

List of State Reciprocity Requirements— Barbering

In the barbering profession, each state establishes licensure requirements for being able to practice in their state. Programs of study in barbering can range anywhere from 900 clock hours to 1,800 clock hours, and as such, states develop specific requirements for individuals who graduated from barber school in one state to be able to become licensed in another state. This process is considered reciprocity or endorsement. We have listed the requirements for an individual who graduates from a barbering program in the United States and wants to become licensed in another state.

Please note that the school you are planning on attending has only had their curriculum evaluated by their state to meet requirements for licensure and practice. In the field of barbering, each state board reviews the number of clock hours you attended in your home state, the subject areas, and the practical experiences you completed as a part of the process of determining what, if any, additional requirements you may have to meet in order to become licensed in their state. We encourage all graduates who are considering becoming licensed in another state to first take the licensure exam in their home state, which will make it easier to transfer into another state. If you are not licensed by your home state, the state you are considering getting licensed in may require you to take additional training to meet their state minimum hour requirements and/or take their state licensure exam. State boards of barbering do not evaluate the curriculum of schools located in other states, but do, in most cases, recognize training from other states. Please refer to the requirements below.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
Alabama	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	The state reviews each request after receiving a copy of the license from the transferring state. The individual is required to pay a fee to apply and may be required to take any exams based on the state they are transferring from.
Alaska	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements. (1,650 hours).	Apply by "waiver of examination," submit required documentation, pay fees, and meet the minimum qualifications for state licensure (1,650 hours).
Arizona	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	At least 1 year of practice in current state of licensure, a copy of their current license, an application, and a fee. Arizona has reciprocity with: AR, CA, DE, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NB, NH, NM, ND, OH, SC, SD, TX, WI, and WY.
Arkansas	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	Any person applying for reciprocity must have at least 1,500 hours of training and an unrevoked or unexpired license issued by the proper authorities of another state. Any person applying for reciprocity who has less than 1,500 hours of training must also have been continuously engaged in the practice of barbering for at least 1 year, as well as proof of licensure.
California	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	The board will grant out-of-state licensees a California license through reciprocity without having to take the California written and practical exam if they meet the following requirements: (a) A completed reciprocity application form and all fees required by the California board. (b) Proof of a current license issued by another state to practice that meets all of the following requirements: (1) It is not revoked, suspended, or otherwise restricted. (2) It is in good standing. (3) It has been active for three of the last five years, during which time the applicant has not been subject to disciplinary action or a criminal conviction.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
Colorado	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,500 hours).	The state will issue a license by endorsement to practice barbering in another state to an individual who possesses an active license in good standing if the applicant presents proof of a valid license from another state that is substantially equivalent to the requirements in Colorado for licensure (1,500 hours).
Connecticut	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	An applicant for licensure based on an out-of-state license may qualify for licensure provided the applicant holds a current barber license at the time of application in any other state and was issued such license on the basis of successful completion of a program of education and training, and successfully completed an examination.
Delaware	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,500 hours).	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,500 hours), or submit a notarized statement from an employer certifying that you have been working in the field for at least 3 of the last 5 years.
District of Columbia	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,500 hours).	If applying for licensure by reciprocity, the applicant must provide a letter of good standing from a jurisdiction with requirements which were substantially equivalent at the time of the applicant's licensure to those of the District of Columbia (1,500 hours); have passed an examination acceptable to the board; have an active certification from a recognized national certifying organization; and have not been disciplined or otherwise disqualified by the national certifying organization.
Florida	Hold an active license in another state with equal or greater requirements (1,200).	Hold an active license in another state with equal or greater requirements (1,200 hours) and have taken and passed a written exam or complete additional training hours to qualify for endorsement.
Georgia	Must be licensed in a state that has similar requirements (1,500 hours).	The state will accept licensees from other states with similar licensure requirements and having no disciplinary action against their license. The board does not endorse licenses from Alabama, California, District of Columbia, Hawaii, New York, Nevada, Oklahoma, or Washington. For all other states, endorsement may be granted or denied on an individual basis in accordance with the law.
Hawaii	Does not recognize licenses from other states.	The state has no reciprocal arrangements with any other board of barbering. An individual must apply and be evaluated by the State Board of Barbers and may be required to take written and practical exams.
Idaho	Must be licensed in a state that has similar requirements (900 hours).	Must be currently licensed by another state. The certification of licensure must show that the individual's training was substantially equivalent to, or higher than, those required for new applicants in Idaho (900 hours).

