

GUIDELINES FOR OPENING A TATTOO, MICROBLADING, OR BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENT

RACINE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION (RCPH)

Licenses and Training

- Establishment License - A license is required to operate any premises where a tattoo or microblading practitioner inserts pigment under the surface of the skin of a person, or any premises where a body piercer performs body piercing, or both.
- Practitioner License - All tattoo, microblade, and body piercing practitioners must hold a Practitioner's License issued by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS). Contact DPS at 608-266-2112 or go to www.dps.wi.gov for more information.
- Bloodborne Pathogen Training – All tattoo, microblade, and body piercing practitioners shall annually complete a bloodborne pathogen training course that is approved by Racine County Public Health Division (RCPH).

Facility

- Floors, Walls, and ceilings in the procedure areas shall be smooth, light colored, and easily cleanable. Acoustical ceiling tiles are prohibited in the procedure areas.
- A hand washing sink shall be located conveniently to each procedure area supplied with hot and cold water, antibacterial soap, and paper towels.
- Lighting in the procedure areas shall have a minimum intensity of 50 foot-candles.
- Procedure areas shall be separated from living quarters by floor to ceiling partitioning and doors which are kept closed. A separate entrance must be provided.
- Each establishment shall have a public toilet room with a hand washing sink supplied with hot and cold water, antibacterial soap, and paper towels.
- A privacy barrier shall be provided for patrons upon request.
- No absorbent surfaces or materials are allowed in the procedure areas.

Equipment

- Equipment and supplies shall be stored in closed cabinets.
- Inks and pigments shall be obtained from sources generally recognized as safe.
- Some equipment must be single use. This would include items like shaving razors, piercing needles, markers/pens/pencils, ink cups, acetate stencils, rubber bands, and tongue depressors.
- Equipment requiring sterilization shall be sterilized at the establishment in an autoclave designed for sterilizing articles by using superheated steam under pressure. All autoclaves shall be approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration.
- An establishment may utilize single-use equipment in place of having an autoclave but will need to obtain special approval from DPS to do so.
- Sharps waste shall be stored in an approved container and disposed of according to law.

Required Forms and Records

- DSPS approved consent form.
- Post procedure after care instruction sheet.
- Sterilization records for autoclave.

Licensing Process

1. Complete and submit the RCPH application.
2. Provide a sketch or construction plan of the facility. This plan shall include the following:
 - A floor plan of the establishment
 - Plumbing fixture locations, such as the location of hand washing sinks, restrooms, and service sinks
 - Specifications for equipment, such as the manufacturer's name and model number
 - Floor, wall, and ceiling finish materials
 - Lighting location, type, and intensity
 - Indicate where cleaning equipment and supplies will be stored
3. Once RCPH has received the completed application and establishment plan we will assign an inspector who will contact you to discuss the information and schedule a pre-license inspection of the facility.
4. After completing the pre-license inspection, we will provide you with a report detailing any deficiencies that will need to be corrected.
5. The license will be issued once any deficiencies noted during the pre-license inspection have been corrected and all license fees have been paid.

References

- Wisconsin State Statute Chapter 463
- Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 221
- www.dsps.wi.gov
- www.racinecounty.com/publichealth
- RCPH phone number: 262-898-4460