

Changes to council registration requirements for hairdressing and make-up businesses

Information for Hairdressing and Make-Up Businesses

April 2015

The Victorian Government has simplified the registration requirements for hairdressing and make-up businesses to save businesses money and reduce the time spent on paperwork.

From **1 March 2016**, eligible businesses – those that solely provide hairdressing and/or temporary make-up services – will be able to apply for "one-off" or "ongoing" registration.

Businesses which provide services in addition to hairdressing and/or temporary make-up services – such as tattooing, piercing or other skin penetration services, colonic irrigation, or any other beauty therapy services including permanent or semi-permanent make-up (cosmetic tattooing) – will continue to be required to apply for periodic registration.

This Q&A has been developed to provide initial information to business operators about these changes.

Towards the end of 2015, the Department of Health & Human Services will provide further information about these changes and what businesses are required to do to transition to the new registration system.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please email infectious.diseases@dhhs.vic.gov.au, or telephone (03) 9096 5073, or (03) 9096 5220.

Q: What are the Main Changes to Hairdressing and Make-Up Registration Requirements?

From 1 March 2016, businesses that solely provide hairdressing and/or temporary make-up services will be eligible to apply to their local Council for a new type of registration.

The new type of registration is a "one-off" or "ongoing" registration, and will be accompanied by a one-off registration payment.

This means that instead of having to apply for registration with the local Council every year, businesses will only have to apply once, so long as the business remains at the same premises and is conducted by the same person.

Q: Why is the Victorian Government Introducing these Changes?

The Government understands that hairdressing and make-up businesses are some of Victoria's smallest businesses.

These changes will save eligible businesses around \$170 per year, and will also reduce the amount of time spent filling out and submitting paperwork.

More than 4,000 hairdressing and make-up businesses will benefit from these changes.

Q: How do I Apply for the New "One-Off" Registration?

From 1 March 2016 onwards, businesses will be eligible to apply for one-off registration with their local Council if they:

1. have an existing periodic - usually this is annual - registration; and
2. solely provide hairdressing and/or temporary make up services.

Q: What if my Hairdressing and/or Make-up Business Offers other Services?

If a hairdressing and/or temporary make-up business also offers other services at the same premises such as:

1. tattooing;
2. piercing or other skin penetration services;
3. colonic irrigation; or
4. beauty therapy services such as permanent or semi-permanent make-up application (cosmetic tattooing), facial or body treatments, manicure or pedicures, application or mending of artificial nails, or epilation by electrolysis or wax,

the existing periodic registration requirements will continue to apply and this will be accompanied by a periodic registration fee.

Similarly, business operators that offer one or a combination of:

1. tattooing;
2. skin penetration;
3. colonic irrigation; or
4. beauty therapy services (apart from temporary make-up application),

will be required to continue to renew their registration periodically.

Q: How will my Business be Regulated under the New Arrangements?

Businesses will still be required to comply with minimum standards of cleanliness and hygiene under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009*.

Councils will continue to maintain a register of hairdressing and make-up business premises, and will still have the power to inspect business premises, at a reasonable hour, to ensure the Act is being complied with.

In practice, Council officers would be expected to:

1. inspect business premises prior to granting a one-off registration; and
2. continue to conduct a visit to business premises if any complaints are received once a one-off registration is granted.

Once a one-off registration is granted, some Councils may still choose to undertake an inspection of a business' premises to ensure it is complying with the Act, however in most cases businesses will not be inspected annually by Council officers.