

RULES RELATING TO  
SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR  
BARBERS AND BEAUTY  
OPERATORS

- §1 Purpose and authority
- §2 Social distancing
- §3 Definitions
- §4 Barber shops and beauty shops; sanitation
- §5 COVID-19 infection mitigation and social distancing;  
preopening and ongoing safety protocol
- §6 Closures

§1 Purpose and authority. These rules are adopted pursuant to sections 127A-12, 13, 25, 29, and 31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to respond to the COVID-19 emergency declared by the Governor, specifically to enable Hawaii licensed barbers and beauty operators to perform services while complying with social distancing guidelines. These rules have the force and effect of law.

§2 Social distancing. The barber or beauty operator shall take every reasonable precaution to operate in compliance with all orders and social distancing guidelines relating to the COVID-19 emergency.

§3 Definitions.

"Department" means Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

"Disinfection" means the process that eliminates many or all pathogenic organisms, except bacterial spores, on inanimate objects.

"Operator" means barber as defined in section 438-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes and beauty operator as defined in section 439-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

"Sanitation" means the treatment of a clean surface for the destruction of micro-organisms including pathogens.

"Shop" means all barber shops as defined in section 438-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes and beauty shops as defined in section 439-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

"State" means the State of Hawaii.

"Sterilization" means a process that destroys or eliminates all forms of microbial life by physical or chemical methods.

"Ventilation" means the production and maintenance by natural or mechanical means of atmospheric conditions

favorable to health and comfort.

§4 Barber shops and beauty shops; sanitation. (a)  
General sanitation requirements.

- (1) No person shall operate a shop in connection with any other business or dwelling unless there is a partition from the floor to the ceiling, separating the shop from such other business or dwelling. Nothing here shall prohibit the sale of tobacco, newspapers, or shoe shining in shops.
  - (2) No shop shall be used as a living, cooking, or sleeping facility, nor shall any such facility adjoining a shop have a direct opening into such shop.
  - (3) Articles of food and beverages, except water, shall not be sold, kept for sale, or stored in any shop, and shops shall be separated by a tight partition or separate entry from any place where articles of food and beverages are sold, kept for sale, or stored.
  - (4) The walls, floors, ceilings, furniture and fixtures, and all other parts and surfaces of every shop shall be kept clean at all times.
  - (5) Every shop shall be kept in good repair, and shall be properly and adequately lighted and ventilated.
  - (6) Every shop shall be provided with adequate sanitary facilities, including toilets, hot and cold running water, and sinks or wash basins. Plumbing shall comply with the applicable county plumbing code. Toilets shall be located in suitably and properly ventilated toilet rooms with self-closing doors.
- (b) Sanitary practice requirements.
- (1) No operator shall use in any shop any astringent in lump or styptic pencil form, sponge, lump alum, powder puff, neck duster, shaving brush, or shaving mug on a customer.
  - (2) No operator shall stop the flow of blood by using alum or other material unless applied in liquid form or in powdered form applied with a clean towel.
  - (3) No operator shall use razors, shears, scissors, clippers, tweezers, finger bowls, or combs, or

any like article on any customer unless the item has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected since last used. All such instruments shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected by a method recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Environmental Protection Agency, and/or the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. After disinfecting, instruments shall be stored in a manner to prevent contamination, or be disinfected again immediately before re-use. All disinfectants shall be approved by the Environmental Protection Agency.

- (4) No operator shall remove or attempt to remove any wart, mole, pimple, ingrown hair, or undertake any like treatment unless properly trained in medical science. Cleaning of ears is prohibited.
- (5) Every operator shall wash his or her hands thoroughly with soap and hot water and dry his or her hands with sanitary towels or hand drying devices immediately before attending any person, and shall wear at all times a clean uniform or outer coat or apron.
- (6) Towels or other fabrics that come in contact with the skin or hair of a customer shall not be used on more than one customer without being laundered in an acceptable manner or subjected to a sterilizing process approved by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention before again being used on a customer.
- (7) Prior to serving any customer, the headrest of any chair to be used by said customer shall be properly disinfected and covered with a clean towel or a clean sheet of paper.
- (8) All towels and other linens used in any shop shall be kept in a closed cabinet at all times when not in use.
- (9) All creams, tonics, cosmetics, and other applications used for customers shall be kept in clean closed containers.
- (10) A clean strip of cotton, towel, or paper band shall be placed around the neck of each customer served, so that at no time will hair, cloth, or cape come in contact with the neck or skin on the

customer.

