

# Cosmetology in Georgia Licensing Guide

This is a document that provides the guidelines to be certified for a licensed profession in the State of Georgia last updated in February 2019. We encourage you to verify the information as it may change.

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

Licenses of cosmetology in Georgia are regulated by the Georgia Secretary of State's office through the State Board of Cosmetology and Barbers in Georgia. You must be licensed to practice as a cosmetologist in Georgia.

## HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR COSMETOLOGY LICENSE IN GEORGIA:

1. Attend and graduate from cosmetology or beauty school with training in cosmetology.
  - You must attend and graduate from a cosmetology school in order to be eligible to take the PSI exam and apply for a cosmetology license.
  - The minimum requirement of training is 1,500 hours over the course of nine months.
  - Courses you take in cosmetology will go over the theory and practice of:
    - Hair Coloring
    - Hair Cutting
    - Nail Care
    - Makeup Application
    - Business & Retail Skills
  - Tuition costs for cosmetology school in Georgia vary from \$6,000-\$20,000 depending on the school and program you chose.
  - To find a list of schools to attend visit [this link](#) and on the form under "Profession" select, "cosmetology and barbers" and under "License" select, "Cosmetology Schools" and click search. This will lead you to the list of schools with their locations.
  
2. You can also work as a licensed apprentice, if you chose not to take the usual path of attending cosmetology school.
  - To be an apprentice, you must be at least 17 years old and submit an application for cosmetology apprentice and complete your training on the job under the supervision of a licensed master cosmetologist with at least three years of experience.
  - You must complete 3,000 hours and a minimum of 18 months training so that you can apply for examination. Additionally, you will have to keep a record of your hours and training daily as well as the appropriate training form.
  
3. Pass PSI Exams
  - You must take the Master Cosmetology Exam which comes in two parts:
    - You can register for both parts of the exam through this [link](#).
    - Master Cosmetology Practical Exam (140 minutes): This exam cannot be taken by computer, paper or pencil. This is an exam that tests your clinical and practical skills by having you complete them in person.
    - NIC Cosmetology Theory Exam (90 minutes): This exam may be taken online.
  - Tests are administered in the following cities in Georgia:
    - Atlanta, GA

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- Macon, GA
  - Tifton, GA
  - Exam fees total \$109.00
    - The practical exam fee is \$64.00
    - The theory exam fee is \$45.00
    - You must pass both parts before you can apply.
4. Submit your Master Cosmetologist Application to the Georgia Board of Cosmetology.
- You can apply online through this [link](#).
  - Or you can apply by mailing your application to:  
*GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY AND BARBERS*  
*237 Coliseum Drive*  
*Macon, Georgia 31217*
  - Your application must include your:
    - Citizenship verification
    - Application for Initial Licensure ([found at this link](#))
    - Application fee of \$30.00

5. Or you can submit your apprentice application by submitting the following documents online or via mail at the same address and link above.

- Your application must include your:
  - [Apprentice application \(found here\)](#)
  - \$45 application fee
  - Copy of current licensed shop and master cosmetology from employer

**Note:** It is your responsibility once you have completed your required hours of training to get and submit your application for the PSI exam and for your license. You may only renew your apprenticeship license one time before you must apply for your Master Cosmetology license.

## 6. Renewing your license

- Licenses for master cosmetologists in Georgia expire on March 31 on even number years.
- In order to renew your license you will have to complete five hours of continuing education during each two year renewal period.
  - Three credit hours in Health and Safety
  - Two credit hours in any elective

### Contact:

Georgia State Board of Cosmetology and Barbers  
237 Coliseum Drive  
Macon, GA 31217  
(478) 207-2440

Georgia Office of Secretary of State  
214 State Capitol  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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(844)753-7825