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
Illinois	The state allows anyone who completed a program and licensure in another state to request licensure by endorsement.	Illinois offers barber licensure by endorsement. The applicant must be currently licensed as a barber in their home state. To seek licensure in Illinois by endorsement, you must file an application; provide certification of your licensure from your home state, documentation of the hours and exams completed in your home state, transcripts from the barbering school attended, and verification of employment forms to show at least 3 years of lawful practice in your home state; and pay the appropriate fees.
Indiana	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 hours of training.	The state you hold a license in must require at least 1,500 hours of education or one year of licensed practice equal to one hundred (100) hours of education to an applicant who has completed a minimum of one thousand (1,000) hours of education. The jurisdiction must also require a passing score of at least 70% on the written and practical exams.
Iowa	The state allows anyone who completed a program and licensure in another state to request licensure by endorsement.	The board may issue a license by endorsement to any applicant from another state who has held an active license for at least 12 months during the past 24 months and who applies and pays a fee, shows verification of license(s) from every state in which the applicant has been licensed as a barber, completes one hour of Iowa barbering laws and administrative rules and sanitation, and passes a national written and practical examination.
Kansas	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state that has reciprocity to request licensure.	The state has reciprocity with AK, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, ID, IN, KY, LA, ME, MN, MS, MO, MT, NB, NH, NM, NC, ND, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WA, and WI. All others must meet the state's hour requirements (1,200 hours) and take and pass a state board examination.
Kentucky	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 hours of training.	The board will issue a license to any person who has a current license or certificate of registration as a practicing barber of another state which has substantially the same requirements for licensing (1,500 hours). For an applicant coming from a state without substantially the same requirements, he or she must be a licensed barber and have worked for at least 3 years.
Louisiana	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 hours of training.	An applicant with a current license to practice barbering in the US may be licensed without further examination if the person attended a program of study equal to or greater than 1,500 hours.
Maine	Accepts the training provided in other states.	The director may waive the examination and issue a license to any applicant who presents proof of being licensed to practice by another state as long as no cause exists for denial of a license.

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Maryland	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,200 hours of training.	Possess a current license in another state, provide certification that their license is in good standing and was obtained under the same standards as required in Maryland (1,200 hours), and possess two years of notarized work experience. Candidates who meet the requirements are eligible for a waiver of the examination requirement by endorsement (reciprocity).
Massachusetts	Accepts the training provided in other states.	You must show that you have at least 1,000 hours of schooling and you have taken exams to obtain a license. In order to obtain a master barber license, you must have worked as a master barber for 2 or more years in the state where you are licensed.
Michigan	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,800 hours of training.	Individuals who hold a barbering license in another state for 1 out of 3 years immediately preceding the date of application may become licensed as a barber if the requirements for licensure in the other state are substantially equivalent to the requirements in Michigan (1,800 hours). However, a license may be denied or limited if the applicant has been disciplined or disciplinary action is pending in another state.
Minnesota	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 hours of training.	If the applicant's education and experience is determined to be substantially the same as the Minnesota requirements (1,500 hours) and the applicant has a current registration/license from another state that is in good standing, a registration/license may be issued. If these qualifications are not met, the applicant may be required to obtain additional training and/or take a Minnesota barbering examination to become licensed. Minnesota has reciprocity agreements with North Dakota, South Dakota, Arizona, and Kansas.
Mississippi	Accepts the training provided in other states.	A certified transcript showing the individual graduated from a barbering program and a letter from the state indicating that the individual is licensed and has not had any disciplinary actions.
Missouri	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,000 hours of training.	Hold a current license in a state with substantially similar or superior requirements (1,000 hours) and have practiced barbering for 2 consecutive years in another state. Take and pass a state law test.
Montana	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,100 hours of training.	Hold a current license and proof of passage of both the written and practical NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) barbering exam at 75% proficiency or higher. Otherwise, the individual will be required to take both the written and practical NIC examinations. The applicant must possess a license in good standing that includes scope of training and practice in: haircutting with proper uses of tools (e.g., shears, razor, clippers, and thinning shears); shampooing and scalp treatments; hairstyling, including weaves, braiding, extensions, wet setting, blow-drying, curling, flat ironing, and the arranging of dry hair; hair coloring; hair lightening; waving and relaxing; facial shaving with a straight razor; skin care; and have completed a course of training of at least 1,100 hours in a school.