- (11) No person shall commit any insanitary practice or act in a shop sink or wash basin, such as brushing teeth, expectorating, or gargling.

§5 COVID-19 infection mitigation and social distancing; preopening and ongoing safety protocol.

(a) Preopening safety protocols.

- (1) Thoroughly clean and disinfect all fixtures, furnishings, equipment, doorways, work stations, and restrooms. Check and replace various filters such as heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and hair dryers. Disinfectants shall be EPA-registered and labeled as bactericidal, virucidal and fungicidal.
- (2) Evaluate the layout and arrange seats at least six feet apart. Consider adding spacing between booths, shampoo sinks, divider shields, sneeze shields, and/or alternative work schedules to accomplish this. Consider using the front and rear doorways to establish one-way traffic through the shop. Remove items such as candy dishes, self-serve coffee, product samples, magazines, and paper reading products from the common area.
- (3) Have hand sanitizer available for all employees and clients.
- (4) Take inventory of personal protective equipment (PPE), cleaning products, and EPA-registered disinfecting products, and order supplies, if necessary.
- (5) Establish new policies requiring employees to wear a face covering as described and recommended by the CDC at all times when in the shop, except while eating or drinking in a break room. Salons may consider providing face coverings to clients. Clients should wear a face covering as described and recommended by the CDC to the extent possible while receiving services.
- (6) Establish new schedules of employees and appointment policies to minimize the risk of overcrowding inside the shop. There should be no more than ten people in the shop at any time

including staff, provided the six-foot social distancing requirements are met. These policies shall be in writing and shall be posted to advise the public of the new policies.

- (7) Shop owners shall provide training, educational materials, and reinforcement on proper sanitation, hand-washing, cough and sneeze etiquette, and shall ensure that breakrooms are thoroughly cleaned and sanitized and not used for congregating by employees.
- (b) Ongoing Safety Considerations After Opening
  - (1) Consider seeing clients by appointment only. Limit the number of persons in the waiting area of the shop. It is recommended that clients wait outside the shop until the operator is ready to serve them.
  - (2) The use of a face covering as described and recommended by the CDC is mandatory for all employees at all times while in the shop. Placing a clean towel over the face of the client while at the sink is a good way to protect their mouth, nose and eyes. Minimize to the greatest degree possible, up-close, direct face-to-face contact with clients.
  - (3) Before and after each client, require staff to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; properly clean and disinfect all workstations, shampoo, manicure and pedicure bowls, implements, and tools; ensure single use and porous items, such as disposable capes or cardboard nail files, are new; and follow manufacturer's requirements for product use, formulations, and/or disposal. Consider placing paper drapes or laundered towels on chairs.
  - (4) Employees should frequently wash their hands after using the phones, computer, cash register or credit card machine. Wipe all surfaces between each use.
  - (5) Advise employees and clients to stay at home if they are not feeling well. Consider pre-screening clients and ask if they have traveled outside the county or experienced any COVID-19 symptoms in the past 14 days. Decline services

- for any client that answers yes.
- (6) Discontinue the practice of physical social greetings, such as hugs or handshakes.
  - (c) Any Operator who contracts COVID-19 or any other contagious or infectious disease in a communicable form shall not attend any person in any shop, nor shall any person afflicted with such disease in communicable form receive any treatment in any such establishment. Any operator afflicted with any such disease shall return to work in a shop only upon a written statement from a physician that it is safe for him or her to return to work.

§6 Closures. Upon inspection, if any shop is found in violation of these rules, it may be closed immediately by public health officials or by the Department.