety and Infection Control**

- Keeps perimeter skin free of product
- Maintains neck strip or towel and drape for protection throughout service
- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout service

**BASIC FACIAL  
(10 minutes)**

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*“You have 2 minutes to remove the supplies from your kit for the basic facial section of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up.”*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“You will now perform the basic facial section of this examination.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

*“You will have 10 minutes to complete this section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 5 minutes remaining.”*

**(1)** *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

**(2)** *“You may begin.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Preparation**

- Disinfects work area or uses protective covering
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Sanitizes hands
- Applies hair drape to completely cover hair
- Re-sanitizes hands

**Demonstration of Facial**

- Removes cleanser from container using infection control procedures and applies it to the entire face safely
- Removes cleanser from face without dragging or pulling skin
- Removes massage product from container using infection control procedures and applies it to entire face safely
- Distributes massage product over entire face safely
- Demonstrates massage maintaining continuous contact
- Removes massage product from face without dragging or pulling skin
- Removes all residual massage product safely
- Applies toner/astringent safely

**Safety and Infection Control**

- Maintains hair drape throughout service
- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout service

**MANICURE  
(20 minutes)**

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*“You have 2 minutes to remove the supplies from your kit for the manicure section of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up.”*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“You will now perform the manicure section of this examination.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

*“You will have 20 minutes to complete this section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 10 minutes remaining.”*

*“Upon completion of the manicure section of this examination, please turn the hand toward the examiner to indicate that you are finished.”*

**(1)** *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

**(2)** *“You may begin.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Preparation**

- Disinfects work area or uses protective covering
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Sanitizes hands
- Sanitizes hand to be manicured

**Demonstration of Filing**

- Shapes free edge safely
- Establishes uniform length and shape

**Demonstration of Cuticle Care**

- Immerses fingers in bowl of water
- Dries hand completely
- Applies cuticle cream or remover using infection control procedures
- Pushes back cuticle safely
- Cleans under free edge safely
- Buffs nail safely
- Applies cuticle oil using infection control procedures

**Demonstration of Hand Massage**

- Applies massage product using infection control procedures
- Massages palm, back of hand, and fingers while maintaining continuous contact
- Cleanses massage product from each nail plate

**Application of Polish**

- Applies base coat to cover nail plate
- Applies red polish to cover nail plate
- Applies top coat to cover nail plate

**Final Appearance of Nails**

- Final appearance of polish is smooth and even
- Cuticle and surrounding skin remain free of polish

**Safety and Infection Control**

- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout service

**SCULPTURED NAIL**  
(20 minutes)

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*“You have 2 minutes to set up the supplies for the sculptured nail section of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up.”*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“You will now perform one sculptured nail using an odorless product.”*

*“You will apply a sculptured nail to the index finger.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

*“You will have 20 minutes to complete this section.”*

*“You will be informed when you have 10 minutes remaining.”*

*“Upon completion of the sculptured nail section of this examination, please turn the hand toward the examiner to indicate that you are finished.”*

**(1)** *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

**(2)** *“You may begin.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Preparation**

- Disinfects work area or uses protective covering
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Sanitizes hands
- Sets up implements that are visibly clean and sanitary
- Sanitizes finger
- Removes shine from nail plate safely
- Cleanses nail plate and cuticle of dust

**Application of Sculptured Nail Product**

- Applies nail form to fit snugly under free edge
- Applies primer safely
- Applies sculptured product to extend free edge
- Applies sculptured product to cover nail plate

**Demonstration of Filing**

- Shapes free edge safely
- Files sculptured nail to shape/balance safely
- Buffs sculptured nail safely

**Final Appearance of Nail**

- Finished sculptured nail is smooth, even, and beveled/tapered
- Contour of sculptured nail is balanced
- Nail plate is covered by sculptured nail product
- Cuticle and surrounding skin remains free of sculptured nail product

**Safety and Infection Control**

- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in a safe manner throughout service

**\* HAIR REMOVAL OF THE EYEBROWS**

**This section is not timed as the examiner will instruct each candidate individually to demonstrate the procedure.**

**Verbal Instructions for Set Up:**

*“You have 2 minutes to remove the supplies from your kit for the hair removal of the eyebrows section of this examination. Please do not begin any procedures until the verbal instructions have been read and you are instructed to begin. You may begin set up.”*

**Verbal Instructions:**

*You will now perform the hair removal of the eyebrows section of this examination.”*

*“You will be instructed individually to demonstrate the tweezing and soft wax procedure.”*

*“Do not demonstrate hair removal until instructed.”*

*“You will be observed for client protection, safety and infection control procedures.”*

**(1)** *“The instructions will be repeated.”*

**(2)** *“You may begin preparation.”*

**Candidates will be evaluated on the following tasks:**

**Tweezing Section**

**Preparation**

- Disinfects work area or uses protective covering
- Sets up work area with supplies labeled in English
- Wears gloves
- Uses disinfected or disposable implements

