



SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROFESSION

An important part of preparing to be a licensed beauty industry professional is recognizing the importance of safety. Safety content is not separated and taught in isolated lessons. Safety precautions when using certain chemicals, how and why to store chemicals safely, fire safety measures, and first aid for minor cuts and burns will be covered at appropriate points in the curriculum.

In addition, a thorough understanding of proper cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting practices are necessary to ensure your health and the health of your clients. Some areas that will be covered throughout your education are disinfecting tools, including linens, cleaning and sanitizing work areas and frequent hand washing. Personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves and face masks, is another component for safety in the beauty industry. The proper use of PPE is essential and can protect skin from harsh chemicals and prevent the inhalation of harmful vapors. PPE can also help prevent the spread of infectious disease.

Beauty industry professionals are more concerned about allergies than the average person. In the beauty industry you will work with different products, have your hands immersed in liquids and use latex products. Being alert to signs of trouble is especially important since you can develop an allergy suddenly with no prior sensitivity.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF THE PROFESSION

A career as a beauty industry professional can be a significantly physical job. You will stand or sit for long periods of time, perform repetitive movements and use your hands to handle and control tools. Some tools may be extremely hot, while others may be very sharp. It is important to exercise caution when working with tools.

You may also need to hold your arm or hand in the same position for extended periods of time. In this industry, professionals need to have the ability to see small objects, differentiate colors, and perform detailed work by grasping or assembling small objects. Work in this area can also involve bending and twisting your body and moving or lifting items up to 20 pounds.