

Cosmetology

Exam Information	Description																								
Exam number 901 Items 66 Points 76 Prerequisites None National Career Cluster Healthcare and Human Services Performance standards Included (Optional) Certificate available Yes	<p>The Cosmetology industry certification assesses students' knowledge of essential standards for cosmetology education, emphasizing safety, health, and technical skills. Students learn New York State laws, OSHA regulations, and procedures for handling hazardous materials, infectious organisms, and sanitation practices. Students will understand anatomy and physiology, including body systems and ergonomics, and supporting professional health and client care. Training includes hair analysis, scalp disorders, chemistry applications, and principles of haircutting, styling, chemical restructuring, and coloring. Nail care focuses on structure, disorders, manicure/pedicure procedures, and nail enhancements. Skin care covers the skin's structure, disorders, aging effects, sun exposure, and hair removal methods. These standards ensure comprehensive preparation for industry safety, hygiene, and technical expertise.</p>																								
	Exam Blueprint																								
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Standard 1 Safety and Health

Students will have an understanding of New York State laws, OSHA regulations, and safety procedures regarding hazardous materials, infectious and noninfectious organisms, and their implications for health and hygiene in the cosmetology industry, including proper sanitation, disinfection, and sterilization practices.

Objective 1 New York State Laws, Rules and Regulations

1. Identify state laws, rules and regulations
2. Differentiate between state and federal guidelines

Objective 2 OSHA Regulations Concerning Hazardous Materials Communications

1. Identify hazardous situations and chemicals
2. Determine proper safety procedures for handling hazardous materials/ chemicals

Objective 3 Infectious and Noninfectious Organisms

1. Explain the difference between infectious and noninfectious organisms
2. Identify types of infectious organisms including bacteria and viruses and explain their growth and reproduction
3. Identify types of noninfectious organisms including molds and fungi and explain their growth and reproduction
4. Explain the spread and prevention of infectious and noninfectious organisms
5. Identify human infections and diseases impacting services in the cosmetology industry
6. Differentiate between sanitization, disinfection and sterilization
7. Explain how to use physical and chemical agents to make equipment and products safe for clients

Standard 1 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 2 Anatomy and Physiology

Students will have an understanding of the identification and functions of major body systems, bones, and muscles relevant to cosmetology, along with principles of self-care and ergonomics for maintaining health.

Objective 1 Body Systems

1. Identify the following systems, their functions component organs: circulatory, lymphatic, respiratory, endocrine, integumentary, nervous, digestive, reproductive
2. Identify the bones and muscles of the head, arms, hands, legs and feet in relation to cosmetology services.

Objective 2 Basic Principles of Body Health

1. Explain the basic principles of self-care and proper ergonomics

Standard 2 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 3 Hair Analysis

Students will be able to identify the properties of hair.

Objective 1 Hair properties

1. Define structure, growth patterns, texture, porosity, and elasticity with regard to hair and how they impact services and treatments

Standard 3 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 4 Hair and Scalp Disorders and Diseases

Students will be able to identify and understand disorders and diseases.

Objective 1 Disorders vs. Diseases

1. Differentiate between a disorder and a disease including fungal infections, infestations and infections, and disorders such as dandruff and alopecia

Standard 4 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 5 Chemistry as Applied to Cosmetology

Students will understand chemical reactions like neutralization and redox, chemical safety through safety data sheets, and the principles and function of the pH scale.

Objective 1 Chemical Reactions and Solutions

1. Explain neutralization and redox reactions
2. Explain chemical safety and analyze a safety data sheet

Objective 2 The pH Scale

1. Describe potential hydrogen and the function of the pH scale

Standard 5 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 6 Hair Cutting and Shaping

Students will learn the principles of haircutting design, the use of various cutting tools and techniques, and the selection of appropriate tools for hair removal and grooming.

