

APPEARANCE ENHANCEMENT LICENSEES – PROCEDURAL SERVICE DETERMINATIONS

This chart may be used to help identify procedures or services that may be performed by Appearance Enhancement licensees as outlined in Article 27 of the General Business Law (Licensing of Nail Specialty, Natural Hair Styling, Waxing, Esthetics and Cosmetology), Section 400–Definitions, which includes scope of licensure:
https://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/pdfs/Appearance_Enhancement.pdf.

Please note that this list of procedures/services may not be all inclusive and will be updated on a periodic basis to help ensure accuracy and that the most current decisions and determinations are reflected on the below chart. For information pertaining to professional licensure overseen by the NYS Education Department (Office of the Professions): <http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/>.

		<u>ALLOWED</u> Under AE Scope of Licensure <i>(may perform under scope of license indicated)</i>					<u>NOT ALLOWED</u> Under AE Scope of Licensure <i>(may fall under another license/profession/certification)</i>
PROCEDURE/ MACHINE	PROCEDURAL DESCRIPTION	LICENSE TYPE					IF REQUIRED, OBTAIN REQUIRED LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION IN ORDER TO PERFORM <i>(i.e., medical license, massage therapy license, acupuncture license, etc.)</i>
		ESTHETICS	COSMETOLOGY	NAIL SPECIALTY	NATURAL HAIR STYLING	WAXING	
Acupressure (feet-head-back)	<i>Alternative medical technique that involves application of pressure (usually with fingers) to specific points on the body.</i>						Massage Therapy http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/mt/
Aroma Touch Technique	<i>Clinical approach of applying essential oils along energy lines and reflexology points.</i>						Massage Therapy http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/mt/
Aromatherapies (aroma wraps)	<i>Use of aromatic essential oils in treatments for therapeutic benefit.</i>	X	X				
Bleaching Hair	<i>Chemical hair dye technique that strips the color from hair strands.</i>		X				
Body Contouring (wraps)	<i>Wraps designed to improve the texture and appearance of the skin by helping to rid the body of excess fluids and toxins.</i>	X	X				
Brazilian Bikini Wax	<i>Removal of pubic hair using a special wax, which can be hot or cold, that adheres to hairs and pulls them out when the wax is removed quickly from the skin.</i>	X	X			X	
Coloring, Hair (Dyeing)	<i>Use of chemicals to change color of hair.</i>		X				

Comedone Extraction	<i>Removal of blackheads (open comedones) using gentle pressure around the pore opening, and whiteheads (closed comedones).</i>	X	X				
Cool Sculpting (deep down penetration to freeze)	<i>Non-surgical body contouring procedure that freezes and kills targeted fat cells, causing the body to naturally eliminate them.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Cryotherapy	<i>Treatment that exposes body to subzero temperatures using liquid nitrogen.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Current, Faradic	<i>Application of electrical pulses, which are applied to stimulate the muscles to contract, resulting in a tightening and toning effect.</i>	X	X				
Current, Galvanic (Iontophoresis/ ionotherapy)	<i>Cosmetic electrotherapy treatment for the skin used for infusing water-soluble substances into the skin to nourish and revive the skin.</i>	X	X				
Cuticle Cutting	<i>Cutting the delicate skin around the nails and removing hangnails to improve the appearance of the skin.</i>		X	X			
Depilatory Lotion	<i>Cosmetic preparation used to remove unwanted hair from the skin.</i>	X	X			X	
Dermal Planing (Dermaplaning)	<i>A physical exfoliation method that uses a specialized blade (similar to a surgical scalpel) to remove dead skin and vellus hair ("peach fuzz").</i>	X	X				
Dermarolling/ Microneedling (Collagen Induction Therapy)	<i>Cosmetic procedure that involves repeatedly puncturing the skin with tiny, sterile needles to induce collagen and elastin production.</i>						Acupuncture http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/acu/
Diathermy, RF (Cellutron)	<i>High-frequency electrical currents are used to heat deep muscular tissues for various therapeutic treatments.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/ Physical Therapy http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/pt/
Diathermy – Skin Treatment (broken capillaries)	<i>A procedural treatment used to eliminate vascular lesions, skin tags, and warts. Uses electrical current to produce heat; this heat is used to cauterize (seal or coagulate) tissue and blood vessels.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Ear Candling	<i>Alternative approach for earwax removal that involves placing a hollow, wax-covered candle in the ear and lighting one end of the cone to create a suction that pulls earwax out of the ear.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Electrodesiccation	<i>Non-surgical procedure that uses electrical impulses to destroy both benign and cancerous superficial skin growths.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/

