

Barber Newsletter

Vol. 2 Issue 1 April 2010



Advisory Board on Barbering

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Class A Barber License

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Class A Barber License



TDLR welcomes new Barber School at Houston Community College.

Houston Community College Opens Barber School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Celebrates New Program

The Houston Community College (HCC) Barber School celebrated its opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house on October 28, 2009. The new barbering program, located in the college's southeast campus, welcomed 17 barber students for the Fall 2009 semester.

HCC's barber school is the only licensed barber program currently offered by a community college in the state of Texas. "This is a place for people that are creative, self-starters and entrepreneurs," says Hilda Sustaita, HCC Department

Chair. "We strive to give great opportunities to these students. When they finish with us, they're ready to work anywhere."

Barbering students are eligible to take the written portion of the barbering examination when they have earned 1,000 hours of instruction and may apply to take the practical examination once they pass the written examination and have completed 1,500 hours.

"Texas community colleges have offered cosmetology instruction for many years,"

states Kim Whitt, TDLR Education Program Specialist. "We are pleased to welcome Houston Community College into the ranks of Texas barber schools."

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation regulates and licenses all barber schools, including Houston Community College. For more information regarding barber schools or barbering education requirements contact education@license.state.tx.us.

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Milestones & More

As we look back at the last year we see Texas' barbering industry has a lot to celebrate:

1. Reaching the 13,000 Class A Barbers milestone, 2nd highest number in the nation
2. Opening of the state's only community college barber program and
3. Issuing the first mobile barber shop license.



TDLR is proud of the barbering program and is looking forward to new accomplishments in the coming years. We are always interested in your ideas and opinions and encourage you to attend the Advisory Board on Barbering meetings to share your ideas with others. I hope to meet you at a meeting soon!

Lastly, I would like to ask each of you to please make sure TDLR has your correct mailing information so you receive your Barber Newsletter. Also, check with your co-worker to make sure we have his correct address, too. If someone is looking over your shoulder as you read the newsletter chances are we don't have their current address. To correct your mailing information please complete and return the form on the back cover of the newsletter. Thank you for your support of the barber newsletter and please continue to make suggestions or comments to susan.stanford@license.state.tx.us.

Susan Stanford

Public Information Officer

Common Barbering Violations to Avoid

Take a few minutes to review ten common violations found by TDLR inspectors in 2009 and make sure you and the shop you work in are in compliance with the barbering laws and rules.

1. Failure to Display License/No Photo On License	6. Expired or Unlicensed Shop
2. No Postings	7. No Booth Rental License
3. No Wet Sanitizer or Contaminated Wet Sanitizer	8. Dirty and/or Clean Implements Not Stored Properly
4. Unlicensed or Expired Individual	9. Failure to Disinfect Electric Clippers
5. Employing Expired or Unlicensed Individual	10. Individual Practicing in an Unlicensed Facility



What's missing?

You! Your voice and opinion matters. Get involved and attend the TDLR Advisory Board on Barbering at our new meeting location, 1106 Clayton Lane in Austin, TX. The next Advisory Board Meeting is Monday, April 26, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

Meet your advisory board members, TDLR staff and fellow barbers. Get connected and make a difference to the barbering industry of Texas.

Can't make it in person? Tune in "live" online via "Real Player" on the TDLR website at www.license.state.tx.us.

TDLR Brainstorming Session

Industry Members Provide Valuable Input

Every two years the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation prepares an agency strategic plan for the Texas Legislature. This year we are preparing the Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2011-2015.

Members of the barbering industry were invited to meet with TDLR staff on March 22, 2010. Four questions were asked by TDLR staff and the answers were recorded.

At the conclusion of the question and answer period brainstorming participants were asked to identify issues they viewed as most important on the list. The comments listed in **bold** were considered the most important. Here is a summary of the comments:

What is TDLR doing well?

1. Getting information on the website
2. Providing an archived video recording of advisory board meetings on website
3. Responding to requests for public information; providing more than enough information in response to public information requests
4. TDLR inspectors and examiners are very helpful
5. Licensees and TDLR survived the transition from the Barbering Board to TDLR and have a good working relationship

What can TDLR do better?

1. Barbering Updates on website no longer meet the definition of updates, still have 2005 and 2006
2. Barber Newsletter should go out before the strategic plan meeting. There was no mention on program website of strategic planning meetings
3. **TDLR's LISTSERV - Barbers are not computer literate and do not subscribe to the Listserv; how many barbers have subscribed; TDLR needs to use snail mail (U.S. Postal Service)**
4. Assign TDLR staff to Barber website page to make sure it is up to date
5. Provide consistency with inspectors throughout the state; attitude of some inspectors is positive, relaxed and helpful and with others it is negative and feels they are out to find something wrong
6. Not getting Barber Newsletter often enough



Brian Francis, Deputy Executive Director of TDLR, moderated the barbering focus group on March 22 during the Agency's strategic planning process. Francis finds comments from industry representatives extremely valuable for improving the process for licensing and regulation of TDLR's 29 statutes and 28 programs.

