MEETING SUMMARY

NEW YORK STATE APPEARANCE ENHANCEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 7, 2025

The meeting was held by the Department of State, Division of Licensing Services, via Webex conferencing between DOS offices.

I. CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS and OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE

Emily Lupe called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and announced that this is an open meeting of the New York State Appearance Enhancement Advisory Committee. E. Lupe performed roll call and welcomed members; a quorum was achieved. The official attendance was as follows:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Erin H. Maybin
Leeanne Shade
Anthony Fiore
Claudette Gyles
Dana Persico

DEPARTMENT OF STATE STAFF
Emily Lupe
Laura VanNatten
Shannon Maguire
Candice Burchett
David Mossberg
Jenna Berschwinger

VISITORS
Paul Grenauer
Genevive Santos
Sharon Myers
David Sciupson
Gillian Hamilton
Sally Vartuli

1. Approval of Meeting Summaries – E. Lupe asked for motions to approve the meeting summaries from meetings from September 13th, 2021 through July 1, 2025. Leanne S. motioned to approve. Claudette G. seconded the motion.

II. DEPARTMENT/SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Enforcement Update – L. VanNatten reported that the Enforcement unit continued its focus on nail salon inspections checking on compliance for current ventilation requirements. Since January 1st, the Enforcement unit has completed 2,076 inspections and is on track to meet their quota of approximately 3,000 inspections statewide. The tickets continue to be handled through the opportunity to cure (OTC) process. Of the 2,076 inspections, 859 have been closed as a result of the businesses curing their violations within the 30-day OTC process and 504 businesses have been referred to hearing for not curing their violations. The Department of State is currently investigating 72 consumer complaints against appearance enhancement shops and/or operators and 11 barber complaints.

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B. Processing Report – Emily Lupe provided an update on the new system, which was implemented in late April 2025, reporting that over 30,000 licensees and applicants have successfully claimed their license or application record since that time. She notes that the process has been successful so far but is being monitored to refine guidance as needed. Anthony Fiore noted it seemed when temporary licenses expire applicants aren't able to claim the license and enquired if that is being worked on. E. Lupe responded stating it will be looked into.

C. Examination Administration Report- S. Maguire provided exam statistics for the first half of 2024 and 2025. S. Maguire also mentioned there has been a slight decrease in the number of applicants scheduling their exams, which she noted was also the case in the last meeting but this could be due to the launch of Appearance Enhancement system. S. Maguire also noted additional tests were scheduled in 2024 to reduce wait times. The Department expects that number to rebound. Anthony Fiore asked if there were guides to walk students through applying and scheduling exams. S. Maguire confirmed that there were and that they are located on the Department of State's website.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Natural Hair and Cosmetology Curriculum – E. Maybin discussed updates to the Cosmetology curriculum. There was a discussion clarifying that hair density will be listed as a main characteristic of hair. D. Persico made a recommendation to update the cosmetology curriculum based on the draft with the additional revision to subject 4 by adding another main topic under hair analysis as density under elasticity. D. Persico called the vote and C. Gyles seconded. The cosmetology curriculum changes were approved by the board. Discussed Natural Hair curriculum update. Natural hair update brought to vote. Natural hair update was approved by the board.

B. Apprentice Subcommittee Update – L. Shade provided an update that the apprenticeship guidelines are being completed and have yet to be submitted. L. Shade requested a meeting date. A. Fiore expressed concerns that salons could manipulate the apprentice process leading to the apprentice not gaining any advantage for being in the program and he asked what protections will be put into place by the state.

C. Shampooing Certificate Subcommittee update – L. Shade updated that the subcommittee has worked on Proposed Scope of Practice.

D. Advisory Committee Titles – D. Mossberg discussed the law involving board composition. The board composition did not change. D. Mossberg explained that the law (Laws of 2017, chapter 339) states that 1 member of the board be knowledgeable in the practice of styling techniques which place tension on the roots, and there was a discussion about which license types qualify to fill these requirements.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD –E. Lupe asked if any person from the public wanted to participate or comment.

Paul Grenauer stated his concerns with apprenticeship is easing the entry in the industry but also lowering our standards or also the control that the state has on those standards. He stated New York

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already has the lowest number of hours for cosmetology and the industry is moving away from salons to booth rentals. He also has concerns about how the audit process would work with the apprentices.

Geniveve Santos in NYC stated she wants an update on the microneedling bill. She also stated an advanced esthetics license would be beneficial as some schools are already offering over 600 hours of training.

V. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 11:08am

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