

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2017

If members of the public have questions about this report, please contact:

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1. The address of the board and the names of its members and officers

5809 Departure Drive Suite 102, Raleigh, NC 27616.

Its members are:

- Don Beal
- Gary Gardner
- Jamie Norton
- Steffon Sharpless
- Valerie Willis

The board's officers are:

- Don Beal, Chair
- Jamie, Vice Chair

1a. The total number of licensees supervised by the board

17,713

2. The number of persons who applied to the board for examination

Written exam: 608
Practical exam: 1,057

3. The number who were refused examination

136

4. The number who took the examination

Written exam: 500
Practical exam: 606

5. The number to whom initial licenses were issued

845

5a. The number who failed the examination

Written exam: 171

Practical exam: 76

6. The number who applied for license by reciprocity or comity

110

7. The number who were granted licenses by reciprocity or comity

77

The board notes that the number of licenses granted has increased from a low in FY 2015 of 2.65% to the rate in FY 2017 of 70%. Over the past two years, the board has engaged in efforts to improve this percentage by repealing burdensome requirements in its rules, and this increase in the approval rate reflects those efforts. We expect an additional increase next year.

The board believes that the number could be higher if certain requirements in statute were revised. The board has requested legislation to make it easier for out-of-state applicants to get licensure by reciprocity. (For more information, see question 10 below.)

7a. The number of official complaints received involving licensed and unlicensed activities

65

7b. The number of disciplinary actions taken against licensees, or other actions taken against non-licensees, including injunctive relief

132

8. The number of licenses suspended or revoked

0

9. The number of licenses terminated for any reason other than failure to pay the required renewal fee

0

10. The substance of any anticipated request by the occupational licensing board to the General Assembly to amend statutes related to the occupational licensing board

The board will request the following statutory changes:

- Amend G.S. 86A–12 to make it easier for out-of-state barbers to be licensed by reciprocity;
- Amend G.S. 86A–17(b) to eliminate a six-month grace period for civil penalties for barbers who fail to renew their license before it expires;
- Amend G.S. 86A–22 to allow barber schools to offer online classes for non-practical training;
- The board is considering requesting that the General Assembly amend G.S. 86A–23 to require continuing education for barber instructors;
- Amend G.S. 86A–25 to increase the maximum fees collectible by the board, perhaps based on the Consumer Price Index; and
- Eliminate the portion of G.S. 86A–25 that requires the board to issue free licenses to barbers 70 years or older.

Although the board will not be the initiator of this request, the board has been approached to have the Board of Electrolysis Examiners merged into it. Both boards support the merger and are currently working on merger plans.

11. The substance of any anticipated change in rules adopted by the occupational licensing board or the substance of any anticipated adoption of new rules by the occupational licensing board

The board has published or will be publishing rule changes as follows:

- Requiring all license renewals to occur online, unless the licensee requests a waiver;
- Reduce the restrictions on how many regulated businesses (i.e., barber schools or barbershops) an individual can manage;
- Reducing the limitations on physical spaces that can qualify as barber shops; and
- Other technical changes, especially those necessary to implement any of the bills described in question 10 above.