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Peek into the world of beauty and wellness with insights, experiences, and advice for aspiring professionals

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# All Your Beauty School Questions, Answered

You've got questions. We've got answers. As the leader in beauty school education since 1927, we know a thing or two about cosmetology school, licensing, and what to expect once you embark on your career. This article will provide succinct answers to the most common beauty school questions.

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You've got beauty school questions. We've got answers. **As the leader in beauty school education since 1927**, we know a thing or two (or a hundred) about cosmetology school, licensing, and what to expect once you embark on your career.

Below, we give succinct answers to common beauty school questions. But we also provide links to longer articles (whenever appropriate) where you can take a deeper dive if you want.

Let's get to it.

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## What is cosmetology?

Cosmetology is the main umbrella term in the beauty industry. A person licensed in cosmetology would be able to offer hair, nails, *and* skin care services to clients. Other related licenses include barbering, esthetics, nail technology, and even massage therapy.

## What's the difference between cosmetology and barbering?

Let's discuss the differences in terms of cosmetology and barbering *programs*. A cosmetology program is more comprehensive and includes instruction on women's and men's hair, nails, and skin. The focus of a barbering program is normally all about hair. Barbering students *might* learn nails (or they might not). Barbering students also learn straight razor techniques. Some states might have further distinctions between barbering and cosmetology licenses, but nails and straight razors are usually the main differences.

## What is cosmetology school? What is beauty school?

**Beauty school** (also called cosmetology school) is where people go to learn, study, and practice the skills needed to pursue a career and licensure in cosmetology, barbering, nails, esthetics, or massage therapy. You'll often hear the words "beauty school" and "cosmetology school" used interchangeably. Some might refer to it as barbering school (especially if the school is known for that discipline).

## How much does beauty school cost?

The cost of beauty school varies widely, depending on things such as the discipline you're studying (for example, cosmetology vs. nails); where the school is located; whether the school is accredited; and even how competitive the school is. As a result, **beauty schools can cost anywhere from \$5000 to upwards of \$20,000**. Keep in mind that you also need to buy textbooks and supplies, which can boost the overall ticket price.

## Can you get financial aid for beauty school?