Electromagnetic Energy (EmShape, SlimSculpt, etc.)	<i>Non-invasive toning procedure. This technology addresses fat to an extent, but mostly provokes muscle contractions that result in muscle building and body sculpting effects.</i>	X	X				
Endermologie	<i>Uses a combination of light suction and small body rollers that breaks up the fat cells under the skin to reduce the appearance of cellulite and improve the overall skin appearance.</i>	X	X				
Enzyme Facial Treatments (exfoliant)	<i>Facial treatment that helps to rebalance and exfoliate skin by dissolving dead, flaky cells, promoting skin rejuvenation, stimulating collagen reproduction, brightening the skin, and building skin elasticity.</i>	X	X				
Eyebrow Extensions	<i>Process involves applying tiny synthetic brow hairs to existing eyebrows with medical-grade adhesive (glue) that is safe for skin.</i>	X	X				
Eyelash & Eyebrow Tinting	<i>Services that use semi-permanent and/or permanent, plant-based or other dyes to enhance the color of eyelashes and eyebrows.</i>						Prohibited Permanent dyeing: No appearance enhancement licensee shall be authorized or permitted to apply dye of any kind to eyelash or eyebrow hair. 19 NYCRR § 160.27(e)
Eyelash, False (including extensions)	<i>Strip lashes, or otherwise referred to as ‘falsies’, are non-permanent, false hairs attached to a strip which are then glued to the eyelid slightly above the lashes to add volume. Eyelash extensions are semi-permanent false lashes that are individually glued to the natural lashes to add lash volume.</i>	X	X				
Eyelash Lift with Keratin (excludes dyes/chemicals)	<i>Gives natural lashes a long-lasting curled effect using keratin to enhance natural eyelashes by lifting and curling each hair.</i>	X	X				
Eyelash Perm/Lift (using chemicals)	<i>Eyelash permanent wave, or more commonly called an eyelash perm, flips up eyelashes using hair perming technology. Treatment uses chemicals which are applied to eyelashes (wrapped around a cylindrical rod) to help break down the protein bonds in the lashes and form new ones around the curling rod, resulting in tightly curled lashes.</i>						Prohibited Licensing Counsel Opinion-No chemicals (or dyes/tints) applied to eyelashes. MD
‘Face Lift’, Compulift Machine (microcurrent)	<i>Non-surgical facelift to reduce wrinkles and replenish elasticity using microcurrent (minute amounts of electrical current); the microcurrent passes through the skin to the tissue below to revitalize it.</i>	X	X				

Facial Lifting Treatment (ventouse stimulate)	<i>Non-invasive technique that lifts the skin by means of suction. A very light, gentle suction is applied to the surface of the skin via the ventouse which causes a lift.</i>	X	X				
Fillers (Injections of Botox, Restylane, etc.)	<i>Dermal fillers are substances designed to be injected beneath the surface of the skin to add volume and fullness.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Fish Pedicure (garra rufa)	<i>Involves patrons dipping their feet in a tub of water filled with small fish called Garra rufa. The Garra rufa eat away dead skin found on peoples' feet, leaving newer skin exposed.</i>						Prohibited Depriving fish of appropriate sustenance, so as to encourage them to eat away dead skin, is a form of animal cruelty and therefore prohibited under NY Agriculture and Markets § 353.
Hair Coloring (Dyeing)	<i>Use of chemicals to change color of hair.</i>		X				
Hot Stone Facial (use with lotions to relax)	<i>Smooth, flat, heated stones are placed on the face to help aid relaxation and product absorption.</i>	X	X				
Hydrawand	<i>A wand that gently releases cool water and puffs of air onto the skin to exfoliate and hydrate the skin.</i>	X	X				
Hydrotherapy Treatments (water therapies)	<i>Hydrotherapy, or water therapy, is the use of water in various forms, including hot, cold, steam, or ice, to help relieve discomfort and promote physical well-being.</i>	X	X				
Lancet, Single Use	<i>Sharp tool used for facial extractions such as removing blackheads and whiteheads.</i>	X	X				
Laser Hair Removal	<i>Process of hair removal by means of exposure to pulses of laser light that destroy the hair follicle.</i>	X	X				
Laser Procedures (all other)	<i>Type of surgery that uses special light beams instead of instruments for surgical procedures.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
LED Light (light emitting diode therapy)	<i>A skincare treatment that uses varying wavelengths of light, including red and blue, to help regenerate the skin from aging; it is also used for acne.</i>	X	X				
Low Level Light Therapy (LLLT) (Red Light Therapy-RLT)	<i>A medical treatment modality that applies low-level lasers or light-emitting diodes to the surface of the body; LLLT is used to treat a multitude of conditions.</i>	Note: Pending final determination (under review).					Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Makeup Application	<i>Applying cosmetics to alter the appearance.</i>	X	X				
Manicure	<i>A cosmetic beauty treatment for the fingernails and hands.</i>		X	X			