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Nebraska	Accepts the training provided in other states; however, may also require work experience if the program was less than 1,800 hours.	Copy of your transcripts from a barbering school. If the individual has less than 1,800 hours of training in school, he or she will need to submit an affidavit of employment from previous and current employers for consideration.
Nevada	Accepts the training provided in other states.	If currently licensed in another state, applicants are required to take an exam that contains both a practical (shampoo, haircut, and shave) and written/oral portion.
New Hampshire	The state will accept any applicant who is similarly licensed in any other state, provided the other state's licensing requirements are substantially equivalent or higher.	Must have completed 800 training hours in home state for a barber license or 1,500 hours for a master barber license.
New Jersey	Accepts the training provided in other states.	In order to practice, you have to apply for, take, and pass the state board examination.
New Mexico	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,200 hours of training.	An applicant for licensure by reciprocity must meet all the requirements. Applicants who have not completed a course of study equivalent to the license (1,200 hours) may submit notarized letters of employment or employment records to prove licensed, current, verified work experience. Any person who seeks licensure in New Mexico through reciprocity from any other state must furnish an affidavit from the state regulatory agency verifying the number of hours completed, that the applicant holds a current license in good standing with the state, complete the application, and submit the required fee.
New York	The state limits the acceptable curriculum to those states on their approved list.	For barbers, there is a reciprocal agreement between New York, Maine, Pennsylvania, and New Mexico. Because of the similarity in license standards in these states the Department of State will waive the New York practical exam requirement if you supply an original certificate (with raised seal) from one of those states, along with a completed Barber Operator Application. Otherwise, an individual would need to take and pass a licensure exam.
North Carolina	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 hours of training.	Hold a current license in a state with equal or higher requirements (1,500 hours), at least 3 years of recent, licensed work experience, and may be required to take state licensure exams.
North Dakota	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 hours of training.	Hold a current license or certificate of registration as a barber from another state that has substantially the same requirements for licensing. Completion of formal education in a school of barbering. Applicants will be given credit for 50 educational hours for each month such applicant has practiced as a licensed barber in another state whose hours are less than the 1,500 hours required by North Dakota.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
Ohio	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,800 hours of training.	Any person who holds a current license as a barber in any other state whose requirements for licensure are substantially equivalent (1,800 hours) may apply to the barber board for a license. A year of licensed experience may be substituted for one hundred hours of training, up to a maximum of five hundred hours in total.
Oklahoma	Accepts the training provided in other states.	The state board may grant license by reciprocity without examination to any applicant who shall qualify and who shall submit the required application and fees to the board. Reciprocity applicants will request a Certification of Records from the state board or appropriate licensing agency where a current license is held. This is a legal document which contains licensing history, number of hours completed, and includes appropriate state seal and official signature.
Oregon	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,350 hours of training.	To obtain an Oregon practitioner certification in barbering by reciprocity, a person will have to provide proof of licensure in another state and pass all relevant Oregon written examinations. Proof of licensure in another state must show that the education received is substantially equivalent to Oregon certification requirements (1,350 hours).
Pennsylvania	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,250 hours of training.	A barber currently licensed in another state with substantially the same licensure requirements as Pennsylvania (1,250 hours) shall be granted a Pennsylvania barber license without an examination upon payment of the fee. The provision shall only be effective when a mutual reciprocal agreement has been executed between the respective state licensing boards, or a barber applicant currently licensed in another state not recognized by a reciprocal agreement shall be eligible for the barber examination upon approval of the board. The examination shall consist of barber law, rules and regulations.
Rhode Island	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,000 training hours and 840 apprentice hours.	Has successfully completed 1,000 hours of barbering instruction in school and has completed a minimum of eight hundred and forty (840) hours of barbering on-the-job training, as a registered barber apprentice, obtained within a minimum of six (6) months as a registered apprentice. The division may license, on a case-by-case basis, with or without examination, any individual who has been licensed as a barber under the laws of another state, which, in the opinion of the division, maintains a standard substantially equivalent to that of the state of Rhode Island.
South Carolina	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Hold a current license, which is in good standing, in another state; and must have passed the National Interstate Council (NIC) examination (theory and practical). If the individual did not take and pass the NIC examination, he or she will be required to take the exam before a license can be issued.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
South Dakota	Accepts the training provided in other states.	If the individual has a valid barber's license or certificate of registration from another state, he or she may apply to transfer the license. To apply, complete an application and provide verification of all past and present licensure.
Tennessee	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 hours of training.	Provide proof of a current license from another state with equal requirements (1,500 hours).
Texas	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Licensed in a state with substantially equivalent requirements (1,500 hours). In some cases, work experience may be credited.
Utah	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,250 hours of training.	Submit verification of current license; must meet educational (1,250 hours) and exam requirements.
Vermont	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 hours of training.	Hold a license in a state whose requirements are equal or superior (1,500 hours) and pass a state law exam.
Virginia	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,100 hours of training.	Hold a license in a state whose requirements are equal or superior (1,100 hours) and pass a state law exam.
Washington	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Have a current license in good standing in another state and have taken and passed a written and practical exam in your state of licensure.
West Virginia	Accepts the training provided in other states.	If licensed in a state, you must take and pass the state law exam and submit an application for review.
Wisconsin	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,000 hours of training.	Upon application and payment of the fee, the department may grant a license to practice barbering to an applicant who is licensed in another state to perform services that are substantially the same as those performed by a licensed barber in this state. The applicant completes a 1-hour course educating the applicant on statutes and rules that apply to the practice, has never been disciplined by the licensing authority that issued his or her license, and is not a party to a proceeding before the licensing agency.
Wyoming	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,000 hours of training.	Must have a current license from another state. Must have graduated from a licensed barbering school, taken a written and practical exam given by the board or testing company, and meet or exceed the 1,000-hour requirements to receive a Wyoming barbering license.

