Board of Cosmetology

Mission and philosophy

The Wyoming Board of Cosmetology develops rules setting uniform and reasonable standards of competency for the practice and teaching of cosmetology; administers board examinations; inspects establishments for proper licensure and sanitation; initiates and conducts investigations, hearings and proceedings concerning violations of the Cosmetology Act and rules and regulations of the board; applies disciplinary action when necessary; determines fees; and employs and executive director and additional staff as may be necessary.

Results of outcomes

The board administered six board examinations, where by 202 candidates were tested, and inspected 212 salons and eight schools.

The board investigated three formal complaints with no formal action taken at this time.

The board published two newsletters that were sent to all licensed salons with the most current information on consumer safety and issues of concern to both licensees and consumers.

The board continues to face the same problems with lack of authority to administer appropriate disciplinary action (i.e. levy fines or otherwise discipline) for matters where a full administrative hearing is determined unnecessary, particularly with regard to violations of sanitation rules. The board is working on legislative changes to help this process as well as update terminology and requirements to meet the current market needs.

Strategic plan changes

The strategic plan will stay basically the same, to find better solutions to the need for consumer education as well as ways to better ensure consumer safety and welfare. The Cosmetology industry changes quickly and the Board of Cosmetology's goal is to be proactive and not have to play catch up.

General information
Betty M. Abernethy, Executive Director
JoAnn Vialpando, Administrative Assistant
Brenda Mathre, Inspector/Investigator

Agency contact
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Year established
1939

Statutory references
W.S. 33-12-119 through 33-12-140

Authorized personnel
1 full-time, 1 part-time

Organizational structure
Board of Cosmetology

Clients served
Licensed cosmetologists, manicurists, estheticians, schools and salons

Agency to which group reports
Department of Administration and Information

Number of members
Five

Budget information
$160,000

Meeting frequency
Four each year required by law; normally a minimum of six held each year.