

KENTUCKY BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

Andy Beshear
Governor



Joni Upchurch
Executive Director

November 14, 2025

Re: Access to salons for inspections and Appropriate Signage

In recent years, salons have increased the use of an arrangement commonly known as salon suites where several salons are located in one corporate building or large space dedicated to an umbrella of professional services sometimes ones under other agencies like barbershops and tattoo parlors. As it is a collective, hours vary among businesses and there is often little to no common area for the public in the same way one thinks of a traditional stand-alone salon that is always accessible during business hours. Often times businesses will have an individual code or separate key for their respective shop or salon, taking away general public access.

If you are in one of these locations, please keep in mind the requirements of 201 KAR 12:060: Inspectors may enter any establishment license by this Board or any place purported to be practicing cosmetology, nail technology, threading, eyelash artistry, makeup artistry, or esthetics **during reasonable working hours or at a time when the establishment is open to the public**. If your salon is in a location that has limited public access that requires a code to enter or a number to dial, please ensure the inspector can readily access the premises during these times. You can provide your own code, seek a code specific to the inspector from the landlord, or ensure there is someone that can immediately provide access to the **entire salon** that provides services regulated under KRS 317A.

Failure to provide access under this regulation will result in a pink slip. After two consecutive failed inspection attempts, the licensee's actions will be considered unprofessional conduct, a violation under KRS 317A.140(f) that can result in a fine up to \$1500.00. This can easily be avoided by taking the suggested steps above. It is ultimately the salon owners and managers responsibility to ensure access for inspection.

The other concern to be aware of is the signage 201 KAR 12:060 Section 4 states the following:

Section 4. Signage. The main entrance to any establishment licensed by the board shall display a sign indicating a beauty salon, nail salon, esthetic salon, limited facility, or cosmetology school. The sign shall indicate the name of the salon, limited facility, or school as it is registered with the Kentucky Board of Cosmetology and shall be clearly visible at the main entrance of the establishment.

Please ensure that whatever your arrangement is, your salon is in full compliance with this regulation. If there are any questions or need of suggestions, you can reach out to the KBC office via email kbc@ky.gov or phone (502)-564-4262.

Eden Davis Stephens
General Counsel
Kentucky Board of Cosmetology
1049 US-127, Annex #2
Frankfort, KY 40601
eden.stephens@ky.gov