

Maryland Board of Cosmetologists Meeting

Monday, April 7, 2025

A meeting of the State Board of Cosmetologists was held on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. by teleconference.

Board Member Attendees

Ms. Rosalind Hosley, *Cosmetologist Member (Acting Chairperson for April 7, 2025 Meeting)*

Ms. April Kenney, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Kelly Canty, *Consumer Member*

Mr. Maurice Fains, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Lisa Ennis, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Katrina Lee, *Esthetician Member*

Other Staff Attendees

Ms. Nicole Fletcher, *Executive Director*

Ms. Breona Scott, *Assistant Executive Director*

Ms. Leslie Braxton, *Licensing Supervisor*

Ms. Fatmata Rahman, *Administrative Specialist III*

Mr. Jacob Guy, *Board Administrator*

Ms. Ashley Thompson, *Office Secretary*

Mr. Kenneth Sigman, *Advice Counsel*

Ms. Renee Robertson, *Continuing Education Coordinator*

Ms. Karina Papavasiliou, *Inspector - Absent*

Mr. Welton Simpson, *Inspector*

Agenda and Minutes

Quorum Announced, and Meeting Called to Order

A quorum was announced by Acting Chairperson Ms. Rosiland Hosley and the meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher requested a motion for approval of the April 7, 2025, agenda. Ms. Rosiland Hosley made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. April Kenney, and the agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of March 3, 2025, Minutes

The minutes from the March 3, 2025, meeting were reviewed by the Board. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher requested a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Lisa Ennis to approve the minutes which was seconded by Ms. Kelly Canty, and the motion unanimously passed.

New Business

A. RECAP OF MARCH 3, 2025, MEETING

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher began by providing a brief overview of the March 3, 2025, meeting. In March, Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher announced updates to PSI's application process, including the removal of the sponsor verification portion of the application for apprentices and the switch to all online applications to help facilitate a smoother process. There were also several apprentice restarts for Limited Nail Technicians, all three of which were approved by Board members. March's meeting continued with an update on Senate Bill 617 which had adjusted the required training hours for the Limited Eyelash license from 60 hours to 100 hours. There was one curriculum approval for Genesis Beauty Institute in Cambridge Maryland for a full cosmetology program. The meeting concluded with an Inspection Summary provided by Licensing Supervisor Ms. Leslie Braxton, followed by Public Comment. These can be reviewed in further detail in the March meeting minutes which are posted on the Board of Cosmetologist's website under the tab "Board Business."

B. APPRENTICESHIP SUPPORT

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher first introduced Ms. Lydia Patrick, who reached out to the Board to inquire about ways in which the Board could provide more support for sponsors and apprentices. Ms. Patrick introduced herself and stated that she had recently agreed to take on a new apprentice. Specifically, Ms. Patrick is looking for support from the Board in regards to financing apprenticeships and preparing apprentices for licensing examinations. Ms. April Kenney, who has several experiences as a sponsor, spoke up agreeing with Ms. Patrick that some sort of collaborative forum for sponsors would be helpful. Ms. Kenney also concurred that test preparation materials are somewhat vague, and more guidance would be helpful especially since the examination switched to PSI's National exam back in October. Ms. Lisa Ennis suggested constructing a Standard Operating Procedure to make available to the public outlining exactly what is to be expected during testing. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher then responded to comments made by Board members. Ms. Fletcher stated that while it is important to remove potential barriers to licensure for testing applicants, as a regulatory agency, the Board must maintain a balance between providing support and "hand holding" throughout the entire process. In response Ms. Patrick referred to her memory of a State Board exam preparation day that is common practice in private career schools. She offered that, similarly, a video breakdown showing what to expect on the exam could be a valuable resource and could be offered to registered sponsors rather than being made available to the public. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher wrapped up the conversation by stating that the Board is in agreement that there could be more done to support the apprenticeship program, and the specifics will need to be ironed out offline. Further updates can be expected during June's Board meeting.

C. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES HB1547

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that she learned of HB1547 shortly after the Board met in March, and provided the following synopsis of the bill: Requiring the State Board of Barbers and the State Board of Cosmetologists, beginning January 1, 2026, to require as a condition for licensure and initial renewal of a license an applicant or a licensee to complete certain training in domestic violence awareness; and specifying that the domestic violence awareness training shall be developed and administered by the Maryland Department of Labor, shall include certain guidance, and be administered free of charge to each licensee. The bill is in review in the original chamber and on its way to the Governor. This would be a one time requirement for current and new licensees. The bill is expected to pass and ultimately go into effect October 1, 2025. Further updates will be provided once they are available.

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher also informed those on the call about the recent passage of SB617. The bill authorizes the State Board of Cosmetology to issue a limited license to provide eyelash extension services; alters the definition of "provide esthetic services" to include providing eyelash extension services; and requires an applicant for a limited license to provide eyelash extension services to be at least 17 years old and have successfully completed a 9th grade education or equivalent, received certain training, and passed a practical and written examination. Further updates will be posted for the public as they become available.

D. CURRICULUM OUTLINES

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that multiple interested parties had contacted her seeking guidance on establishing a curriculum to open a new school. Ms. Fletcher said that these resources will be created and, once they are drafted, they will be reviewed and ultimately posted to the Board's website.

E. APPRENTICE RESTARTS

Apprenticeship Coordinator Jacob Guy headed this portion of the meeting and stated that since the previous Board meeting in March, 3 former apprentice Limited Nail Technicians had reached out to him expressing their desire to restart the program. Each of the potential apprentices were individually called upon to petition the Board for approval to restart. None of the three apprentices spoke up and it was determined that they were not present for the meeting. No apprentice restarts were approved for April's meeting.

F. PROPOSED COMAR AMENDMENTS - ESTHETIC SERVICES

Advice Counsel Kenneth Sigman led the discussion, and began by announcing the substantiate changes to the definition of providing esthetic services. Such changes include: adding the definition of exfoliating, defining cosmetic microneedling which will now be permitted (using needles no less than .5 millimeters), adding the definition of toning, altering restrictions on chemical peels, (now permitting acids with a concentration of less than 20% and a pH level less than or equal to 3) prohibiting mechanical tissue alteration such as microdermabrasion and electrotherapy, prohibiting cryotherapy, radio frequency, and liposuction. Prohibiting procedures causing ablation of the dermis or hypodermis, and prohibiting skin injections. There are also some updates to sanitation requirements. These include: allowing instruments to be cleaned and disinfected after each use rather than discarded, requiring that disinfectants be changed every 1-2

hours or when they show signs of contamination, requiring that new microneedling needles be used with each client and stored in a sharp needle container. These regulations have been developed by the entire Board and particularly with a committee working with a licensed esthetician to aid in drafting the details. These proposed amendments are currently in the public comment period. Advice Counsel Kenneth then requested a motion to approve the proposed amendments. Ms. April Kenney then made a motion to approve the proposed amendments, which was seconded by Ms. Lisa Ennis. The vote was unanimously in favor to approve the proposed amendments.

G. CHAIRPERSON VOTE

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher began by thanking previous Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs for her contributions to the Board and her dedication to forwarding the industry. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher then opened the discussion for nominations of a new Chairperson. Ms. Rosiland Hosley then nominated Ms. Lisa Ennis for the position of Chairperson. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher then asked for a vote regarding the nomination of Ms. Lisa Ennis. Board members voted unanimously in favor of electing Ms. Lisa Ennis to the position of Chairperson.

Old Business

A. CURRICULUM APPROVAL

Curriculum approval was granted for Cortiva Institute located at 517 Progress Dr Suites A-J in Linthicum, Maryland 21090. They are adjusting their esthetics program from 660 hours to 600, and adding a full cosmetology and barber program. Each curriculum was reviewed and approved by the respective Boards.

B. INSPECTION SUMMARY

Licensing Supervisor Ms. Leslie Braxton provided the Inspection Summary for today's meeting. The data was collected from March 2, 2025 - April 2, 2025.

