

COSMETOLOGY

“Career and School Information You Should Know”

Illinois Licensing Requirements for Cosmetology

Each applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. Is at least 16 years of age.
2. Has graduated from a high school or equivalent.
3. Has graduated from a cosmetology school approved by the Department having completed 1500 hours in the study of cosmetology extending over a period of not less than 8 months, no more than 7 consecutive years. A school may, at its discretion, consistent with the rules of the department, accept up to 500 hours of barber school training at a recognized barber school towards the 1500 hour course requirements of cosmetology. Time spent in such study under the laws of another state or territory of the United States or of a foreign country or province shall be credited toward the period of study required by the provisions of this paragraph.
4. Has passed an examination authorized by the Department to determine fitness to receive a license as a cosmetologist. The requirements for remedial training set forth by the Department may be waived in whole or in part by the Department upon proof to the Department that the applicant has demonstrated competence to again sit for the examination. The Department shall promulgate rules establishing the standards by which such determination shall be made.
5. Has met any other requirements of this Act.

Safety Requirements: The practice of cosmetology involves the use of sharp implements as well as chemicals that could be hazardous. Attention to proper safety procedures, which protect both client and technician, are very important, and will be taught during the course.

Physical Demands: The physical demands for a cosmetologist are primarily the extensive use of the hands for salon services and the long periods of standing which are required for the services.

Compensation: A study conducted for the National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences, Job Demand in the Cosmetology Industry, 2007, found that the total number of salons is up 18.3% and number of salon professionals is up 5%. The number of chairs or workstations is unchanged at 5.1% and the number of employees leaving their positions is down 13%. Nearly 40% of all new positions were filled by inexperienced workers.

This national survey also found that 53% of salon owners reported that they had job openings. The average salon income, including tips, is about \$30,000 - \$48,000/year. When a person graduates with a cosmetology license, they are qualified to be a hair stylist, hair color specialist, skin care specialist, nail technician, salon owner/manager and more. Cosmetologists may choose to work in a salon, independently or as booth rental contractors. Most cosmetologists work on commission, so earnings vary depending on the length of time in the business, and the ability to build and retain clientele. A fun and successful career is in your future!

NACCAS Completion Rates: As reported in our most recent accreditation annual report, out of 151 students scheduled to graduate in 2018, 100 graduated within 150% of the scheduled course time, or 66%. Out of the 151 students scheduled to graduate in 2018, 51 students did not complete the program. A four-year average graduation rate for all USCA programs, 2015-2018 is 65%. *For the Cosmetology program, 83 students were scheduled to graduate in 2018, 43 graduated within 150% of the scheduled course time, or 52%. Out of the 83 students scheduled to graduate in 2018, 40 students did not complete the program.*

NACCAS Licensing Exam Pass/Fail Rates: Out of 99 graduates who took the exam in 2018, 95 passed, or 96%. A four-year average for 2015-2018, for all USCA programs, was 97%. *For the Cosmetology program, 42 graduates who took the exam in 2018, 40 passed, or 95%.*

NACCAS Placement Rates: Out of 100 graduates in 2018, 80 responded to surveys that they had found a job in their field, or 80%. Others did not respond to the survey. A four-year average for 2015-2018, is 79%. *For the Cosmetology program, out of the 43 graduates in 2018, 35 responded to surveys that they had found a job in their field, or 81%.*