

My Career in Cosmetology

Diploma



With a *Diploma in Cosmetology*, graduates may have the possible *career options* of the following:

- Hairstylist/ Hairdresser
- Barber
- Esthetician
- Manicurist
- Makeup Artist
- Nail Technician
- Pedicurist
- Beautician

NB: Although the job titles may vary, some of the tasks executed are very similar from one title to another and hence combined.

Careers in Cosmetology

The job descriptions and job specifications for these careers are as follows:

Career Overview

In this field, you are responsible for providing several hair care procedures in addition to facial and body treatments to improve the look and feel of the client's skin and nails.

Typical Duties:

- Shampoo, trim, condition, straighten, curl, and color hair.
- Design, trim, and fit wigs, hairpieces, and extensions.
- Keep supplies well stocked.
- Maintain a clean work station and supplies.
- Keep records of client needs and preferences and services provided.
- Advise clients about colors and types of make-up.
- Teach clients how to apply make-up.
- Apply artificial nails and nail art.
- Perform relaxation massages.

Typical Duties cont'd:

- Assess each client's skin condition, appearance and other characteristics.
- Advise clients about skin care in general, and how to care for problem areas in particular.
- Demonstrate how to clean and care for skin properly.
- Advise and sell skin care products.

Work Environment

In salons and spa settings you will either work for an hourly wage plus tips, or rent space in the salon or spa and operate as a self-employed private practitioner. The job offers some flexible hours but may often require evenings, weekends and holidays. You are also required to spend a lot of time working on your feet.

Qualifications and Licenses

Some businesses may take on students through apprenticeship programs. In order to operate as a full time professional you will need to be qualified in the particular area you are seeking, such as a Diploma in Cosmetology from the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic, certification through City and Guilds or I/C/NVQ certification.

Essential Qualities and Skills

- ❖ Conscientious and caring attitude
- ❖ Practical skills and technical knowledge
- ❖ Awareness of health and safety
- ❖ Great communication skills
- ❖ Reliability, responsibility and motivation
- ❖ Willingness to work flexible hours
- ❖ A steady hand and an eye for detail
- ❖ Discretion and trustworthiness.
- ❖ An artistic flair

References

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