List of State Reciprocity Requirements— Cosmetology

In the cosmetology profession, each state establishes licensure requirements for being able to practice in their state. Programs of study in cosmetology can range anywhere from 1,000 clock hours to 2,100 clock hours, and as such, states develop specific requirements for individuals who graduated from cosmetology school in one state to be able to become licensed in another state. This process is considered reciprocity or endorsement. We have listed the requirements for an individual who graduates from a cosmetology program in the United States and wants to become licensed in another state.

Please note that the school you are planning on attending has only had their curriculum evaluated by their state; however, in the field of cosmetology, each state board reviews the number of clock hours you attended in your home state and the subject areas and practical experiences you completed as a part of the process of determining what, if any, additional requirements you may have to meet in order to be licensed in their state. State boards of cosmetology do not evaluate the curriculum of schools located in other states.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
Alabama	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	Request certification to be sent from current state; contact the state board for paperwork and exams; and pay a \$100 fee.
Alaska	Hold a current license in a state with equivalent requirements (1,650 hours).	Hold a current license in a state with equivalent requirements (1,650 hours); or 1 year of full-time employment + 1,500 school hours; or 2 years of full-time employment in the field.
Arizona	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	At least 1 year of practice in the current state of licensure within the five years prior to application.
Arkansas	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	Hold a valid cosmetology license; have certification of licensure and training; and pass a state law exam.
California	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	Must hold a cosmetology license in good standing in home state and must be licensed for 3 out of the last 5 years.
Colorado	Hold a valid license from home state with equivalent requirements (1,800 hours).	Apply for licensure by endorsement and hold a valid license from home state with equivalent requirements (1,800 hours).
Connecticut	Hold a valid license from home state with equivalent requirements (1,500 hours).	Hold a valid license from a state with equivalent requirements (1,500 hours) and pass a written exam.
Delaware	Must be licensed in a state with equal requirements (1,500 hours).	Must be licensed in a state with equal requirements (1,500 hours) or submit a notarized statement from an employer certifying that you have been working in the field for at least 5 years.
District of Columbia	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,500 hours).	If applying for licensure by reciprocity, the applicant must provide: a letter of good standing from a jurisdiction with requirements which were substantially equivalent at the time of the applicant's licensure to those of the District of Columbia (1,500 hours); have passed an examination acceptable to the board; have an active certification from a recognized national certifying organization; and have not been disciplined or otherwise disqualified by the national certifying organization.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
Florida	Hold an active license in another state with equal requirements (1,200).	Hold an active license in another state with equal requirements (1,200 hours) or complete additional training hours to qualify for endorsement.
Georgia	Must be licensed in a state that has similar requirements (1,500 hours).	Must be licensed in a state that has similar requirements (1,500 hours) and submit an application and fee for endorsement.
Hawaii	Completed similar or equivalent education requirements (1,800 hours).	Completed similar or equivalent education requirements (1,800 hours) and may be required to take written and practical exams.
Idaho	Completed similar or equivalent education requirements (1,600 hours).	The holder of a current license in another state may also be eligible for licensure by endorsement if an applicant either: holds a current license from another state whose standards are not less than Idaho standards (1,600 hours), or the applicant holds a current license from another state and has met work experience requirements of at least one year of actual practice under certification or licensure in the three years immediately prior to the application in the profession for which the license is being sought. If the applicant does not meet the equal standards or experience requirement, additional training and examination will be required. An applicant must show proof of training equivalent to the Idaho requirements and pass the examination(s). Applicants who do not meet the equivalent training requirement must graduate from a licensed Idaho school of barbering or cosmetology.
Illinois	The state allows anyone who completed a program and licensure in another state to request licensure by endorsement.	Apply for licensure by endorsement by providing certification of licensure from the current state board.
Indiana	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours and have achieved a passing score of at least 70% on written and practical exams.
Iowa	Must be licensed in a state with similar or equivalent requirements (2,100 hours).	Transfer through endorsement and must be licensed in a state with similar or equivalent requirements (2,100 hours) for 12 of the last 24 months.
Kansas	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Must be licensed in a state with similar or equivalent requirements (1,500 hours), and must pass an open-book exam.
Kentucky	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	Must have a certification of license from the state board that issued the license and may be required to take state licensing exams.
Louisiana	Reciprocity to those states that use the NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) test.	Applicants in WI, VT, TX, TN, NY, MN, MI, MA, MD, KS, HI, FL, CT, and CO must take the NIC exam (NIC, state theory, and practical exams).
Maine	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Hold a valid license in another state with similar requirements (1,500 hours). If requirements differ, must pass state exams.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
Maryland	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Hold a valid license in another state with similar requirements (1,500 hours) and provide certification that license is current and in good standing.
Massachusetts	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Must pass the state's written and practical board exams.
Michigan	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Hold a valid license in another state with similar or greater requirements (1,500 hours).
Minnesota	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Verification of current licensure, high school diploma, completion of exams, and an application for reciprocity.
Mississippi	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Submit an application, an affidavit/certification of training that meets Mississippi's reciprocity requirements, and appear for an application eligibility interview.
Missouri	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Hold a current license in a state with substantially similar or superior requirements (1,500 hours), and must have practiced cosmetology for two consecutive years in another state.
Montana	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 2,000 training hours.	Hold a license in a state with comparable training and testing requirements (2,000 hours); may be required to take additional training hours plus take national exams.
Nebraska	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 2,100 training hours.	Hold a current license in another jurisdiction issued on the basis of a written and practical examination, and complete a cosmetology course consisting of at least 2,100 hours.
Nevada	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,600 training hours.	Must have a current license (in good standing) in another state and must have passed the NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) written exam in the state of licensure or take the exam in Nevada.
New Hampshire	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Must have completed 1,500 training hours in home state and pass a hands-on practical exam and a national written exam in English.
New Jersey	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,200 training hours.	Hold a current license in another state with satisfactory requirements (1,200 hours); otherwise, must submit an "out-of-state" application and required documentation and pass state exams.
New Mexico	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,600 training hours.	Provide verification of licensure in another state with similar or superior requirements (1,600 hours). May substitute 150 credit hours for each 6 full months of licensed experience.
New York	The state limits the acceptable curriculum to those states on the approved list.	Must be currently licensed from a state on NY's reciprocity list. In some instances, must have 1+ years of licensure in order to qualify. The list of 21 states and the number of years licensed to qualify for reciprocity can be accessed here: https://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/endorsement.html#cosmetology