40	New shop applications received
8	New shops pending inspections - to be assigned
24	Complaints received
5	Complaints - open / to be assigned
11	Complaints - inspections completed
204	Inspections conducted
83	Inspections passed
68	Inspections failed
2	Failed - new shop inspections
5	Failed - late renewal inspections
7	Failed - complaint
6	Failed - per board inspections
49	Failed - routine inspections
20	Closed at time of inspection
33	Permanently Closed

Public Comment

Marriah Jones - Ms. Jones spoke in regards to the Apprenticeship Support portion of the meeting. As an educator Ms. Jones agreed with the notion that further support for students and apprentices is needed, however, she cautioned against the idea of creating a video and making it available to the public. Ms. Jones is of the belief that testing applicants would be able to memorize and mimic what is done in a potential preparation video in order to pass the exam, however this does not necessarily replicate a true salon setting. Additionally, Ms. Jones echoed what had been previously stated on the call, urging the Board to make such materials available only to qualified sponsors and private career schools.

Toni Wallace - Ms. Wallace inquired about a salon/shop requirement which made it so that any barbershop or salon had to have a senior or master licensee working in the shop. Ms. Wallace was curious if this requirement is still in effect or has ever been in effect. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher responded that this is not currently a requirement in Maryland and to her knowledge never has been. Ms. Fletcher continued on, stating that in Washington D.C. some form of “manager’s license” exists, and that may be where some confusion has come about.

Sharon Ray - Ms. Ray asked a question about the newly passed HB 1547. Ms. Ray wanted to know if the state of Maryland would accept certifications from other states for completion of a similar training regarding domestic violence. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher responded stating that as the bill is written, these trainings must be administered by the Maryland Board of Cosmetologists and could not be accepted from out of state. Ms. Ray also added to the comments regarding Apprenticeship Support stating from her own experience as a sponsor, test preparation can be difficult and whatever support the Board may be willing to offer would be helpful. She went on to say that the Test Taker Guide provided by PSI is quite helpful.

Vonnie Gilbert - Ms. Gilbert responded to the comments made by Ms. Wallace, stating that she has been licensed for over forty years, and many years ago a manager’s license was indeed a requirement in Maryland, but has since been revoked.

Tondalaya Henderson - Ms. Henderson had questions about newly passed SB 617, which Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher responded by stating that as they had previously spoken about offline, those details are still being ironed out and will be made available as they are finalized.

Marriah Jones - Ms. Jones stated that the curriculum provider Milady has already established an eyelash curriculum which is built into the curriculums for cosmetology and esthetics. Ms. Jones asked if the Board plans to approve this curriculum, and if private career schools could submit that curriculum for approval. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher replied that this curriculum

would be fine to submit. Ms. Jones followed up asking if esthetic students and licensees would be required to also obtain an eyelash license, to which Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher replied saying that people in such situations would be covered by their esthetics license to provide eyelash services.

Lashae Wesley - Ms. Wesley commented that when she went to school for esthetics, eyelash services were not taught. Ms. Wesley asked if she would still be permitted to provide eyelash services under her esthetics license. In response, Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated as a licensed esthetician Ms. Wesley would be grandfathered in, and would not be required to obtain additional licensure.

Toni Wallace - Ms. Wallace spoke regarding her concern that the more limited and specialized licenses become the less likely they are to be able to be transferred. She wondered if the responsibility would fall on the Board, schools, or individuals to convey/understand a possible lack of transferability from state to state. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher replied stating that limited licenses have been around for some time and are not a new idea, she opened the discussion to the Board to hear their opinions. Ms. Rosiland Hosley spoke stating that it is the responsibility of the individual to be in compliance within the state jurisdiction that they are located in. Ms. Hosley recommended that licensees should be fully aware of the scope of their licensure before putting out the investment to obtain it.

Lashae Wesley - Ms. Wesley asked if there are plans to establish an apprenticeship program for the new Limited Eyelash Technician licensure. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher replied stating that yes, there are plans to implement an apprenticeship program and explained the needed requirements for sponsors. The apprenticeship program is not going to be able to be established for another 2 years due to the sponsor requirement to be a licensed Limited Eyelash Technician with at least 2 years of licensed experience, or a Senior Cosmetologist who has completed continuing education coursework surrounding eyelashes.

Adjournment

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 A.M. Ms. Rosiland Hosley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Katrina Lee, and then unanimously approved.

APPROVED BY: _____ on May 5, 2025.