

Mario Little

February 13, 2025

North Carolina Board of Barbering and Electrolysis Examiners
7001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699

Subject: Proposal to Adjust Minimum Hours Requirement for Barbering Courses

Dear Members of the North Carolina Board of Barbering and Electrolysis Examiners,

I am writing to formally propose an amendment to the current minimum hours' requirement for the completion of barbering courses in North Carolina. Presently, the requirement stands at 1,528 hours of training, followed by a one-year apprenticeship under a registered barber. I propose that this requirement be modified to 1,200 hours of training while maintaining the existing one-year apprenticeship requirement.

The rationale behind this proposed change is twofold:

1. **Alignment with Neighboring States:** Many of North Carolina's neighboring states require fewer training hours and do not mandate an apprenticeship. This discrepancy places our state at a competitive disadvantage, as prospective barbers may seek licensure in states with less stringent requirements, leading to a potential outflow of talent.
2. **Maintaining High Standards While Promoting Efficiency:** Reducing the minimum required hours to 1,200 would still ensure that barbering students receive comprehensive training while allowing them to enter the workforce more quickly. The continued requirement of a one-year apprenticeship ensures that newly licensed barbers gain essential real-world experience under the guidance of experienced professionals.

This change would benefit both aspiring barbers and the barbering industry in North Carolina by making licensure more accessible while preserving the high standards of professionalism and skill that the Board upholds. Additionally, the adjustment would foster a more competitive training environment that aligns with industry norms across the region.

I respectfully urge the Board to consider this proposal and welcome the opportunity to discuss it further. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response and the possibility of working together to enhance North Carolina's Barbering industry.

Sincerely,
Mario Little
CTE Barber Instructor