

Requirements For Home Based Personal Services

Home based personal service operations are acceptable in private residences, provided that they comply with both the criteria listed below and the requirements set out in the Personal Services Regulation and its five associated Health Standards and Guidelines.

What are Personal Services?

Personal Service Operations are those that provide a service to the public, including but not limited to the following:

Tattooing*	Manicure	Hairstyling	Lash/Brow Tint
Body/Ear Piercing*	Pedicure	Electrolysis	Facials
Permanent Make-up	Waxing	Make-up Application	Laser Hair Removal
Others**			

**For any skin invasive services and **other services that are not listed, please contact an Environmental Health Officer for consultation.*

Required Approvals, Permits and Right-of-Entry:

- Appropriate town, county or city zoning approval or license
- Building permit (where applicable)

The owner must recognize the right-of-entry by the Environmental Health Officers/Executive Officers to enter and inspect the operation at any reasonable hour. This is to ensure compliance with the Personal Services Regulation and its associated Health Standards and Guidelines.

Basic Requirements:

1. The personal service area must be physically separated from any pets and from any areas used for living or sleeping, dining, food storage or preparation, bathing and washroom purposes.
2. A sink, that is not in a washroom, kitchen or used for anything other than the operation of the personal service facility, is required for the purpose of hand hygiene and instrument reprocessing. The sink must be:
 - readily accessible to each service area;
 - have permanent hot and cold running potable water of suitable quantity and pressure;
 - constructed of stainless steel and of a suitable size;
 - supplied with liquid soap and single use towels in a suitable dispenser or hot air dryer; and
 - equipped with suitable counter space or similar surface nearby for soaking/drying equipment.



3. A washroom must be provided with a toilet and a hand wash basin, equipped with liquid soap and single use towels in a suitable dispenser (or a hot air dryer).
4. Backflow prevention shall be in place, where contaminated water has the potential of entering the potable water system.
5. All work surfaces shall be constructed of smooth, non-porous and cleanable materials (i.e. painted drywall, vinyl composite tiles, linoleum or sealed concrete, etc.), and these must be in good repair.
6. Work areas must be adequately lit and ventilated.
7. Client contact surfaces (tables, chairs, headrests etc.) must have a smooth, non-porous and easy to clean finish, and these must be in good repair.
8. Adequate storage space must be available for equipment, instruments and supplies.
9. Suitable garbage containers must be readily available, maintained and emptied regularly.
10. Approved disinfectants for disinfecting equipment, surfaces and reusable instruments must be available.
11. An acceptable skin antiseptic shall be provided for skin preparation and post treatment.
12. Items, that cannot be properly disinfected/sterilized or are intended for single use, must be discarded after each client use. Examples include:
 - foam based nail files and buffers
 - pumice stones/abrasive foot scrubs
 - toe separators
 - foam flip flops
 - sharps such as lancets and credo knife blades
 - sand-paper sleeves for nail file drill heads
 - wooden popsicle sticks and cuticle pushers
13. A puncture-resistant container shall be provided for the disposal of needles, razor blades and other sharp devices or instruments.
14. Pigments, cosmetics and other supplies must be labeled and handled in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
15. Chemicals, detergents and cleaners must be stored, maintained and prepared in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Please refer to the Personal Service Regulation and the associated Health Standards and Guidelines for a more complete list of requirements.

Operating a personal service studio in your home can be a rewarding and successful venture. Remember that health is good for business, and by adhering to these basic minimum requirements, you will ensure the success of your operation.

For more information, or to arrange for an initial inspection, please contact your nearest Environmental Public Health office.

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