Frequently Asked Questions  
(As of August 16, 2018)

What bill(s) passed during the 2018 legislative session regarding hair braiding?

House Bill 1500 (https://house.mo.gov/LegislationSP.aspx?q=1500&report=billsearch) and House Bill 1719 (https://house.mo.gov/LegislationSP.aspx?q=1719&report=billsearch) have been passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor. Both become effective on August 28, 2018.

How do I obtain a certificate of registration to engage in hair braiding pursuant to House Bills 1500 and 1719?

To get a certificate of registration to engage in hair braiding, an applicant must submit to the board: 1) A completed application, which will be available on the board’s website; and 2) a fee, not to exceed $20.00.

Additionally, each applicant must watch an instructional video that the board creates in accordance with subsection 4 of this section. (Section 329.275.2)

Please be aware that the board cannot accept applications until it has met the requirements placed on it in the two bills – creating the video and brochure and setting the application fee in a rule (see the final question below for additional information about the board’s efforts in meeting these requirements.)

Who is a Hair braider pursuant to House Bills 1500 and 1719?

A hair braider is “any person who, for compensation, engages in the practice of hair braiding.” (Section 329.010(8))

What is Hair braiding pursuant to House Bills 1500 and 1719?

Hair braiding, is “the use of techniques that result in tension on hair strands or roots by twisting, wrapping, waving, extending, locking, or braiding of the hair by hand or mechanical device, but does not include the application of dyes, reactive chemicals, or other preparations to alter the color of the hair or to straighten, curl, or alter the structure of the hair.” (Sections 329.010(9) 329.275)

Can a cosmetologist or barber perform the service of hair braiding pursuant to House Bills 1500 and 1719?

The language in both bills states that “nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting a licensed cosmetologist or barber from performing the service of hair braiding.” (Section 329.275.1)

Can I engage in hair braiding for compensation in the state of Missouri without first registering with the board pursuant to House Bills 1500 and 1719?
Both bills require registration with the board prior to performing hair braiding for compensation. Please see the final question below for additional information about the board’s efforts in instituting the registration process. (Section 329.275.2)

Do I have to post my certificate in my place of business pursuant to House Bill 1500 and House Bill 1719?

Yes; any person who registers as a hair braider under this section must post the certificate of registration in a conspicuous place at his or her place of business. If the person is operating outside the business, the registrant must provide a copy of the certificate of registration to the client upon request. (Section 329.275.5)

Will my hair braiding establishment(s) be subject to any inspections pursuant to House Bills 1500 and 1719?

Yes, the board may inspect hair braiding establishments or facilities where hair braiding occurs one time per year during business hours. Also, if the board receives a complaint about a hair braider, the board may inspect that hair braider's establishment during regular business hours. (Section 329.275.6(1) and (2))

Can the board discipline my certificate of registration to engage in hair braiding pursuant to House Bills 1500 and 1719?

Yes, in addition to the causes listed in section 329.140, the board may also suspend or revoke a certificate of registration if a person registered as a hair braider is found to be operating outside the scope of practice of hair braiding. (Section 329.275.6(3))

What is the Board doing to comply with House Bills 1500 and 1719?

Pursuant to section 329.275.4., production of the mandatory instructional video that will be between four and six hours long, regarding information about infection control techniques and diseases of the scalp that are appropriate for hair braiding in or outside of a salon setting and any other information to be determined by the board is underway. The board is also developing the brochure that contains a summary of the information contained in the instructional video. Section 329.275.4. The Board plans on filing an emergency rule for fees on/ immediately after August 28th when the bills become law. The Board cannot begin collecting fees until this rule is adopted to allow them to do so pursuant to House Bills 1500 and 1719. Section 329.275.2.

What do I do if I have other questions?

Please contact the Board’s office at (573)751-1052 if you have any additional questions.