**Demonstration of Tweezing**

**The following will be read to each candidate: (Individually)**

*“Please demonstrate the tweezing procedure.”*

- Applies antiseptic to eyebrow area safely
- Holds skin taut (without slack)
- Tweezes OR demonstrates removal of hair in direction of hair growth
- Applies antiseptic to treated area safely

**Soft Waxing Section**

**Preparation**

- Wears gloves
- Uses disinfected or disposable implements

**Demonstration of Soft Waxing**

**The following will be read to each candidate: (Individually)**

*“Please demonstrate the soft wax procedure.”*

- Applies antiseptic to eyebrow area safely
- Uses absorbent material or product to dry eyebrow area
- Removes simulated wax product from container using infection control procedures
- Tests temperature of simulated wax product on wrist safely
- Applies simulated wax product in direction of hair growth safely
- Applies simulated wax product along entire area under eyebrow safely
- Applies an even, thin layer of simulated wax product safely
- Smooths fabric over simulated wax product in direction of hair growth
- Holds skin taut (without slack)
- Pulls fabric in opposite direction of hair growth safely
- Applies post-epilation product to treated area safely
- Applies antiseptic to treated area safely

**Safety and Infection Control**

- Disposes of soiled materials using infection control procedures
- Disposes of items to be disinfected in properly labeled receptacle
- Practices infection control procedures safely throughout service
- Maintains work area in safe manner throughout service

**CANDIDATE SUMMARY  
AND FINAL CLEANUP**

**Verbal Instructions:**

*“This concludes the national practical examination. Please make sure that all kit supplies and hazardous materials are taken with you. Please do not dispose of hazardous material or chemicals in the trash receptacles or restrooms.”*

**RECOMMENDED GENERAL SUPPLIES**

**ALL SUPPLIES MUST BE LABELED IN ENGLISH**

(Suggested kit size: 16” x 24” x 30” or smaller)

**\* Please refer to State guidelines**

- dry storage kit/container\*
- mannequin head(s) (Pre-marked mannequin head(s) are NOT permitted)
- Tripod (to support mannequin head) Width of the tripod base can be no larger than 29”
- hand sanitizer
- EPA registered disinfectant that demonstrates bactericidal, fungicidal and virucidal properties must be used
- container/bag for soiled/trash items
- container or bag for items to be disinfected\*
- cloth and paper towel(s)
- neck strip(s)
- shampoo cape
- hair clamp(s)
- comb(s)
- hair brush(es)
- spray bottle
- protective cream
- spatula(s)
- protective cotton
- protective gloves
- first aid supplies (blood spill kit)
- tape
- tissue
- cloth cape or waterproof cape
- receptacle for soiled towels and linens
- #2 pencil
- hand soap

**BLOW DRY STYLING AND THERMAL  
CURLING SUPPLIES**

**\* Please refer to State guidelines**

- blow dryer
- hair brush(es)
- thermal curling iron
- comb(s)
- material for testing temperature of iron

**HAIRCUTTING SUPPLIES**

- haircutting shears
- razor
- comb(s)

**CHEMICAL WAVING SUPPLIES**

- chemical wave rods
- end papers
- applicator bottle with simulated waving lotion (water)
- comb(s)

**HAIR LIGHTENING/COLORING SUPPLIES**

**\* Please refer to State guidelines**

- tint brush and bowl or bottle applicator
- thick gel or colored cholesterol\*
- comb(s)
- hair clips

**CHEMICAL RELAXING SUPPLIES**

**\* Please refer to State guidelines**

- tint brush and bowl or bottle applicator
- thick gel or colored cholesterol\*
- comb(s)

**BASIC FACIAL SUPPLIES**

- hair drape
- cleansing cream
- massage cream
- toner or astringent

**MANICURE SUPPLIES**

- cuticle cream/remover
- filing and buffing implements
- cuticle pusher
- nail brush
- hand lotion or massage product
- cuticle oil
- base coat
- top coat
- red polish
- polish remover

**SCULPTURED NAIL SUPPLIES**

- mannequin hand(s) with artificial nail tips attached (Digital or removable fingers are NOT permitted)
- cuticle pusher
- sculptured nail products (powder, primer, liquid) (The product must be in its original container with the manufacturer's label. Odorless sculptured nail products must be used during the NIC practical examinations.)
- sculptured nail brush
- liquid & powder containers
- filing and buffing implements
- sculptured nail forms

**HAIR REMOVAL OF THE EYEBROWS  
SUPPLIES**

**\* Please refer to State guidelines**

- antiseptic
- tweezers
- gloves
- fabric strips
- soft wax product/simulated product\*
- post epilation product
- applicators

**COSMETOLOGY REFERENCES**

*Milady's Standard Cosmetology, 2012*

Milady  
5 Maxwell Drive  
Clifton Park, NY 12065  
(800) 347-7707  
[www.Milady.com](http://www.Milady.com)

*Salon Fundamentals, Cosmetology, 2010*

Pivot Point International, Inc.  
Evanston, IL 60201  
(800) 886-4247  
[www.pivot-point.com](http://www.pivot-point.com)

*Cosmetology Career Concepts, Haircutting, Hairdesigning,  
Haircoloring, and Success Dynamics, 2010*

