



COSMETOLOGY AND RELATED SERVICES

12.0401.00

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

An Industry Technical Standards Validation Committee developed and validated these standards on March 19, 2026. The Arizona Career and Technical Education Quality Commission, the validating authority for the Arizona Skills Standards Assessment System, endorsed these standards on July 12, 2026.

Note: Arizona's Professional Skills are taught as an integral part of the Cosmetology and Related Services program.

The Technical Skills Assessment for Cosmetology and Related Services is available SY2027-2028.

Note: In this document i.e. explains or clarifies the content and e.g. provides examples of the content that must be taught.

STANDARD 1.0 APPLY PRINCIPLES OF PROFESSIONALISM TO SUCCEED IN THE COSMETOLOGY INDUSTRY

- 1.1 Identify skill advancement and continuous learning opportunities (i.e., workshops, courses, community college classes, state-approved educator programs, professional organizations, advanced training in specialty areas such as laser aesthetics, industry-recognized certifications such as brand certifications, etc.)
- 1.2 Practice professional and ethical standards (i.e., professional appearance and conduct; operating within scope of practice; adherence to state regulations and sterilization procedures, etc.)
- 1.3 Maintain effective cosmetology communication standards (i.e., active listening and thorough consultations, appropriate verbal and nonverbal skills, professional boundaries, conflict resolution, documentation, safety communication, and cultural sensitivity, etc.)
- 1.4 Identify key factors that contribute to the success of a salon (i.e., up-to-date technical skills, professional rapport, overall quality customer service, smart business management, etc.)
- 1.5 Identify key business and marketing skills needed to manage and/or own a successful cosmetology business [i.e., networking skills, retail skills, social media skills (graphic design, web development), store management skills (handling appointments, inventory management, finance acumen), etc.]
- 1.6 Discuss how appearance, style, and modeling trends and techniques create a personal brand
- 1.7 Describe the requirements of initial and renewal licensure by the Arizona Barbering and Cosmetology Board

STANDARD 2.0 DEMONSTRATE A SAFE AND HEALTHY SALON ENVIRONMENT

- 2.1 Read, interpret, and follow manufacturer instructions and SDS guidelines for all products and salon services (i.e., chemical relaxers, hair color, etc.)
- 2.2 Differentiate among sterilization, disinfection, and sanitation procedures and applications are utilized to maintain proper infection control standards
- 2.3 Utilize infection control and safety standards as outlined in Arizona Administrative Code R4-10-112
- 2.4 Identify types of pathogens present in salon environments and risks to clients and licensure (e.g., bacteria, virus, and fungi)
- 2.5 Demonstrate proper first-aid techniques and emergency procedures (i.e., cuts and abrasions, hair loss, burns, bacterial infections, slip and fall injuries, allergic injuries, etc.)
- 2.6 Apply safe handling techniques and procedures when using disinfecting products, tools, and equipment (i.e., styling brushes, shears, shampoo bowls, razors, etc.)
- 2.7 Comply with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards [e.g., the Hazard Communication Standard (HazCom), and Safety Data Sheets (SDSs)]
- 2.8 Select and apply appropriate draping materials and techniques based on service (i.e., shampoo draping, chemical draping, and haircut/styling draping, etc.) to protect the client and maintain sanitation and infection control standards

STANDARD 3.0 ANALYZE THE ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, AND HISTOLOGY OF THE HUMAN BODY AS RELATED TO COSMETOLOGY

- 3.1 Identify systems and organs of the human body and their functions
- 3.2 Identify the structure and function of cells
- 3.3 Identify and describe skin diseases and disorders and consequent services that can be performed safely (i.e., psoriasis, dermatitis, MRSA, etc.)

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- 3.4 Evaluate the structure and functions of the skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems
- 3.5 Compare the integumentary and lymphatic systems in relation to each other and their role in the human body

STANDARD 4.0 EVALUATE KEY ASPECTS OF TRICHOLOGY FOR COSMETOLOGY

- 4.1 Define trichology (e.g., the scientific study of hair and scalp, focusing on diagnosing and treating hair loss, diseases, and scalp issues)
- 4.2 Explain what a certified trichologist does [e.g., diagnoses hair loss, treats scalp conditions (e.g., dandruff, oiliness, and psoriasis), and utilizes specialized techniques for hair and scalp inspection (e.g., microscopy and digital imaging)]
- 4.3 Evaluate internal and external properties of both hair and scalp (e.g., texture, density type, porosity, elasticity, and scalp condition)
- 4.4 Demonstrate proper techniques for shampooing, scalp massage, rinsing, and conditioning of hair
- 4.5 Evaluate growth and structure of different hair types and textures