Manual Lymphatic Drainage (waste removal; edema)	<i>A massage technique that works to encourage the natural movement of lymph fluid to help relieve swelling and improve health.</i>						Massage Therapy http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/mt/
Massage, Deep Tissue	<i>A massage technique that involves applying sustained pressure using slow, deep strokes to target the inner layers of muscles and connective tissues.</i>						Massage Therapy http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/mt/
Massage, Light (for application of product)	<i>Use of light touch (little pressure) to superficial layers of skin for beautification purposes only; used to help aid with the absorption of cosmetic products.</i>	X	X	X			
Massage, Light (hand & foot only)	<i>Use of light touch (little pressure) to superficial layers of skin for beautification purposes only; used for the purpose of promoting relaxation when applying cosmetic products.</i>		X	X			
Microblading (semi-permanent)	<i>A tattooing technique in which a small handheld tool made of several tiny needles is used to add semi-permanent pigment to the skin.</i>						Body Artists/Tattooists https://www.health.ny.gov/community/body_art/ *Consult local tattooing ordinance (varies) https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/description/body-piercing-and-tattooing-guidelines (NYC)
Microdermabrasion	<i>Cosmetic procedure that exfoliates and removes the superficial layer of dry, dead skin cells to help diminish signs of aging.</i>	X	X				
Microneedling/ Dermalrolling (Collagen Induction Therapy)	<i>Cosmetic procedure that involves repeatedly puncturing the skin with tiny, sterile needles to induce collagen and elastin production; penetrates into the deep dermis.</i>						Acupuncture http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/acu/ (http://www.op.nysed.gov/acupuncert.htm)
Nano-needling/Micro-channeling (Rezenerate Wand)	<i>Cosmetic procedure similar to microneedling with the main difference being the depth that the needle penetrates the skin; nano-needling punctures only the first layer of the skin.</i>						Acupuncture http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/acu/ (http://www.op.nysed.gov/acupuncert.htm)
Neuromuscular Massage Therapy (NMT)	<i>A specialized form of manual massage in which digital pressure and friction are used to release areas of strain in a muscle; treatment for myofascial trigger points.</i>						Massage Therapy http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/mt/
Ombre/Powdered Brows	<i>A semi-permanent method of shading the brow to perfect the shape, fill in sparse areas, and create a gradient effect. Uses a machine (tool with a needle) to deposit color.</i>						Body Artists/Tattooists https://www.health.ny.gov/community/body_art/ *Consult local tattooing ordinance (varies) https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/description/body-piercing-and-tattooing-guidelines (NYC)

Oxygen Facial Treatment nebulizer; to deliver product	<i>Non-medical procedure to hydrate the skin. It involves a machine that is used for spraying highly concentrated molecules of oxygen right into the epidermis (the outer layer of the skin). The oxygen that is applied is infused with vitamins, minerals, essential nutrients, and botanical extracts.</i>	X	X				
Paraffin Treatments	<i>Cosmetic procedure using liquified paraffin wax (often applied to the hands and feet) to help make skin supple and soft.</i>	X	X	X			
Pedicure	<i>Cosmetic treatment of the feet and toenails done for cosmetic and therapeutic purposes. Pedicures include care not only for the toenails; dead skin cells are rubbed off the bottom of the feet using a rough stone (often a pumice stone).</i>		X	X			
Peels, Dermal	<i>Includes medium-depth chemical peels that remove the damaged outer layer of facial skin (dermis) and deep chemical peels (targets deeper layers of the skin), to help improve skin tone and complexion.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Peels, Superficial (limited to the epidermis)	<i>A light (superficial) chemical peel that removes the outer layer of skin (epidermis) used to treat fine wrinkles, acne, uneven skin tone, and dryness.</i>	X	X				
Pen Treatment, Hyaluronic	<i>A needleless device that deposits Hyaluronic Acid (HA) fillers into the epidermal and upper dermal layers of the skin using an extreme amount of air pressure.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Pen Treatment, Plasma/Fibroblast	<i>Delivers tiny arcs of plasma created by an electrical discharge via a "plasma pen" to the skin, singeing the surface and tightening the underlying tissue.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Permanent Makeup (tattoo)	<i>Cosmetic technique which employs tattoos as a means of producing designs that resemble makeup, such as eye lining and other permanent enhancing colors to the skin of the face.</i>						Body Artists/Tattooists https://www.health.ny.gov/community/body_art/ *Consult local tattooing ordinance (varies) https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/description/body-piercing-and-tattooing-guidelines (NYC)
Plasma Skin Tightening	<i>Procedure in which plasma is used to heat and tighten the skin; uses radio frequency (RF) energy to convert gas into plasma.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP) (plasma replacement)	<i>A therapy that uses injections of a concentration of a patient's own platelets to accelerate healing.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/

