

Cosmetology Licensure COMPACT

The Department of Defense has sought to support the development of interstate compacts as a mechanism for ensuring the professional licenses of military spouses are easily portable. In September 2020, the Department of Defense entered into a cooperative agreement with The Council of State Governments to fund the creation of new interstate compacts designed to strengthen occupational licensing portability. In collaboration with the Department of Defense, CSG developed and administered a competitive application process to select the professions for initial compact development in late 2020 and early 2021. Eligible applicants included associations of professionals, associations or federations of state licensing boards, coalitions of state licensing boards and national credentialing bodies for professions licensed in at least 30 states.

In March 2021, the Department of Defense and CSG announced the selection of cosmetology as one of the first-round professions and partnered with The Future of the Beauty Industry Coalition (FBIC) for the development process. CSG and FBIC convened a Technical Assistance Group that included directors of state licensure boards, state licensure board members, representatives of beauty industry professional associations, licensed cosmetologists and cosmetology educators. The group met regularly over the course of several months to determine the mobility needs of the profession, analyze current licensure requirements in the states, identify the preferred compact license model and the develop policy recommendations for the initial draft of the Cosmetology Licensure Compact. A separate document drafting team transformed the recommendations and preferences of the Technical Assistance Group into a full draft of the Cosmetology Licensure Compact model legislation.

To gather public comment on the draft legislation, CSG facilitated a stakeholder review process throughout the summer of 2022. This included holding virtual presentations open to the public at which CSG staff led attendees through the draft legislation and addressed questions and concerns. CSG and coalition leaders also attended conferences and meetings to present the compact to interested stakeholder groups. Lastly, CSG published a website with the draft legislation, informational materials, and a survey to gather and organize feedback. After gathering responses, CSG reconvened the drafting team and Technical Assistance Group to review the feedback and make changes, leading to a final draft.

Groups who participated in the development of the Cosmetology Licensure Compact are listed below. Please note that this does not signify an endorsement of the compact:

Future of the Beauty Industry Coalition
BlueCo Brands
Professional Beauty Association
Alabama Board of Cosmetology
California Board of Cosmetology
Iowa Cosmetology Arts & Sciences Board
Kansas Board of Cosmetology
Kentucky Board of Cosmetology

Maryland Board of Cosmetology
Minnesota Board of Cosmetology
North Carolina State Board of Cosmetic Art Examiners
Tennessee Cosmetology and Barbers Board of Examiners
Virginia Board for Barbers and Cosmetology

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