Statement on Salon/Shop Registration

The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation, frequently receives inquiries regarding what circumstances require a salon or shop registration under the Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding and Nail Technology Act. (225 ILCS 410/3D-5) While the Department does not issue "advisory opinions" or dispense legal advice, the public's interest merits this statement from the Department. Parties seeking a legal opinion should consult with their own attorney.

Each business that provides barbering, cosmetology, esthetics, hair braiding or nail technology services in Illinois must be registered as a salon or shop with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. This includes sole proprietorships or a one person operation. If the owner has multiple locations, a separate salon or shop registration must be obtained for each location.

A salon or shop owner shall also contact his or her local municipality for any city, village, or township requirements.

Neither the Act nor its rules require a salon or shop owner to be licensed as a barber, cosmetologist, esthetician, hair braider or nail technician. However, any person providing barbering, cosmetology, esthetics, hair braiding or nail technology services must be licensed to provide these services.

All licensees must follow the sanitary standards appropriate to their practice as outlined in Section 1175.115 of the rules.

Please also see the Department's Statement on Prohibited Practices.

Please also see the Department's Statement Regarding Lasers.

Please also see the Department's Statement Regarding Fish Pedicures.