7. Commit to getting Barber Newsletter out before next Advisory meeting (April 26) and include session comments

If you could change one service that TDLR provides or one process we use, what would it be and how would you change it?

Apprenticeship Program

1. **Develop an apprenticeship program which would provide an alternative way to enter the barbering industry; have the apprentices mentored by an experienced five-year barber (Home schooling is an example of success)**

2. Not enough schools in rural areas so apprenticeships would be an option since there are many five-year barbers available to mentor

Field Trips

Resistance in schools to allow students to visit barbershops because there is no time in the curriculum for these visits. Provide an avenue where schools can give credit for field trips to visit shops.

Instructor Qualifications

1. There needs to be an alternative licensing for instructors, there are too many barriers of entry into program. Create sub-categories for instructors – a master instructor and a path for regular instructor to advance to master instructor. Five years working as instructor to become eligible to examine for master instructor barber, two years working experience as Class A Barber to enter the instructor program.
2. Address the qualifications for raters; currently raters must be a licensed barber teacher but a new program would expand the accessible number of licensed barber teachers eligible to be raters.
3. Concern is people progress through barber school quick; keep 5 year requirement for instructors
4. Time is helpful for better skills but is not critical factor.

5. Methods we use to license/ evaluate barber for license are not effective
6. Need an effective measure of ability and talent
7. See the need or urgency to make changes
8. No walk in the door, immediate path to instructor
9. Change instructor requirement from five years to two or three years experience if there is CE for barbers
10. Barbers and instructors numbers are dwindling

Continuing Education

1. No continuing education

Examinations

1. More exams; once a month in Austin
2. Scheduling problem with PSI for written and practical
3. Exams are worded differently from the exam review; need to match the wording

Barbering Elements

1. Go back and find elements that were successful for barbers getting licensed prior to TDLR assuming responsibility; see chart comparing number of applications prior and after TDLR.
2. Barber vs. cosmetology - losing focus, moving items from barber to cosmo., i.e. chemical services

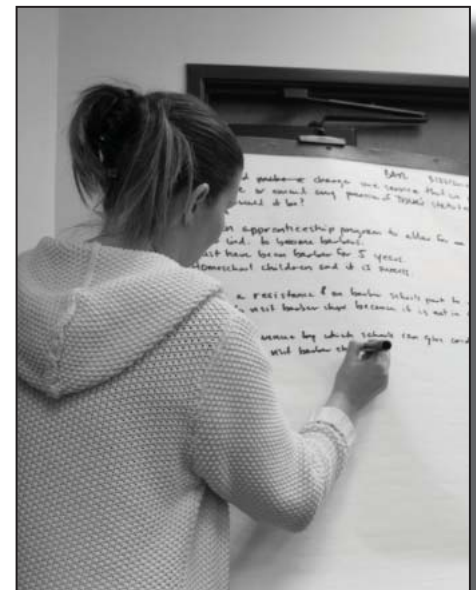
(barbers) do not perform; barbering needs to stay within the guidelines, do not blur; do not merge with cosmetologists; public coming back to men wanting barber shops.

Law and Rule Changes

1. **1601.303 Add requirement that barbers can only work in licensed barber shops**
2. **82.71 (c)C change the rule, add point 8 beginning and ending date for Barber**

Shaving

More clear and concise definition of shaving for barbers; definition of shaving; issue is cosmetologist shaving with safety razors; need ruling on electric razors and barber trimming moustache/beard.

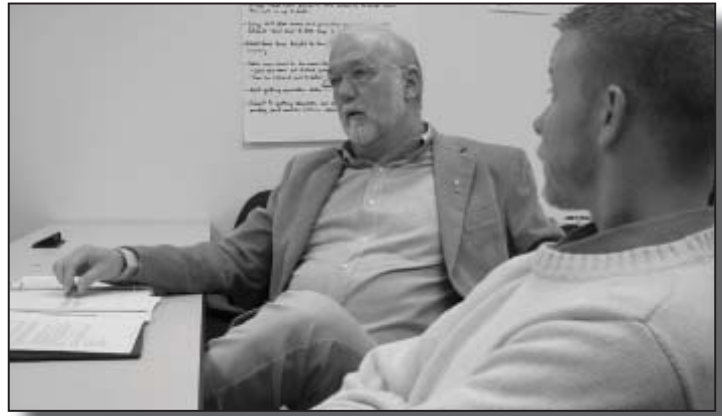


Christina Guzman, TDLR Executive Assistant, tracks comments from participants during the recent Barbering External Focus Group session. TDLR staff members consider each comment with an eye to improving the barbering program

Brainstorming Session

Industry Members Provide Valuable Input

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Joe Sheppard, Class A Barber from Grapevine, TX, shares his ideas and concerns for the barbering program during a recent TDLR focus group. Sheppard is an active participant of TDLR's barbering advisory board meetings and focus group sessions.

