

T H E

J O B

C E N T E R

COSMETOLOGY/BARBERING



Barbers and cosmetologists today not only cut hair, they often offer full customer service, including manicures, facials, and hair treatments.

In the past, barbers were best known for giving quick, often uniform, haircuts to their male customers. Today, both male and female customers visit barbers for unisex haircuts, and many men have their hair styled by cosmetologists.

While barbers still offer a quick "trim around the edges," they have added to the services they provide their customers. Many barbers today not only shampoo, cut, and style hair, they also fit hairpieces, give facial massages, and shave men's faces.

Cosmetologists (also called hairstylists) shampoo, cut, and style hair. They have been trained to analyze a customer's facial structure and choose hairstyles that are flattering for that particular client. They offer advice on how to care for client's hair and can color hair, give permanents, or straighten hair.

Some cosmetologists specialize even further. They may offer nail services, manicures and pedicures, massages and facials, or electrolysis. These services often require additional certification or training.

Salons may also offer scalp and hair treatments,

clean and style wigs, and provide makeup and hair-style analysis. Many salons sell hair-care products and cosmetics. The retail sales of these products may be the responsibility of the cosmetologist.

Cosmetology is a service-oriented business where the customer always comes first. Most barbers and cosmetologists are self-employed or work part-time. They rely on the patronage of their regular customers, so good service is a must.

Barbers and cosmetologists need stamina because they usually are on their feet for most of their working hours. They may also work many nights and weekends, when most customers can schedule appointments.

Some additional responsibilities of a cosmetologist or barber include keeping a clean work space and sanitizing all of their tools. They may also make their own appointments and need to be able to keep records of hair color, allergies to particular products, and permanent wave treatments for their regular clients.

Profile

Cosmetology, Esthetician



Iris Kraft is part owner of the N2U Salon and Spa of Bradenton. For their grand opening celebrations on October 28, 2006, Kraft and her partner, Roe Hyer, have

created a "Share Care" program. They enlisted Head Start of Bradenton to give them a list of families that could use some assistance to enjoy the holiday season. Patrons of the salon will be able to choose what they want to give to the family from a list of needed personal items. Kraft and Hyer are also encouraging other salons and businesses to adopt families.

Kraft graduated from Manatee Technical Institute's skin care program in December 2005 and was student of the year. "Skin care was the next

logical step for me," Kraft said. She has been a massage therapist for about 30 years. With Kraft's 30 years of massage therapy experience, her new skills in skin care, and her partner's 30 years of experience with hair, opening a full service salon was a no brainer. "My clients wanted a one-stop shop," she explained.

Since graduating, she has developed her own private label skincare line. She wants her clients to "learn healthy choices" when it comes to their skin and beauty. "Making a difference for people and teaching them a healthy approach to beauty," is what Kraft likes most about her position.

"Do your homework to educate yourself," Kraft says, "and you will be successful." Her advice is to "have a passion about what you're doing."

SKILLS REQUIRED

Cosmetologists and barbers must enjoy working with people. Good communication skills are also needed to be able to satisfy the clients' needs.

WHERE/HOW TO GET TRAINING

Schooling

Barbers and cosmetologists must be licensed to work in any state. However, the qualifications for a license varies from state to state.

Most states require that a person graduate from a state-licensed barber or cosmetology school be at least 16 years old, and pass a written examination and demonstration of basic barbering or cosmetology skills.

Many vocational schools, community colleges, and individually owned cosmetology schools offer classes in barbering and cosmetology. Students learn hair-cutting and styling for both men and women, hair coloring, the use of and care of haircutting instruments, facial massage, and hair and scalp treatments. Students also practice their skills on willing customers in school "hair clinics."

Full-time training programs can last six to 12 months, but training

for manicurists and electrologists typically requires less time.

Students are required to take a state licensing examination after successful completion of a training course.

Cosmetology and barbering both require constant continuing education in the latest hairstyles, products, and techniques.

Financial Aid

Grants, scholarships, loans, and work/study programs are available for prospective students. For most of this aid, prospective students must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which is available from high school guidance offices and post-secondary education financial aid offices.

For more information on federal financial aid programs, or to apply electronically, visit the U.S. Department of Education's Web site at <http://www.ed.gov>.



For information on federal student aid, call: (800) 4FEDAID

FUTURE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The number of jobs available for barbers and cosmetologists in salons is expected to grow about as fast as the average for all occupations through the year

2010. The number of part-time and self-employed cosmetologists and barbers will also continue to grow due to the population increase.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Many barbers and cosmetologists are self-employed and many own the salon in which they work. They typically wear casual

clothing and comfortable shoes. The working environment is usually clean and pleasant with good ventilation and lighting.

RESOURCES - HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

BOOK:
Cosmetologist
by Jack Rudman

ONLINE:

- www.salonprofessionals.org (National Cosmetology Association)
- www.cosmetology.org/ (Cosmetology Advancement Foundation)

GENERAL:
National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences
Ste. 900
901 North Stuart St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1816
www.naccas.org

LOCAL:
Jeannell Copeland, Counselor
Manatee Technical Institute
5603 34th St. W.
Bradenton, FL 34210
(941) 751-7900 x 2017
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YOU HAVE THE POWER

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JOBS IN THIS FIELD

Job titles	Place of work	Kind of work	Salary range*
Barber	Barber shops, beauty salons, department stores	Shampoos, cuts, and styles hair. Also gives massages, hair treatments, and shaves men's faces.	\$24,000-\$52,000
Cosmetologist	Beauty salons, department stores	Shampoos, cuts, styles, and colors hair. Also gives hair treatments, permanents, or straightens hair. Gives massages, manicures, pedicures, and electrolysis.	\$24,000-\$64,000

*Salaries may vary depending on region, experience, and size of salon or shop. Many cosmetologists and barbers also rely on monetary tips given by customers. Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook.