



How to Transfer a License from Another State

BOARD FOR BARBERS & COSMETOLOGY

www.dpor.virginia.gov/Boards/BarberCosmo | (804) 367-8509

Q: How do I transfer my license to Virginia?

A: To obtain a license in Virginia based on holding a current valid license in another state, you must submit an [Endorsement Application](#). In order to qualify for a license “by endorsement,” Board regulations require:

- A **current** license issued by a state or U.S. Territory,
- Substantially equivalent training to Virginia’s requirement (hours + content), and
- Substantially equivalent examination(s).

TO APPLY:

1. Submit a completed [Endorsement Application](#) **with the application fee**, and
2. Request the licensing authority in the state where you are currently licensed to mail a CERTIFICATION OF LICENSURE directly to the Virginia Board for Barbers and Cosmetology.

NOTE: If you *originally* obtained licensure in a jurisdiction other than the state where you currently hold a license, an additional Certification of Licensure must come from the *original* jurisdiction where you completed your training and exams.

TRAINING & EXAM REQUIREMENTS:

Refer to the following requirements for the hours of instruction and training required to qualify for licensure.

If you qualified for your current out-of-state Cosmetology, Barber, Master Barber, Nail Technician or Wax Technician license by completing **less than 80% of the required Virginia hours**, you may be eligible to substitute five years of work experience within the United States for training.

If you qualified for your current out-of-state Esthetics or Master Esthetics license by completing **less than 80% of the required Virginia hours** you are not eligible for a license by endorsement.

Examination requirements for licensure by endorsement are based on the exams you previously completed in other states. Exams must have been administered by the state licensing agency. Tests administered by the school are not equivalent and may require re-examination in Virginia.

| LICENSE TYPE | VIRGINIA HOURS (80%) | EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cosmetology | 1,500 (1,200) | Theory and Practical |
| Barber/Master Barber | 1,100 (880)/1,500 (1,200) | Theory and Practical |
| Nail Technician | 150 (120) | Theory and Practical |
| Wax Technician | 115 (92) | Theory and Practical |
| Esthetics | 600 (480) | Theory and Practical |
| Master Esthetics | 600 (480) | Theory and Practical |
| Tattooing/Body Piercing | ** | Theory |
| Permanent Cosmetic Tattoo | ** | Theory |

** For endorsement requirements for tattooing/body-piercing training, contact the Board Office at (804) 367-8509 or BCHOPlicensing@dpor.virginia.gov.