



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

April 1, 2016

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Barbering and Cosmetology Examination Eligibility Changes

The Virginia Board for Barbers and Cosmetology (Board) has responsibility for establishing training and examination requirements in order to apply to become a licensed Barber or Cosmetologist in the Commonwealth. On January 28, 2016, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) conducted a review of instructional frameworks for Barbering I, II, and III and Cosmetology I, II, and III curricula. Board representatives and other content and workplace experts evaluated the curricula and made recommendations for the development and improvement of these programs.

On February 8, 2016, the Board voted to request the VDOE to increase the program requirements from 560 hours to 840 hours for the public school's Barbering I, II, III (course codes 8740, 8741, 8742) and Cosmetology I, II, III (course codes 8527, 8528, 8529). High school students shall be eligible to take the Board-approved examination upon completion of the three-year program. It should be noted, the public/private sector has a 1,500 hour minimum program requirement for licensees.

Effective school year 2016-2017, barbering and cosmetology programs must satisfy the three-year 840-hour requirement. The course competencies for both programs have been revised and validated by a panel of professional practitioners and high school teachers. The new course competencies will be available on the [CTE Resource Center](#) Web site in June 2016.

School divisions that need additional time to implement the new requirements may request a one year extension. [Attachment A](#) provides the implementation extension request form.

If you have questions, please contact J. Anthony Williams, specialist for trade and industrial education and related clusters, at cte@doe.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-3119.

SRS/LBH/GRW/aab

Attachment:

- A. [Barbering and Cosmetology Implementation Form](#) (PDF)