Dual Permit Shops

Abolish dual shop permit, not enforceable; if you have a dual permit shop permit but no barber, permit should be revoked; it is difficult for barbers to have a dual shop

Independent Contractors/ Booth Rental Permits

1. Shop owners should not be susceptible to fines for independent contractors violating the sanitation rules
2. Abolish the booth rental permit; serves no purpose. Doctors and nurses do not need booth rental permit if they are contractors.

Inspections

1. More frequent inspections
2. Inspectors need to be able to verify license to the person's picture ID

Miscellaneous

1. Travel reimbursement for Barber advisory board

2. **Sanitation - OSHA Laws, TECQ, OSHA - 1900-1030 blood borne pathogens, employer provide safe working environment, cut someone during a shave, (Review Tattoo regulations by Health Department). TCEQ - Rules for used razor blade disposal**

3. Less regulation is better, already have great sanitation rules, need more consistency of sanitation enforcement
4. More clear and concise definition of shaving for barbers, issue is cosmetologist shaving with safety razors... Need ruling on electric razors and barber trimming moustache/beard

What major changes will occur over the next five years that will impact the way TDLR does business and the services we provide?

1. Demographics for the entire state are changing; small towns are growing, there will be a need for more services in small towns
2. The impact will be determined by what we do: barbers will either prosper or die; barbers support schools and grow together; more people active in the process
3. More attacks on the branding of barbers. Have to make it easier to get individual licensed; do not reduce licensing requirements but make it easier to get a license
4. Improve scheduling of exam process with PSI
5. Tougher economy - we have to specialize and protect the industry
6. Protect symbol of barbering

Five Reasons to Renew Your License

We encourage you to take advantage of the online renewal service, but if you are hesitant to try it here are six reasons why we think you should:

1. It's faster. When you renew online your license prints that night and is mailed the next business day.
2. It's convenient. You can renew at a time that fits your schedule. Whether you are a night owl, an early bird or an 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. person, TDLR's web site is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can log onto the site and complete the information whenever you want to.
3. Easy payment. Debit and credit cards are accepted online. No need to write a check or purchase a money order; TDLR's online renewal accepts bank debit cards and credit cards.
4. No stress. You don't have to find an envelope, buy a stamp, and mail a letter. Simply fill out the online form, include your credit card or bank debit card number and hit the send button.
5. More family/friend time. If you don't have a computer at home or work, filing online enables you to either spend time with friends or family who do have a computer or gives you the perfect excuse to visit your local library.

What's in it for TDLR? Faster service and happy licensees. Remember: if you're happy...we're happy. To renew your barbering license online visit: https://www.license.state.tx.us/App_Online/default.asp?LicenseType=BAR&bhcp=1

Barber Shops Support Community Outreach Programs

Local Shops Team Up with Big Brothers Big Sisters

Barber shops have always played an important role in the community. They not only offer great haircuts and shaves, but they also serve as a meeting place where news and information is easily shared. Last fall barber shops in the Austin and Pflugerville area partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Central Texas and the local African-American Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity to talk to customers and recruit mentors for the BBBS program.

BBBS staff, current mentors and Alpha members spent a cool, crisp Saturday morning at participating barber shops talking to clients about the importance of providing positive role models to Texas youth, particularly African-American boys. As men waited their turn for a haircut, some with their wife patiently accompanying them, they listened intently to the information about BBBS. Many had questions about the program and were able to get answers from the BBBS representatives in a relaxed, comfortable environment.

Perhaps one day, someone, will look at the photos taken on a Saturday in Austin, Texas, and think to himself, "way back in the old days barber shops were a vital part of the community, just like today." Change can be a good thing in some instances, but the friendships and bonding found in the neighborhood barber shop is one thing that will stay the same.



Barber Shops continue to play a role in the community. Members of African-American Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity sign up mentors for Big Brothers in Austin at local shops.



Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
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An online copy is available at www.license.state.tx.us. Send questions and comments regarding the newsletter to Susan Stanford at susan.stanford@license.state.tx.us. Reprint requests should be directed to TDLR.

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 (800) 803-9202 (in Texas)
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New Address or Phone Number?

We Need to Know; it's a Barbering Rule.

If you are reading a co-worker's copy of the Barber Newsletter because you haven't received your own it may be because we don't have your correct address. Rule 82.70 (d) requires you to notify TDLR of any change of mailing address within thirty days of the change.

Return to: **TDLR**
P.O. Box 12157
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

TDLR License Number: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Email: _____