

317.420 Barber license requirements -- Exemptions -- Advertising.

- (1) No person shall engage in the practice of "barbering" for other than cosmetic purposes nor shall any person engage in barbering for the treatment of physical or mental ailments, except that the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:
 - (a) Persons authorized by the law of this state to practice medicine, chiropody, optometry, dentistry, chiropractic, nursing, or embalming when incidental practices of barbering are performed by them in the normal course of the practice of their profession;
 - (b) Commissioned medical or surgical personnel of the United States Armed Forces performing incidental practices of barbering in the course of their duties; or
 - (c) Barbering services performed at an institution operated by or under contract to the Department of Corrections or the Department of Juvenile Justice.
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (1) of this section, no person shall engage in the practice of barbering for the public generally or for consideration without the appropriate license required by this chapter.
- (3) No person, unless duly and properly licensed pursuant to this chapter, shall:
 - (a) Teach barbering;
 - (b) Operate a barber shop or mobile barber shop;
 - (c) Conduct or operate a school for barbers;
 - (d) Lease or rent booth space as an independent contract owner; or
 - (e) Operate a mobile barber shop without first notifying the board of its location or change in its location.
- (4) No person shall aid or abet any person in violating the provisions of this section, nor shall any person engage or employ for consideration any person for the performance of any practice licensed by this chapter unless the person to perform such practice holds and displays the appropriate license therefor.
- (5) Except as provided in this chapter, no person or business shall:
 - (a) Advertise barbering services, unless the person or business and the personnel it employs are licensed under this chapter;
 - (b) Advertise as a barber shop or mobile barber shop, unless all persons in the shop practicing barbering services are licensed under this chapter. Any barber practicing in a shop licensed as both a barber shop and a salon licensed under KRS Chapter 317A may display an image, that is at least four (4) inches high, of a barber pole at his or her station; or
 - (c) Use or display a barber pole for the purpose of advertising barbering services to the public unless it:
 1. Has a barber shop license; and
 2. Employs a barber licensed under this chapter.
- (6) A person holding an active barber license from the board and who practices in a shop licensed by the board may render services for pay or otherwise to:
 - (a) A person suffering from a terminal illness who is receiving the services of a

hospice program either at home or at a hospice inpatient unit; or

- (b) A person who is deceased and in the care of a funeral establishment.

Effective: June 27, 2025

History: Amended 2025 Ky. Acts ch. 68, sec. 7, effective June 27, 2025. -- Amended 2018 Ky. Acts ch. 46, sec. 2, effective March 30, 2018. -- Amended 2013 Ky. Acts ch. 51, sec. 2, effective June 25, 2013; and ch. 72, sec. 5, effective June 25, 2013. -- Amended 2006 Ky. Acts ch. 32, sec. 2, effective July 12, 2006. -- Amended 2002 Ky. Acts ch. 11, sec. 7, effective July 15, 2002. -- Amended 1974 Ky. Acts ch. 354, sec. 17. -- Amended 1966 Ky. Acts ch. 145, sec. 1. -- Created 1960 Ky. Acts ch. 233, sec. 2.