

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

Chad Foster  
Barber Student

Chad Foster is a Barber Student at Bradenton Beauty and Barber Academy. He is a husband, father and provider as well as a student. The Academy works on an individual

basis with each student to provide the flexible schedule he needs. He has completed approximately 1,000 hours of his 1200 hour program. He has been open and eager to learn everything pertaining to the barbering business. The academic curriculum covers all facets required to be successful; from the artistic to management.

We are very proud to have Chad Foster in BBBA. "I started school on November 15, 2005 without much knowledge of hair cutting, its growth patterns, the difference in a good head of hair, and a good haircut that's hiding bad hair. After

working in numerous jobs that did not seem to fit my growing family or me, I decided-with encouragement from my wife and family friends- to attend. They said try it! I love it."

"With the many different directions your life can turn, it is wonderful to have a place like BBBA. This school has everything you should need with extras, if you are willing to open yourself to newer and bolder ideas. The staff and instructors are ever flowing fountains of information without a shut off valve. If you are willing to open your mind, you will gain the knowledge to be self sufficient, and accept any hair challenge that sits in your chair."

"This academy has opened my eyes to a whole new world. I never thought after the age of forty that I'd be back in school, but I am sure my road to self independence would have been a lot rougher than it was. Thanks BBBA for your knowledge, confidence and the honor of sharing a little piece of myself. I'm glad I choose this school!"

## 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](http://www.salonprofessionals.org) (National Cosmetology Association)
- [www.cosmetology.org/](http://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](http://www.naccas.org)

**LOCAL:**  
Jeannell Copeland, Counselor  
Manatee Technical Institute  
5603 34th St. W.  
Bradenton, FL 34210  
(941) 751-7900 x 2017  
[copelanj@manateeschools.net](mailto:copelanj@manateeschools.net)

## 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.