

Hair, Beauty, Tattooing and Skin Penetration Business



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Businesses conducting beauty therapy, cosmetic applications, colonic irrigation, hairdressing, skin penetration or tattooing must be registered under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* to minimise the risk of clients contracting certain infectious diseases.

Note: Massage or muscle stimulation businesses are not required to be registered by Local Government but they are still required to follow the guidelines relevant to their industry.

Registration

If you take over a business **in existing premises**:

- Ensure the premises has current registration with the local council.
- Apply to transfer the registration to your name before you can start trading.

If you plan to start your business **in new premises**:

- You should consult with the council planning department and environment health officer to discuss the proposal before selecting a site.
- Building fit-outs may require a building permit from the building department.

The business only requires applying for one of the following types of registration:

- **One-off registration**

- Definition:
 - **Hairdressing services** include cutting hair with scissors or razors, colouring and styling hair.
 - **Low-risk beauty therapy** includes the application of temporary make-up, henna tattoos, spray tans, eyelash and eyebrow tinting.
- You are required to apply for a new business registration and accompanied by a one-off registration fee when:
 - There is a new hairdressing or low-risk beauty therapy business
 - Your business premises moves location or
 - You purchase or transfer the business from a third party
- The business premises will be inspected prior to granting an on-going registration.
- The council will continue to conduct a visit to the business premises if any complaints are received once an on-going registration is granted.



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- Colonic irrigation or

- High-risk beauty therapy services include businesses, such as permanent or semi-permanent make-up application (cosmetic tattooing), facial or body treatments, manicure /pedicures and other nail treatments, application or mending of artificial nails, or hair removal by electrolysis or wax.

Operational requirements

The *Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2019* provides for a registration process and set out requirements relating to infection control as well as information to be kept and provided.

• General requirements

- Must keep the premises in a clean, sanitary and hygienic condition.
- Must ensure that any water used for personal services is drinking water.
- Must ensure that there are accessible hand washing facilities available for use by staff.
- Must display a notice about the scope of registration for the class of business your premises are registered for. The notice must be placed in a prominent position in the entry to the premises.
- Must provide particular written information to each client about the potential risks associated with tattooing, ear piercing, body piercing and other skin penetration procedures.
- Must ensure that the person who carries out any procedures on any client keeps themselves clean, and has no exposed cuts, abrasions or wounds, before carrying out a procedure.
- Any piece of equipment or instrument used for penetrating the skin must be cleaned and sterilised before being used on a person.
- Must keep client records if conducting tattooing, body piercing or any other process involving skin penetration (except for ear piercing and dry needling). Records must be kept for 12 months after the procedure, they must be stored at the premises where the business is conducted, and you must take reasonable steps to protect the information.

• Procedure-Specific requirements

Department of Health and Human Services developed infection prevention and control guidelines to help you in the hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration industries to understand and comply with specific requirements in the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and the *Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2019*. Please download and read it.

• Minimum Age for tattoos and body piercing (Under the Summary Offences Act 1966)

- Must not do tattooing, scarification, tongue splitting, branding, beading or intimate body piercing on a person under 18 years.
- Must not do non-intimate body piercing on someone under 16 years without the consent of their parent or guardian.
- Must not allow a staff member under the age of 16 years to do intimate body piercing.

Homebased Hair and/or Beauty Treatment Services

Hair and Beauty Salons can be located at your place of residence. However, the premises must be registered with the council and must meet the same requirements as any other hair and/or beauty treatment services.

To ensure your premises meets the necessary requirements, you should discuss your proposal with us before you get started. You also need to contact the council's Planning Departments for any permits that may be required such as change of use or signage requirements. We can provide you with accurate information that may assist you to prepare your application for approval.

Mobile Hairdressers and/or Beauty Treatment Services

You must register your principal place of business with the council if conducting a business does not involve skin penetration or tattooing in the client's home or other settings, such as a hotel, hostel, daycare centre or nursing home etc.



Mobile beauty treatment businesses that conduct skin penetration (piercing) or tattooing procedures are not permitted.

Mobile operators must be able to demonstrate compliance with the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and the *Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2019* maintaining the cleanliness of equipment and personal hygiene standards. For example, the use of impervious and easily cleanable containers with lids for transporting equipment. Operators must ensure that all procedures undertaken are in accordance with the relevant sections in the infection control guidelines.

Fees and Charges

[Public health fees and charges page](#)

Forms

- [Business Permit Application Form](#)

Legislation & Regulation

- [Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008](#)
- [Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2019](#)

Related information

- [Infection prevention and control guidelines for hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration industries](#)
- [Notices about scope of registration and client information sheets](#)

For inquiries about the registration of hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration or complaints, please contact Council's Environmental Health Unit on 03 5358 8700