CLiC International  
396 Pottsville-St. Clair Highway  
Pottsville, PA 17901  
(800) 207-5400  
[www.clicusa.com](http://www.clicusa.com)

*NIC Health and Safety Standards*

NIC, Inc., October 2002  
[www.nictesting.org](http://www.nictesting.org)

**OPTIONAL REFERENCES**

*Milady's Standard Cosmetology, 2004 & 2008*

Milady  
5 Maxwell Drive  
Clifton Park, NY 12065  
(800) 347-7707  
[www.Milady.com](http://www.Milady.com)

*Salon Fundamentals Cosmetology, 2006 & 2007*

Pivot Point International, Inc.  
Evanston, IL 60201  
(800) 886-4247  
[www.pivot-point.com](http://www.pivot-point.com)

*Milady's Standard Nail Technology, 2007*

Milady  
5 Maxwell Drive  
Clifton Park, NY 12065  
(800) 347-7707  
[www.Milady.com](http://www.Milady.com)

NOTE: California candidates should refer to CCR 980.1 - 980.3 Article 12 Health and Safety, regarding specific cleaning and disinfecting whirlpool and pipeless foot spas and non-whirlpool foot spa basins or tubs.



## NIC HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS BLOOD SPILL PROCEDURE

If a blood spill should occur, the following steps **MUST** be followed:

- **SUPPLY INJURED PARTY WITH LIQUID STYPTIC/ANTISEPTIC AND THE APPROPRIATE DRESSING TO COVER THE INJURY.**
- **DOUBLE BAG ALL BLOOD-SOILED (CONTAMINATED) ARTICLES AND LABEL WITH RED OR ORANGE BIOHAZARD WARNING.** This is the responsibility of the candidate and should be executed as follows:

### CANDIDATE INJURY – FOR EXAMINATION PURPOSES

1. **PROTECTION** – If a cut is sustained, stop the service and clean the injured area.
2. **APPLY** antiseptic and/or liquid or spray styptic as appropriate (see NOTE).
3. **DRESSING** - cover the injury with the appropriate dressing.
4. **COVER** injured area with finger guard or glove as appropriate.
5. **CLEAN** model/client and station as appropriate.
6. **DOUBLE BAG** and dispose of all contaminated objects. Clean hands with antimicrobial cleanser.
7. **RETURN** to service.

### MODEL INJURY – FOR EXAMINATION PURPOSES

1. **STOP** service.
2. **GLOVE** hands of candidate/student/licensee.
3. **CLEAN** injured area as appropriate.
4. **APPLY** antiseptic and/or liquid or spray styptic as appropriate (see NOTE).
5. **COVER** the injury with the appropriate dressing to prevent further blood exposure.
6. **DOUBLE BAG** and dispose of all contaminated objects. Clean hands with antimicrobial cleanser.
7. **RETURN** to service.

### EXAMINERS:

- **EXAMINER IS TO USE UNUSED DISPOSABLE LATEX GLOVES OR NON-ALLERGENIC EQUIVALENT WHEN CHECKING THAT CANDIDATE’S SERVICE. DOUBLE BAG AND DISPOSE USED GLOVES.**
- **FOLLOW WITH ANTIMICROBIAL SCRUB ON HANDS.**
- **DOCUMENT INCIDENT IN BLOOD SPILL LOG.**

**NOTE: DO NOT ALLOW CONTAINERS, BRUSHES, NOZZLES OR LIQUID STYPTIC TO TOUCH THE SKIN OR CONTACT THE WOUND. USE AN APPLICATOR. EXAMINERS SHOULD ALSO COMPLETE AN INCIDENT REPORT.**

## WET DISINFECTION STANDARD

**1** All tools and implements, **EXCEPT THOSE THAT HAVE COME IN CONTACT WITH BLOOD OR BODY FLUIDS** must be disinfected, at minimum, by complete immersion in an EPA registered, *bactericidal, virucidal, fungicidal, and pseudomonacidal (Formulated for Hospitals)* disinfectant that is mixed and used according to the manufacturer’s directions.

**2** All tools and implements **WHICH HAVE COME IN CONTACT WITH BLOOD OR BODY FLUIDS** must be disinfected, at minimum, by complete immersion in an EPA registered disinfectant that is effective *against HIV-1 and human Hepatitis B Virus or Tuberculocidal* that is mixed and used according to the manufacturer’s directions.

## DRY STORAGE STANDARD

Disinfected implements must be stored in a disinfected, dry, covered container and be isolated from contaminants.

## HAND WASHING

(Anti-Bacterial Soap is recommended)

Thoroughly wash hands and the exposed portions of arms with antibacterial soap and water before providing services to **each client** and after smoking, drinking, eating, and using the restroom.

## NAIL TECHNOLOGY

### Practical Examinations

Liquid Monomer containing *Methyl Methacrylate (MMA)* is **prohibited** for use during NIC practical examinations. NIC strongly recommends, due to the testing environment, that odorless sculpture nail products be used during the NIC practical examinations.