Objective 1 Fundamentals, Principles and Concepts of Design

1. Identify haircutting lines, sections, angles, elevation, guidelines and overdirection

Objective 2 Haircutting — Scissor, Razor, and Clipper

1. Identify and differentiate between cutting tools and their parts
2. Explain techniques and procedures for haircutting
3. Identify the proper tool to remove superfluous hair
4. Identify tools for mustache and beard shaping

Standard 6 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 7 Hair Styling

Students will learn techniques for wet styling, natural hairstyling, traditional weaving, and styling with hot tools, along with the use of styling aids and the care and attachment of hairpieces.

Objective 1 Identify and explain how to perform various wet styling procedures such as:

1. Finger waves
2. Skip waves
3. Pin curls
4. Roller styles
5. Combinations

Objective 2 Identify different styling aids and how/when to use them:

1. Hairspray
2. Gel
3. Oil
4. Foam
5. Heat protectant

Objective 3 Identify and explain how to perform natural hairstyles:

1. Twisting, Wrapping, Weaving, Extending, Locking and Braiding
2. Traditional Weaving and Styling

Objective 4 Identify common hot tools and implements and how to use them:

1. Blowdryer
2. Curling iron
3. Flat iron

Objective 5 Identify the different types of hair pieces and how to care for and attach them

Standard 7 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 8 Chemical Restructuring

Students will understand the pH scale, chemical reactions like neutralization and redox, chemical safety, and the differentiation and proper use of various chemical restructuring products, including relaxers, keratin treatments, permanent waving, and soft curl permanents.

Objective 1 Chemistry

1. Describe potential hydrogen and how the pH scale works
2. Summarize neutralization and redox reactions
3. Practice chemical safety

Objective 2 Chemical Restructuring

1. Differentiate between different types of chemical restructuring products and explain correct procedures for their application/use:
 - a. Chemical relaxers
 - b. Keratin-based smoothing treatment (semipermanent)
 - c. Permanent waving
 - d. Soft curl permanent

Standard 8 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 9 Hair Coloring and Lightening

Students will understand the principles of color theory, types of hair color, client consultation techniques, hair analysis, and procedures for hair coloring and lightening, including specific application methods such as balayage, foils, and cap highlighting.

Objective 1 Color Theory

1. Explain primary, secondary and tertiary colors and their impacts on hair tone and intensity, including color correction

Objective 2 Chemistry

1. Explain the different types of haircolor:
 - a. Temporary
 - b. Semi-Permanent
 - c. Demi-Permanent
 - d. Permanent

Objective 3 Client Consultation

1. Perform a hair analysis based on structure, texture, density and porosity and explain how they impact the outcome

Objective 4 Hair Coloring Procedures

1. Explain the steps for haircoloring applications:
 - a. Gray coverage
 - b. Retouch
 - c. Virgin application
 - d. Double-processed color

Objective 5 Hair Lightening

1. Describe techniques for hair lightening
 - a. Balayage
 - b. Foils
 - c. Cap highlighting

Standard 9 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 10 Nail Care and Procedures

Students will understand nail structure, disorders, and diseases, nail shapes and colors, basic manicure and pedicure procedures with sanitation practices, and techniques for applying nail enhancements, wraps, and extensions using various materials.

Objective 1 Nail Structure

1. Identify all parts of the nail and finger

Objective 2 Nail Disorders and Diseases

1. Differentiate between nail disorders and diseases
2. Identify when a service can not be performed due to a disorder or disease

Objective 3 Nail Shape and Color Analysis

1. Identify the different nail shapes

Objective 4 Basic Manicuring and Pedicuring

1. Explain proper procedures for performing a basic manicure and pedicure including a client consultation and massage techniques
2. Identify tools, implements and products needed for a manicure or pedicure
3. Explain sanitation and disinfection procedures for mani/pedi implements and equipment

Objective 5 Nail Enhancement Procedures

1. Identify different types of adhesives and how to safely use them
2. Explain how to fit, design and apply nail extensions using proper procedures
 - a. Nail Wrap Application
 - b. Liquid and Powder Nail Extensions
 - c. Gel

Standard 10 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Standard 11 Skin Care and Procedures

Students will understand the structure and functions of the skin, various skin disorders, effects of aging and sun exposure, types of skin lesions and diseases, forms of skin cancer, contact dermatitis, and temporary hair removal methods and procedures.