STANDARD 5.0 ANALYZE CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS, ELECTRICAL TOOLS, AND SALON PRODUCTS

- 5.1 Explain the measures of the pH scale and how cosmetologists use pH to manage product effects on the hair, skin, and nails
- 5.2 Identify basic electrical tools found in salons (i.e., hair dryer, curling iron, clippers, etc.)
- 5.3 Identify and describe the uses and contraindications of electrotherapy tools found in salons (i.e., electrodes, blue light vs. red light, ultraviolet, infrared, etc.)
- 5.4 Read and evaluate chemical labels for proper application of products and effects on hair, skin, and nails
- 5.5 Describe chemical burn caused by a product and identify its causes, symptoms, and treatment
- 5.6 Identify essential haircutting tools and appropriate safety measures (e.g., shears, razors, clippers, and texturizing tools)
- 5.7 Identify essential hairstyling tools and appropriate safety measures (e.g., curling wands, irons, flat irons, hair dryers, and deep wavers)

STANDARD 6.0 DEMONSTRATE HAIRCUTTING AND HAIRSTYLING TECHNIQUES

- 6.1 Identify and demonstrate different haircutting methods and techniques (i.e., elevations, basic haircuts, combined techniques, etc.)
- 6.2 Analyze elements and principles of hair design/styles [e.g., elements (line, form, space, texture, color); principles (proportion, balance, rhythm, emphasis, harmony)]
- 6.3 Analyze factors that influence hairstyle design [hair type and texture (e.g. wave pattern, density, and texture), facial shapes and proportions, and facial profiles (straight, convex, concave)]
- 6.4 Apply hairstyling techniques to enhance or camouflage facial features based on design analysis
- 6.5 Demonstrate thermal styling techniques to include safety procedures with both application and tools
- 6.6 Demonstrate wet styling techniques and give examples of curl placement and results
- 6.7 Demonstrate long hair styling techniques and identify appropriate tools and products
- 6.8 Demonstrate various braiding techniques and explain levels of stress to the hair shaft
- 6.9 Demonstrate a range of hairstyling techniques from basic to advanced (i.e. blow drying, thermal irons, braiding and extensions, wet styling, finishing techniques, etc.)

STANDARD 7.0 DEMONSTRATE CHEMICAL TEXTURIZING AND HAIR COLORING TECHNIQUES

- 7.1 Demonstrate hair analysis to perform appropriate chemical texturizing on a variety of hair textures safely
- 7.2 Demonstrate perm wrapping techniques in creating hairstyles (i.e., spiral wrap, basic perm wrap, piggyback wrap, curvature wrap, etc.)
- 7.3 Demonstrate chemical relaxing processes in creating hairstyles
- 7.4 Demonstrate and describe curl reforming in creating hairstyles (i.e., creating softer more manageable curl, etc.)
- 7.5 Evaluate the relationship between color theory in relation to the law of color (e.g., color classifications)
- 7.6 Identify the procedure for FDA- and state-mandated patch testing to determine sensitivity to product
- 7.7 Evaluate existing level of hair color of a client as it relates to additional color considerations and application procedures
- 7.8 Demonstrate and describe the effects of changing existing hair color according to coloring techniques (e.g., temporary color, semi-permanent color, oxidative color, surface painting, slicing, weaving, double process blond, and corrective color)
- 7.9 Follow all safety procedures when evaluating chemical actions of hair lighteners and color removers
- 7.10 Demonstrate step-by-step techniques used to color hair and provide special effect results

STANDARD 8.0 EVALUATE WIGS, HAIRPIECES, AND EXTENSIONS AS A CHOICE IN HAIRSTYLING

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- 8.1 Identify different wig materials (human hair, synthetic, or hybrid)
- 8.2 Identify different types of wig cap construction materials, their uses and application (i.e., basic, lace-front, monofilament, etc.)
- 8.3 Identify types of hair pieces, their uses and application (i.e. toppers, bangs, ponytails, etc.)
- 8.4 Identify types of extensions, their uses and application
- 8.5 Demonstrate procedures for proper wig measurements and application
- 8.6 Identify essential wig making and repairing supplies (e.g., wig blocks, ventilating needles/holders, thread and needles, and adhesives and tapes)
- 8.7 Demonstrate proper care and maintenance of wigs and hair enhancements according to manufacturer's instructions

STANDARD 9.0 DEMONSTRATE MORPHOLOGY AND TREATMENT OF SKIN AND NAILS

- 9.1 Identify face and skin modalities and treatments, from daily at-home care to professional in-office procedures (e.g., chemical peels, microneedling, and laser therapies)
- 9.2 Analyze facial skin for treatment including visual skin diseases and disorders
- 9.3 Perform the selected facial/skin service
- 9.4 Apply makeup application from start to finish
- 9.5 Identify and perform proper extraction techniques (i.e., tweezing, waxing, etc.)
- 9.6 Identify and perform safe shaping of eyebrows, lash and eyebrow tinting
- 9.7 Follow manufacturer instructions in applying artificial eyelashes
- 9.8 Recognize symptoms of nail diseases and disorders
- 9.9 Prepare client for selected nail service
- 9.10 Perform nail technology modalities and procedures

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