

List of State Reciprocity Requirements—Hair Design

Each state establishes licensure requirements for being able to practice in their state. States develop specific requirements for individuals who graduated from a hair design program in one state 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 hair design 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 hair design, each state board reviews the number of clock hours you attended in your home state, 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. 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 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 does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Alaska	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Arizona	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (750 hours).	Be currently licensed or certified for at least one year in another state in the discipline applied for and at the same level of practice as recognized in Arizona (750 hours). Be in good standing in all states where currently or previously licensed or certified.
Arkansas	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
California	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Colorado	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,200 hours).	The director shall issue a license by endorsement to engage in the practice of hairstyling to an individual who possesses an active license in good standing in another state, if the applicant presents proof that is satisfactory to the director that he/she possesses a valid license from another state or jurisdiction that is substantially equivalent to the requirements in Colorado (1,200 hours). The director may specify what constitutes substantially equivalent licensure and qualifications.

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Connecticut	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Delaware	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
District of Columbia	The district does not have a hair design curriculum.	The district does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Florida	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Georgia	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,325 hours).	Must be licensed in a state that has similar requirements (1,325 hours) and submit an application and fee for endorsement.
Hawaii	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Idaho	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (900 hours).	Must have had an active license for three of the last five years; proof of having taken a practical and written exam; and meet Idaho training requirements (900 hours) to qualify for endorsement.
Illinois	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Indiana	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Iowa	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Kansas	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Kentucky	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Louisiana	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Maine	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,200 hours).	Hold a valid license in another state with similar requirements (1,200 hours); if requirements differ, must pass state exams.
Maryland	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,200 hours).	Hold a valid license in another state with similar requirements (1,200 hours), and provide certification that license is current and in good standing.

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Massachusetts	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Michigan	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Minnesota	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Mississippi	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Missouri	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Montana	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Nebraska	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Nevada	The state recognizes training from other states.	Must have a current license (in good standing) in another state, and must have passed a National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC) written exam in the state of licensure or take the exam in Nevada.
New Hampshire	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
New Jersey	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
New Mexico	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
New York	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
North Carolina	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
North Dakota	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Ohio	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.

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Oklahoma	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Oregon	The state recognizes training from 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	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Rhode Island	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
South Carolina	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
South Dakota	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Tennessee	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Texas	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Utah	Must be licensed in a state with equal or greater requirements (1,200 hours).	Submit verification of current license; must meet educational (1,200 hours) and exam requirements.
Vermont	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Virginia	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
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, an individual must take and pass the state law exam; if licensed in a state that does not use the NIC examination, an individual would need to submit an application for review.
Wisconsin	The state does not have a hair design curriculum.	The state does not have a hair design license, so an individual would need to be licensed as a cosmetologist to practice.
Wyoming	Must be licensed in a state that requires at least 1000 training hours.	Currently licensed in a state with equal requirements (1,000 hours); must have graduated from a state-recognized school and taken board-administered exams.