



# COSMETOLOGY

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** A program that focuses on the theory, knowledge and skills needed to prepare for the State Board of Cosmetology examination and become a licensed Cosmetologist. The program covers scalp and hair treatment, hair shaping, finger waving, hairstyling, permanent waving, hair coloring and bleaching, chemical hair relaxing, manicuring, facials and makeup, and salon management. The program is conducted through lectures, demonstrations, and actual laboratory experience in a salon atmosphere. Students receive a minimum of 1800 clock hours of lecture and clinical experience.

- **DEGREES OFFERED:** Certificate of Achievement, Associate in Applied Science
- **PROGRAM PRE-REQUISITES:** A high school diploma or equivalent, placement in ENG 22/60 (AND) MATH 24/50
- **COST:** Books and Supplies (cosmetology kit, uniform) - approximately \$1500.00
- **TECHNICAL STANDARDS:** Can be found at <http://tech.honolulu.hawaii.edu/cosm>

## THE OCCUPATION

**DESCRIPTION:** Hairstylists and cosmetologists provide professional grooming services to help people improve their personal appearance. Hairdresser's shampoo, cut, shape, style, perm, straighten, or color hair. They also give non-medical scalp and hair treatments. Cosmetologists provide manicures and pedicures, facials, and makeup analysis/application. Other duties include making appointments, cleaning and sterilizing instruments, and selling beauty products. Shop owners or managers supervise workers, order supplies, and keep records.

**SKILLS AND APTITUDES NEEDED:** Ability to detect slight differences in color or form, good eye-hand coordination, and finger dexterity. Interest in fashion and beauty trends; enjoy dealing with the public; good communication and listening skills.

**WORK SETTING:** Indoors, standing for long periods of time with hands at shoulder level. Generally work in clean, pleasant surroundings with good lighting and comfortable temperatures. Must be careful when working with chemical solutions, which may cause skin irritation. Schedules may vary greatly and often include evenings and weekends.

**EMPLOYERS:** Hair salons, department stores, and self-employment.

**CAREER LADDER:** ENTRY LEVEL: Cosmetologist; Hairstylist. ADVANCEMENT: Master Stylist; Salon Manager; Small Business Operator.

**LICENSING REQUIREMENTS:** Beauty operators (cosmetologists, hairdressers, estheticians, manicurists) must be licensed to practice in Hawaii. Requirements include: completion of a high school diploma or equivalent; graduation from a registered beauty school or completion of time as an apprentice; and passing the exam.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Slight shortage to shortage. Average employment growth is expected in Hawaii, and nationally, employment is expected to grow as fast as the average through the year 2014.

**WAGES:** Earnings vary greatly, depending on ability to attract regular customers, shop size and location, and tips from patrons. New graduates are paid minimum wage and work on commission until they establish a steady clientele. Experienced workers earn around \$1,700-\$2,500 a month or more.