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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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H.B. 277  
134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Powell

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### SUMMARY

- Reduces the required hours of initial instruction for a barber, cosmetologist, or hair designer license.
- Allows an applicant for a barber or practicing cosmetology license to take the written portion of a licensing examination at a testing facility designated in rules adopted by the State Cosmetology and Barber Board, and the practical demonstration portion of the examination at the barber school or school of cosmetology from which the applicant graduated.
- Creates a process under which a cosmetology student may take the written portion of the licensing examination before the student has completed the training hours required for a license.
- Modifies the requirements that must be met for the Board to issue a license by endorsement to an applicant who is licensed or registered in another state or country.
- Allows distance education to be used to meet certain education and continuing education requirements and requires the Board to adopt rules establishing standards for distance education.

## DETAILED ANALYSIS

### Reduction in training hours

The bill reduces the number of hours of training required to obtain an initial barber license or practicing cosmetologist or hair designer license.<sup>1</sup> The following table lists the number of training hours that are required for each license under current law and the bill.

Number of training hours required for barber, cosmetologist, and hair designer licenses		
Type of license	Number of training hours required under current law	Number of training hours required under the bill
Barber license	1,800 hours	1,000 hours
Barber license, if an applicant holds a cosmetologist or hair designer license	1,000 hours	400 hours
Cosmetologist license	1,500 hours	1,000 hours
Cosmetologist license, if an applicant holds a barber license	1,000 hours	400 hours
Hair designer license	1,200 hours	800 hours
Hair designer license, if an applicant holds a barber license	1,000 hours	200 hours

### Examinations

#### Designated testing facilities

The bill requires the State Cosmetology and Barber Board to adopt rules to designate testing facilities in Ohio that are authorized to administer the written portion of a licensing examination required for an applicant for a barber license or practicing license in cosmetology or a branch of cosmetology on behalf of the Board.<sup>2</sup> An applicant for a license may choose to take the written portion of the licensing examination at a testing facility designated by the Board. The applicant also may elect to take the practical demonstration portion of the examination at the barber school or school of cosmetology from which the applicant graduated. If an applicant chooses to take a portion of the licensing examination at a testing facility, barber

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 4709.07(B) and 4713.28, with conforming changes in R.C. 4709.10.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4709.05(E)(7) and 4713.08(A)(4).

school, or school of cosmetology, the applicant is responsible for any additional costs associated with taking the examination at the facility or school.<sup>3</sup>

### **Early testing for cosmetology students**

The bill requires the Board to adopt rules establishing the conditions under which a cosmetology student may take the written portion of the licensing examination before the student has completed the required hours of cosmetology school to receive a license.<sup>4</sup> Students may take the written portion of the examination after completing the following hours of instruction at a licensed school in Ohio:

- For a cosmetology student, at least 750 hours;
- For an esthetics student, at least 450 hours (currently, the student must have 600 hours);
- For a hair designer student, at least 600 hours;
- For a natural hair stylist student, at least 337.5 hours (currently, the student must have 450 hours);
- For a manicurist student, at least 150 hours (currently, the student must have 200 hours).<sup>5</sup>

Students that pass the examination before completing their training requirements will not receive a license from the Board until they have completed the remaining hours of training required for their particular license. The Board must issue a license to a student who has passed the examination and completes the required training, unless the student is subject to potential disciplinary action by the Board.<sup>6</sup> The bill requires the Board to adopt rules establishing the criteria under which a student may take the licensure examination early within two years after the bill's effective date.<sup>7</sup>

### **Licensure by endorsement**

The bill modifies the requirements that must be met for the Board to issue a license to an applicant who is licensed or registered in another state or country. An applicant seeking a license by endorsement under the bill to practice cosmetology or a barber license or cosmetology instructor license must, in addition to other continuing law requirements, submit satisfactory evidence that the applicant is licensed or registered in another state or country. If licensed, registered, or trained in another country, the applicant also must submit evidence

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<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4709.07(C) and 4713.24(A), with conforming changes in R.C. 4713.31.

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 4713.08(A)(20).

<sup>5</sup> R.C. 4713.24(H).

<sup>6</sup> R.C. 4713.08(F).

<sup>7</sup> Section 3.

that the standards in that country were substantially similar to those in Ohio at that time. The bill eliminates a similar current law requirement for an applicant licensed in another state.

If the applicant is seeking a barber license, the bill authorizes the Board to waive any of the bill's requirements regarding licensure by endorsement or require that the applicant pass an examination, which is similar to current law.

The bill eliminates current law requirements regarding examinations for an applicant seeking a license by endorsement to practice cosmetology. It also removes the requirement under current law that the jurisdiction that issued the applicant's license or registration extends similar reciprocity to individuals holding a license the Board issues.<sup>8</sup>

## Distance education

The bill requires the Board to adopt rules establishing standards for distance education by a cosmetology school or barber school in Ohio, and as part of post-secondary education offered by a cosmetology school.<sup>9</sup> The bill permits cosmetology schools and barber schools to offer distance education to fulfill minimum training and instruction hours.<sup>10</sup>

Under continuing law, the Board must adopt rules establishing continuing education requirements for barber license holders and may adopt rules to establish continuing education requirements for license holders under the Cosmetology Licensing Law. The bill requires that the rules permit those requirements to be fulfilled by either classroom instruction or distance education. The bill also requires that the notification required to be sent to license holders under the Cosmetology Licensing Law notifying them of continuing education requirements state that those requirements may be fulfilled via classroom instruction or distance education.<sup>11</sup>

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	04-27-21

H0277-I-134/ts

<sup>8</sup> R.C. 4709.08 and 4713.34, and R.C. 4713.08(A)(6) and (C), repealed.

<sup>9</sup> R.C. 4709.05(E)(6) and 4713.08(A)(13) and (14).

<sup>10</sup> R.C. 4709.10(C) and 4713.45(A).

<sup>11</sup> R.C. 4709.05(E)(3), 4713.09(B), and 4713.59.