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
North Carolina	The state limits the acceptable curriculum to those states on the approved list.	Hold a current license in good standing, meaning no disciplinary actions. Licensed in a state that offers reciprocity to North Carolina. The list of 13 states that have reciprocity with North Carolina can be accessed here: https://www.nccosmeticarts.com/initiallicensing/outstategraduates.aspx . An individual from a state that does not have reciprocity may provide a copy of his/her transcripts for verification. If the required practical experiences were not obtained, the individual may need to take additional training in a cosmetology school to meet the state's requirements.
North Dakota	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Provide a letter of certification from the current state board and a copy of the state's licensing requirements, and must take the North Dakota Laws, Rules and Regulations exam.
Ohio	Does not recognize curriculums from other states.	Does not offer reciprocity; must take and pass Ohio's practical, theoretical, and manager exams.
Oklahoma	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Hold a current license in a state with equal or higher requirements (1,500 hours); have at least 3 years of recent, licensed work experience; and may be required to take state licensure exams.
Oregon	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Submit an affidavit of licensure and a qualifying application and pass the written exam, which includes the Oregon Laws and Rules exam.
Pennsylvania	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Hold a current license and have 2 years of working experience from the original licensure dates.
Rhode Island	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Hold a license in another state with equivalent educational requirements (1,500 hours). Work experience may be considered. Must pass licensing exams.
South Carolina	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Hold a current license (in good standing) in another state and must have passed a nationally recognized exam.
South Dakota	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 2,100 training hours.	Hold a current license from a state with equal or greater requirements (2,100 hours); work experience may be considered (2 work hours = 1 school hour). Must pass the South Dakota Laws and Rules exam.
Tennessee	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Provide proof of a current license from another state with equal requirements (1,500 hours); may substitute with proof of 5 years of work experience.
Texas	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,000 training hours.	Licensed in a state with substantially equivalent requirements (1,000 hours); in some cases, work experience may be credited.
Utah	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,600 training hours.	Submit verification of current license; must meet educational (1,600 hours) and exam requirements.
Vermont	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,500 training hours.	Hold a license in a state whose requirements are equal or superior (1,500 hours), and pass a state law exam.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROcity REQUIREMENTS
Virginia	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1,200 hours (80% of the 1,500 hours required by the state).	Have a current license in a state with substantially similar training requirements (1,200 hours or 80% of the 1,500 hours required by the state) and submit an application for endorsement and proof of licensure.
Washington	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Have a current license in good standing in another state.
West Virginia	Accepts the training provided in other states if the state uses the NIC examination for licensure.	If licensed in a state that uses the National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC) examination, you must take and pass the state law exam; if licensed in a state that does not use the NIC examination, you would need to submit an application for review.
Wisconsin	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Currently licensed in another state.
Wyoming	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 2,000 training hours.	Currently licensed in a state with equal requirements (2,000 hours); must have graduated from a state-recognized school and have taken board-administered exams.

List of State Reciprocity Requirements — Nails

In the manicuring profession, each state establishes licensure requirements for being able to practice in their state. Programs of study in manicuring can range anywhere from 100 clock hours to 600 clock hours, and as such, states develop specific requirements for individuals who graduated from manicuring school in another state to be able to become licensed in their state. This process is considered reciprocity or endorsement. We have listed the requirements for an individual who graduates from a manicuring program in the United States and who wants to become licensed in another state.