Objective 1 Structure of the Skin

1. Identify layers of the skin and their functions

Objective 2 Identify Skin Disorders and Diseases

1. Primary and secondary lesions
2. Sebaceous and sudoriferous gland disorders
3. Inflammations and common infections
4. Pigment disorders
5. Hypertrophies
6. Effects of the sun
 - a. Forms of skin cancer
 - b. Aging
7. Contact dermatitis

Objective 3 Identify Temporary Methods of Hair Removal and their procedures

1. Manual Tweezing
2. Depilatory Lotion
3. Waxing
4. Bleaching

Standard 11 Performance Evaluation included below (Optional)

Performance standards rating scale

0	Limited skills	2	→	4	Moderate skills	6	→	8	High skills	9-10
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Standard 1–Professional Appearance, Preparation of Work Area, and Client Preparation

Score:

- Student is appropriately dressed for salon work
- Student is prepared with the necessary implements and supplies for NYS Boards Examination
- Student regularly performs safety and sanitation procedures

Standard 2–Haircutting Techniques

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Student performs a 90 degree haircut
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 3–Blow-Dry Styling Techniques

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Using properly controlled technique and sectioning, student performs a blow-dry style on a mannequin
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 4–Thermal Curling/ Curling Iron Techniques

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Using properly controlled technique and sectioning, student performs well-formed:
 - 3 Barrel Curls on base (scalp to end)
 - 3 Spiral Curls (scalp to end) on side of head
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 5–Roller Placement

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Student places evenly distributed rollers:
 - 1 on base
 - Second ½ on base
 - Third off base
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 6–Chemical Restructuring: Permanent Waving

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Student demonstrates a proper curl resulting from a permanent wave service
- Student uses consistent rod/base placement (all rods on base or half off base) with proper band, fastener, and clip placement
- Protective cream, cotton coil, and permanent waving lotion applied
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 7–Diagonal Pin Curl Wave/ C-Shaping

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Student performs a diagonal ridge and 3 or more overlapping clockwise ridge curls
- From an open end of c-shaping on a second panel, student performs 3 or more counterclockwise curls
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 8–Finger Waving

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Student performs a finger wave on the back of the head with parallel, defined ridges and uniform wave formation, creating an “S” pattern in the hair
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 9–Chemical Services–Foiling Simulation (Virgin)

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Student completes 3 weaves and 3 slices
- Student appropriately places foil or paper
- Student applies product appropriately
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 10–Chemical Services–Haircoloring Simulation (Retouch)

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Student properly applies appropriate retouch product at the scalp area to ½ inch up on the hair shaft
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Standard 11–Chemical Services–Chemical Restructuring (Relaxing Without Rods) Simulation (Virgin and Retouch)

Score:

- Student is prepared with the necessary implements
- Proper skin and hair protections are applied
- Student correctly applies appropriate product to both a full strand of hair and a regrowth section to about ¼-½ inch from the scalp
- Student regularly performs safety and infection-control procedures

Performance standard average score:

Evaluator Name: _____

Evaluator Title: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____

Date: _____

Scope of Curriculum	Hours
Professional Requirements	24
Safety and Health	26
Anatomy and physiology	15
Hair Analysis	10
Hair and Scalp Disorders and Diseases	10
Chemistry as Applied to Cosmetology	5
Shampoos, Rinses, Conditioners and Treatments	30
Hair Cutting and Shaping	175
Hair Styling	245
Chemical Restructuring	180
Hair Coloring and Lightening	180
Nail Care and Procedures	40
Skin Care and Procedures	60
Total	1000