

# Maryland Board of Cosmetologists Meeting

**Monday, March 3, 2025**

A meeting of the State Board of Cosmetologists was held on Monday, March 3, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. by teleconference.

## **Board Member Attendees**

Ms. Shanay Wiggs, *Chair, Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. April Kenney, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Rosalind Hosley, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Kelly Canty, *Consumer Member - **Absent***

Mr. Maurice Fains, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Lisa Ennis, *Cosmetologist Member*

Ms. Katrina Lee, *Esthetician Member*

## **Other Staff Attendees**

Ms. Nicole Fletcher, *Executive Director*

Ms. Breona Scott, *Assistant Executive Director*

Ms. Leslie Braxton, *Licensing Supervisor*

Ms. Fatmata Rahman, *Administrative Specialist III*

Mr. Jacob Guy, *Board Administrator*

Ms. Ashley Thompson, *Office Secretary*

Mr. Kenneth Sigman, *Advice Counsel*

Ms. Renee Robertson, *Continuing Education Coordinator*

Ms. Karina Papavasiliou, *Inspector*

Mr. Welton Simpson, *Inspector*

# Agenda and Minutes

## **Quorum Announced, and Meeting Called to Order**

A quorum was announced by Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs and the meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher first announced an amendment to the agenda replacing item C with Curriculum Approval and moving Inspection Summary to item D. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher then requested a motion for approval of the updated March 3, 2025, agenda. Ms. April Kenney made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Rosiland Hosley, and the agenda was unanimously approved.

## **Approval of February 3, 2025, Minutes**

The minutes of the February 3, 2025, meeting were reviewed by the Board. Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs then requested a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Rosiland Hosley to approve the minutes which was seconded by Ms. April Kenney, and the motion unanimously passed.

# New Business

## **A. RECAP OF FEBRUARY 3, 2025, MEETING**

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher began by announcing to the Board a new idea to include a recap of the previous month's meeting at the start of each Board meeting. In February, the Board discussed striking the sponsor signature requirement for apprentices applying for testing. Board members voted in favor of removing that portion of the testing application. In February the Board also discussed potential adjustments to the stipulations surrounding distance learning. Ultimately, it was determined that it was more important to re-evaluate the course content than the allocation of hours to practical vs. theoretical. During February's meeting the Board also discussed specialty licenses for Wax Specialist and Mobile Salons. Each of these topics were looked at from a logistical and administrative perspective. No vote was taken. The specifics of the discussions can be found in the February meeting minutes posted on the Board of Cosmetologist's website. Executive

Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher also introduced Senate Bill 617 during February's meeting and will have further updates to provide during today's March meeting. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher also reminded Board members of the curriculum adjustment made by Cortiva Institute in Linthicum Heights that was announced in February.

## **B. PSI UPDATES**

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher began by reiterating the removal of the sponsor verification portion of the testing application for apprentices. Ms. Fletcher also provided some insight into the administrative process for the Board to approve apprentices for testing. Once the sponsor submits the final necessary credits, Apprenticeship Coordinator Jacob Guy will verify the hours and license statuses of the apprentice, sponsor, and shop. Then, the apprentice will receive an email including a completion letter and instructions to apply for testing. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher went on to announce PSI's transition to all online applications for testing. PSI will no longer accept applications via mail or email beginning March 31, 2025, in an effort to eliminate some of the back and forth that occurs with mailed in/mailed applications. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher also stated that applicants must pass the theoretical and practical portion of their exams within two years of each other for both scores to be valid. However, there is no timeframe in which applicants must test after the completion of training, as credits earned for training do not expire. The Board's website has been updated to reflect this information.

## **Old Business**

### **A. APPRENTICE RESTARTS**

The first apprentice to petition for restart was Tran Nham. Ms. Nham was previously a licensed Apprentice Limited Nail Technician from November 2023 through November 2024. Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs opened the petition for restart by asking Ms. Nham to explain why she was unable to complete the training program. Ms. Nham explained that due to issues surrounding her immigration documentation she was unable to work in the salon that she had originally planned to. Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs then requested a motion to approve the restart for Ms. Tran Nham. Cosmetologist Member Mr. Maurice Fains made a motion to approve the restart, which was seconded by Esthetician Member Ms. Katrina Lee, and unanimously approved.