Please note that the school you are planning on attending has only had their curriculum evaluated by their state to meet requirements for licensure and practice. In the field of manicuring, each state board reviews the number of clock hours you attended in your home state, the subject areas, and the practical experiences you completed as a part of the process of determining what, if any, additional requirements you may have to meet in order to be licensed in their state. We encourage all graduates who are considering becoming licensed in another state to first take the licensure exam in their home state, which will make it easier to transfer into another state. If you are not licensed by your home state, the state you are considering getting licensed in may require you to take additional training to meet their state minimum hour requirements and/or take their state licensure exam. State boards of manicuring do not evaluate the curriculum of schools located in other states, but do, in most cases, recognize training from other states. Please refer to the requirements below.

STATE	ACCEPTS CURRICULUM	RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS
Alabama	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	The state reviews each request after receiving a copy of the license from the transferring state. The individual is required to pay a fee to apply and may be required to take any exams based on the state they are transferring from.
Alaska	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (250 hours).	Verification of training, examination, and licensure from the state board where the individual is currently licensed as a manicurist is required. An out-of-state license must be current when an Alaska license is issued. The individual must have passed a state written examination in another state where he or she is currently licensed. If the individual did not pass a written examination, it will be necessary to do so in Alaska before receiving a license. An individual who has less than 250 hours of training will be required to attend school to obtain the additional hours required. Work experience does not count toward licensure.
Arizona	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	The applicant must provide a statement regarding whether or not the applicant's license has been suspended or revoked, and he/she must provide proof of training hours and graduation. If no license was obtained, the applicant may still qualify through meeting education and examination requirements.
Arkansas	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	A copy of the certification of licensure must be sent to the cosmetology board. The applicant must provide certification of his/her exam record, which must show the applicant has passed a written and practical national or department-approved examination; provide proof of training; take a state law exam; and pay a fee.

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California	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	The board will grant out-of-state licensees a California license through reciprocity without having to take the California written and practical exam, if they meet the following requirements: (a) A completed application form and all fees required by the California board. (b) Proof of a current license issued by another state to practice that meets all of the following requirements: (1) It is not revoked, suspended, or otherwise restricted. (2) It is in good standing. (3) It has been active for three of the last five years, during which time the applicant has not been subject to disciplinary action or a criminal conviction.
Colorado	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (600 hours).	The state will issue a license by endorsement to practice manicuring in another state to an individual who possesses an active license in good standing if the applicant presents proof of a valid license from another state that is substantially equivalent to the requirements in Colorado for licensure (600 hours). If not, the individual may be required to take additional training prior to becoming licensed. In order to qualify for licensure by endorsement, an individual must have passed a practical and/or written examination. If the applicant only passed one examination, he/she will be referred to PSI for completion of the other examination.
Connecticut	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state to request licensure.	As of January 1, 2021, a person must provide a copy of a current license in good standing to practice as a nail technician and a form documenting that the applicant has two years of experience as a licensed nail technician in another state. If the state did not have a licensing program at the time the experience occurred, please provide a statement indicating the same.
Delaware	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (300 hours).	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (300 hours). Notarization and testing are not required. For applicants whose home state training and testing requirements are not equivalent to those of DE, the applicant's employer will need to provide a notarized statement verifying the applicant's license and work experience for at least 5 years.
District of Columbia	The district allows anyone who completed a program and licensure in another state to request licensure by reciprocity.	If applying for licensure by reciprocity, the applicant must provide a letter of good standing from a jurisdiction with requirements which were substantially equivalent at the time of the applicant's licensure to those of the District of Columbia; have passed an examination acceptable to the board; have an active certification from a recognized national certifying organization; and has not been disciplined or otherwise disqualified by the national certifying organization relied upon for the application for licensure by endorsement.