Red Light Therapy (RLT) (Low Level Light Therapy-LLLT)	<i>A medical treatment modality that applies low-level lasers or light-emitting diodes to the surface of the body; RLT is used to treat a multitude of conditions.</i>	Note: Pending final determination (under review).					Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Radiofrequency (RF) Facial	<i>Skin tightening treatment that works by using heat to trigger collagen and elastin production in the skin's deeper layers; the introduction of energy alters the dermis.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Scalp Treatments	<i>Helps rid bacteria and debris from the scalp for healthier skin. A scalp treatment will involve some exfoliation to remove dead skin. Conditioner may be applied to lubricate and moisturize the scalp to help promote healthy hair growth.</i>		X				
Shaving (straight razor shave)	<i>Removal of hair by using a razor or any other kind of bladed implement. A straight razor shave is performed by using a single long blade that usually folds into a handle.</i>		X				
Sugaring/Sugar Waxing (hair removal)	<i>A method of hair removal similar to waxing (removes body hair by quickly pulling the hair from the root). The name for this method comes from the paste itself, which consists of lemon, water, and sugar.</i>	X	X			X	
Skin Sheek Clear Procedure	<i>Treats minor skin irregularities (broken capillaries, hyperplasia, etc.); works on the principle of attracting liquids through the application of heat. Special probes regulate the application of high frequency directly on the skin's surface.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Skin Sheek Lift (HIFU) (ultrasound)	<i>Treatment that uses High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) to target various depths of the body's tissue for skin tightening, skin lifting, and body contouring.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Skin Tag Removal	<i>Procedure performed by a doctor to remove a skin tag (small flap of tissue that hangs off the skin). Skin tag removal can be accomplished via a number of different methods.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Synergy, Electrical Optical (elos)	<i>Combined-energy technology combining Infrared laser light and bi-polar (dual electrodes) RF energy with tissue mobilization and suction (pulsed vacuum).</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Teeth Whitening/ Bleaching	<i>The process of lightening the color of human teeth. A dentist can use several different methods to whiten teeth.</i>						Dentistry http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/dent/
Thermage (excessive dermal & subdermal heating)	<i>A technology that uses a radiofrequency heating element to raise the skin's temperature to create new collagen and elasticity.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/

Threading	<i>A method of hair removal; this technique consists of rolling twisted cotton thread over the hairs. Threading can remove short rows of hair in a single pass.</i>	X	X			X	
Tweezing (manual)	<i>Process of mechanically removing (plucking) unwanted hair, one at a time, with tweezers; usually done for personal grooming purposes.</i>	X	X			X	
Ultrasonic Cavitation (Cavi Lipo)	<i>Treatment that utilizes ultrasound waves to cause fat cells to rupture, emulsify, and be eliminated from the body.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Ultrasound (superficial)	<i>Treatment used to lift and tighten loose skin and minimize wrinkles using ultrasound energy to heat targeted tissue under the surface of the skin, triggering the natural production of collagen.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Vacuum Therapy	<i>Technique that helps to lift your skin via a mechanical device equipped with suction cups; sometimes used for the treatment of cellulite.</i>	X	X				
VelaSmooth	<i>Medical device for cellulite reduction and body contouring. The VelaSmooth combines vacuum suction, mechanical rollers, and elos (electrical-optical-synergy) heating through infrared light and bipolar RF energy.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Vulvar-vaginal Rejuvenation (non-invasive)	<i>Corrective treatments designed to improve the aesthetic appearance and/or function of the female genitalia.</i>						Medical http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/med/
Waxing (strip & non-strip)	<i>Process of hair removal from the root by using a covering of a sticky substance, such as wax, to adhere to body hair, and then removing this covering and pulling out the hair from the follicle.</i>	X	X			X	

The information contained above is provided for informational purposes only. The New York Department of State makes no warranties, guarantees, or representations of any kind as to the content, accuracy, or completeness of the information contained in herein, however, every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained on this site is up to date and accurate. The information offered should not be used in lieu of seeking appropriate legal advice and is not intended to address every procedure that may be offered by licensed appearance enhancement licensees. This guidance is subject to change and licensed professionals should frequently visit this page for important updates based on future interpretations of the General Business Law by the courts.

You may obtain further information on how to be sure your salon or spa follows safe practices by accessing the *Consumer Guide to Beauty Salons & Spas*:
https://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/pdfs/beauty_salon.pdf.

A Spanish version of this guide is also available: https://www.dos.ny.gov/licensing/pdfs/beauty_salon_ES.pdf.

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