The next apprentice petitioning for a restart was Phuong Kim Tran, who was previously a

licensed Apprentice Limited Nail Technician from November 2019 through November 2020. Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs opened the petition for restart by asking Ms. Tran to explain why she was unable to complete the training program and why she is applying for restart. Ms. Tran responded by stating that during her original license timeframe, the Covid-19 pandemic hit and her salon was forced to shut down and she could no longer train. Ms. Tran stated that she is aware of the training requirements and that she and her sponsor will stay on top of reporting hours through the Training Portal. Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs then requested a motion to approve the restart for Ms. Phuong Kim Tran. Cosmetologist Member Ms. Rosiland Hosley made a motion to approve the restart, which was seconded by Cosmetologist Member Ms. Lisa Ennis, and unanimously approved.

Following Ms. Phuong Kim Tran was Ms. An Trinh, who was previously a licensed Apprentice Limited Nail Technician from September 2016 through September 2017. Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs first asked Ms. Trinh to explain why she was unable to complete the apprenticeship program the first time. Ms. Trinh stated that shortly after becoming a licensed apprentice she moved to Washington D.C. and stopped working in Maryland. Ms. Trinh also stated that she would be diligent in reporting her training and stay on top of her sponsor to make sure she is receiving the proper credit. Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs then requested a motion to approve the restart for Ms. Phuong Kim Tran. Cosmetologist Member Ms. April Kenney made a motion to approve the restart, which was seconded by Esthetician Member Ms. Katrina Lee, and unanimously approved.

## **B. SENATE BILL 617 EYELASH BILL**

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher informed those on the call that there was a hearing surrounding Senate Bill 617 during the previous week. The Bill is in reference to establishing a Limited Eyelash Technician license, which would ultimately prevent those interested in performing such services from needing to complete the full scope of esthetics training. Proposed training for the Limited Eyelash Technician license could be completed through a 3-month apprenticeship program, or 100 hours of school training. The bill also outlines who would be qualified to sponsor an Apprentice Limited Eyelash Technician. These qualifications are explained as a Senior Cosmetologist who has completed Continuing Education related to eyelash services, or a Limited Eyelash Technician with at least two years of licensed experience. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher wrapped up the discussion by formally stating that the Board of Cosmetologists is supporting the bill.

### **C. CURRICULUM APPROVAL**

Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher announced the curriculum approval for Genesis Beauty Institute located at 716 Cambridge Plaza in Cambridge, Maryland. The school will be offering a full cosmetology program and the curriculum was approved February 20, 2025. The school itself is still awaiting approval from the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

### **D. INSPECTION SUMMARY**

Licensing Supervisor Ms. Leslie Braxton provided the Inspection Summary for today's meeting. The data was collected from January 30, 2025 - March 2, 2025.

<b>28</b>	<b>New shop applications received</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>New shops pending inspections - to be assigned</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Complaints received</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Complaints - open / to be assigned</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Complaints - inspections completed</b>
<b>170</b>	<b>Inspections conducted</b>
<b>58</b>	<b>Inspections passed</b>
<b>64</b>	<b>Inspections failed</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Failed - new shop inspections</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Failed - late renewal inspections</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Failed - complaint</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Failed - per board inspections</b>
<b>35</b>	<b>Failed - routine inspections</b>

## Public Comment

**Courtney Hare** - Ms. Hare inquired about proposed esthetics regulations, and when the period for public comment would begin. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher stated that the thirty day window for public comment has not officially opened and will not begin until regulations have been published on the Maryland register. However, regulations have been posted to the Board of Cosmetologists website, and those interested may review and submit comments to the Board's email.

**Ladonna Brooks** - Ms. Brooks asked what the process would be for schools to incorporate eyelash training into their offerings. Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs responded by stating that any school owner would first want to determine what licensure programs they wish to offer, and if it is only eyelash technician services, then they would need to wait until after the Limited Eyelash licensure is passed. Approval for any new schools would begin with submission of an application to the Maryland Higher Education Commission. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher added that she greatly appreciates the desire from many to be proactive in preparing for the Limited Eyelash licensure, however, the legislative process can be lengthy and there is no official word the administrative team can offer at this time.

**Crystal Browner** - Ms. Browner inquired about providing microneedling services, and whether she should wait to complete training until the proposed regulations are active. Executive Director Ms. Nicole Fletcher advised Ms. Browner to wait, because while microneedling has been approved the regulations are subject to change during the review process, specifically in regards to the depth at which the skin can be punctured.

## Adjournment

Chairperson Ms. Shanay Wiggs requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:56 A.M. Ms. April Kenney made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Rosiland Hosley, and then unanimously approved.

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ on April 7, 2025.