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Florida	Hold an active license in another state with equal or greater requirements (240).	Hold an active license in another state with equal or greater requirements (240 hours) and have taken and passed a written exam, or complete additional training hours to qualify.
Georgia	Must be licensed in a state that has similar requirements (525 hours).	The state will accept licensees from other states with similar licensure requirements (525 hours) who apply; pay a fee; and have no disciplinary action against their license. States not eligible for reciprocity with GA: AK, PA, MD, MA, ME, and VA.
Hawaii	Must be licensed in a state that has similar requirements (350 hours).	Must show proof of similar/equivalent testing and education requirements (350 hours) to those of Hawaii, and may be required to take the written and practical state board exam.
Idaho	Must be licensed in a state that has similar requirements (400 hours).	Must be currently licensed by another state. The certification of licensure must show that the individual's training was substantially equivalent to or higher than those required in Idaho (400 hours). Must provide proof of having taken and passed a practical and written exam.
Illinois	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 350 hours of training.	Must be currently licensed by another state. The certification of licensure must show that the individual's training was substantially equivalent to or higher than those required in Illinois (350 hours). Must have proof of having taken and passed a practical and written exam.
Indiana	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 450 hours of training.	Current license must meet the same standards that Indiana requires, which is a minimum of 450 hours of training. If not, one of the following would also qualify: licensed for less than 20 years; one (1) year of licensed experience is equal to one hundred (100) hours of education to an applicant who has completed a minimum of 300 hours of education. The state must also require a passing score of at least 70% on the written and practical exams. If the applicant has a conviction record, include a copy of the conviction record that indicates the disposition of the conviction.
Iowa	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 325 hours of training.	Official transcript or diploma that meets the requirements of Iowa Administrative Code (325 hours), OR official verification of licensure verifying the applicant has held an active license in another state for at least 12 of the last 24 months directly preceding the submission of the application. Board staff will determine whether the previous exam meets Iowa requirements; if it does not, the applicant will be required to take the NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) exam before he/she can be licensed in the state of Iowa.
Kansas	The state allows anyone who completed a program in another state that has reciprocity to request licensure.	Hold a current license in good standing; pass the Kansas state written exam; and board may require applicant to take a practical exam, based on experience.

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Kentucky	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 450 hours of training.	Must provide a certification of hours and/or license from the state licensing agency where the hours were obtained. If the applicant's hours obtained out of state are equivalent to Kentucky's hour requirement (450 hours), then the applicant will apply as an out-of-state exam applicant. If the applicant does not have enough hours, he/she must complete the remaining hours required for licensure in a school of cosmetology in Kentucky before applying for the licensing exam.
Louisiana	Accepts the training provided in other states.	A person currently holding a license in manicuring may be licensed; if the applicant took the NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) exam, he/she only needs to take the state law test. If the applicant did not take the NIC exam, he/she would be required to take the NIC exam and the state law test.
Maine	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 200 hours of training	Licensure by endorsement is available if the individual's home state has similar training hour requirements (200 hours) and board exams. An individual may be required to take Maine's exam if his or her state doesn't have similar licensing requirements.
Maryland	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 250 hours of training.	The applicant must possess a current license in another state and provide certification that the license is in good standing and was obtained under the same standards and testing as required in Maryland (250 hours).
Massachusetts	Does not recognize licenses from other states.	Massachusetts does not provide for reciprocity from other states. An individual must take the state's written and practical board exams, apply, and pay a fee.
Michigan	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 400 hours of training.	Training and testing requirements in the home state must be substantially equal to Michigan's requirements (400 hours). If the home state's requirements aren't similar, the licensee may be required to take additional training hours and take the written and practical exams.
Minnesota	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 350 hours of training.	Must hold a current license (current state must have equal or greater license requirements); have passed board-approved theory and practice-based exam; and pass the Minnesota written operator examination. If an individual doesn't meet the requirements, he/she must have held an active license for at least 3 years and passed the board-approved theory and practice-based exam or Minnesota written operator examination.
Mississippi	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Applicants must provide a certification of hours and/or license from the state licensing agency where the hours were obtained. All out-of-state hours must be certified by the state board or official licensing agency of the state where the hours were obtained. Only hours certified by the state licensing agency will be accepted. All applicants licensed less than three (3) years will be required to complete the theory and practical examination.

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Missouri	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 400 hours of training.	Hold a current license in a state with substantially similar or superior requirements (400 hours). If the individual has less hours than Missouri, he/she will need to take additional training. NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) testing is required for all transfers.
Montana	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Hold a current license; and proof of passing both the written and practical NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) manicuring exam.
Nebraska	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 300 hours of training.	Must hold a current license in another jurisdiction; have completed at least 300 hours of nail technology studies; take the Nebraska written exam if a written exam wasn't required by current jurisdiction; and have practiced nail technology for at least 12 months.
Nevada	Accepts the training provided in other states except Florida, and only accepts the Advance Manicurist License in Alaska.	In order to be eligible for reciprocity in the state of Nevada, your license must be active and in good standing in another state. Applicants must complete an application, submit the required information, and pass a 25-question Nevada State Law Test with a score of 75% or higher to become licensed.
New Hampshire	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 300 hours of training.	Must have an equivalent or higher number of training hours from home state (300 hours) and have passed a written and practical national exam. If the individual does not have enough training hours, he/she may have to take additional training.
New Jersey	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 300 hours of training.	Applicants who obtained training in another state must demonstrate with certification from the licensing authority in the home state that the training is substantially equivalent to the training offered in New Jersey (300 hours), or the individual may be required to take more training. An applicant must also have taken and passed a practical examination in his/her state of licensure.
New Mexico	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 350 hours of training.	Provide an affidavit from the home state's regulatory agency where currently licensed; hold a current license in good standing with the individual's home state; and have completed equal or comparable training hours (350 hours). If lacking hours, the licensee may substitute up to 150 hours of verified work experience in lieu of the minimum hours; any remaining hours would need to be taken in school.
New York	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 250 hours of training.	The state may waive the New York state schooling requirement if an individual can document an equivalent level of schooling from another state (250 hours). The individual must also provide: a school certificate; a school transcript listing subjects and hours completed; and a current, original certification of licensure from the individual's home state board.

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North Carolina	Accepts the training provided in other states except Florida, and only accepts the Advance Manicurist License in Alaska.	The state accepts licenses from other states that offer reciprocity and will only have to apply. Here is a list: https://www.nccosmeticarts.com/initiallicensing/licinanotherstate.aspx . If reciprocity is not offered, then you have to submit a certification of training and licensure.
North Dakota	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Hold a current license as a manicurist from another state and provide proof of training hours received in a school. May be required to take the state exam for sanitary practices and the state law.
Ohio	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 200 hours of training.	Any person who holds a current license as a manicurist in another state whose requirements for licensure are substantially equivalent (200 hours) may apply to the board for a license. A year of licensed experience may be substituted for one hundred hours of training, up to a maximum of two hundred hours in total. Must take and pass Ohio's practical and theoretical examination.
Oklahoma	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 600 hours of training.	Education and work experience must be equal to or greater than Oklahoma's requirements (600 hours) and 3 years of currently licensed work experience. If both requirements aren't met, licensees may be required to take Oklahoma board exams. If an individual does not meet the education requirements or work requirements, the licensee may be required to take additional training hours.
Oregon	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 350 hours of training.	To obtain an Oregon practitioner certification in manicuring by reciprocity, a person will have to provide proof of licensure in another state and pass all relevant Oregon written examinations. Proof of licensure in another state must show that the education received is substantially equivalent to Oregon certification requirements (350 hours).
Pennsylvania	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Reciprocity can be granted to individuals licensed in those states with which Pennsylvania has reciprocity. To qualify for licensure by reciprocity, an individual must have a current license and two (2) years of working experience from the original licensure date. If the applicant does not meet the requirements for reciprocity, the Pennsylvania examination (theory and practical) must be successfully completed. The state board of cosmetology has a reciprocal agreement with every state except Connecticut, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, New Jersey, New Mexico, Rhode Island, and Utah.
Rhode Island	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 300 hours of training.	Rhode Island does not offer reciprocity; it offers licensure by endorsement. The applicant must meet Rhode Island requirements (300 hours). If the licensee does not meet criteria, he or she must get additional training hours at school and take the state exam.

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South Carolina	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Applicant must hold a current license in good standing in another state, and must have passed the NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) examination (theory and practical). If the individual did not take and pass the NIC examination, he/she will be required to take the exam before a license can be issued.
South Dakota	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 400 hours of training.	Applicant must hold a current license in good standing in another state; must take and pass the South Dakota state laws and rules exam; and must have taken a course of at least 400 hours of training in another state. If the applicant does not meet the 400 education hours, work hours may be added, with a maximum of 200 hours allowed. He/she must take the South Dakota written laws and rules test; take the NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) theory exam; and take the NIC hands-on practical exam.
Tennessee	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 600 hours of training.	Proof of meeting Tennessee's minimum required training hours (600 hours) and/or proof of a 5-year work history. If the licensee is unable to meet these requirements, he or she must submit an application to the board and may be required to take additional training hours to meet requirements.
Texas	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 600 hours of training.	License holders from other states may be eligible for a Texas license if their state has education and examination requirements that are substantially equivalent to Texas (600 hours).
Utah	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 600 hours of training.	Submit verification of current license; must meet educational (600 hours) and exam requirements.
Vermont	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 400 hours of training.	Hold a license in a state whose requirements are equal or superior (400 hours), and pass a state law exam.
Virginia	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 150 hours of training.	Hold a license in a state whose requirements are equal or superior (150 hours), and pass a practical and written exam.
Washington	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Have a current license in good standing in another state and have taken and passed a written and practical exam in their state of licensure.
West Virginia	Accepts the training provided in other states.	Submit a current license from another state, and take and pass the West Virginia state law exam.
Wisconsin	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 300 hours of training.	Upon application and payment of the fee, the department may grant a license to practice manicuring to an applicant who is licensed in another state to perform services that are substantially the same as those performed by a licensed manicurist in Wisconsin. The applicant completes a one-hour course educating the applicant on statutes and rules that apply to the practice, has never been disciplined by the licensing authority that issued the license, and is not a party to a proceeding before the licensing agency.

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Wyoming	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 400 hours of training.	Must have a current license from another state; have graduated from a licensed manicuring school; have taken a written and practical exam given by the board or testing company; and meet or exceed the 400-hour requirements to receive a Wyoming license. If the individual does not have 400 hours of training, one year of work experience can lower the training hour requirement.