



NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS

Memo

TO: Board members

FROM: Dennis Seavers

DATE: August 11, 2020

SUBJECT: School sink rule

At the June 23, 2020 meeting, the board briefly discussed the requirement for schools to have a sink within seven unobstructed feet of the barber chair. The board decided to ask the staff to present background information on this rule and to consider the matter at the next meeting. This memo provides that background information.

The relevant rule is 21 NCAC 06F .0101(b), which establishes the criteria for schools' physical structures. Item 13 in that rule states that schools must "have at least one functional sink or lavatory, with hot and cold water, for each two barber chairs, located within seven unobstructed linear feet of each barber chair." The item also exempts schools permitted on or before September 1, 2009.

Before October 1, 2009, the rule required schools to "have at least one sink or lavatory for each two barber chairs." The rule was amended that year to require the sinks to be within seven unobstructed feet. The board's records don't clearly indicate the motivation for this change, but presumably it was to match the existing requirement for sinks in barber shops to be within seven unobstructed feet of the barber chair.

SUBCHAPTER 06F – BARBER SCHOOL

SECTION .0100 – BARBER SCHOOL

21 NCAC 06F .0101 PHYSICAL STRUCTURE

(a) For the purpose of this Rule, "practical area" means the area of the school where barbering services are provided.

(b) The physical structure of barber schools in North Carolina shall conform to the following criteria:

- (1) be a minimum of 14 linear feet wide;
- (2) be equipped with a minimum of five barber chairs for barber schools within jail or prison facilities or 10 barber chairs for all other schools, and these chairs shall meet the sanitary conditions required by G.S. 86A-15(a)(2);
- (3) have a minimum of 896 square feet in the practical area;
- (4) have an additional 70 square feet in the practical area for each additional barber chair over 10 chairs;
- (5) have at least five linear feet of space between each chair, center to center;
- (6) have no more than two students enrolled per barber chair;
- (7) be equipped with toilet facilities with hand-washing sink or basin;
- (8) have concrete or wood floors covered with smooth, nonporous materials;
- (9) have instructional materials, such as blackboard space or slide programs;
- (10) have a workstand, with a mounted mirror with minimum dimensions of 36 inches tall and 20 inches wide, for each barber chair in the practical area, constructed of material that can be washed and cleansed;
- (11) have a tool cabinet for each barber chair, with a door to limit exposure of the tools to the open air;
- (12) have a towel cabinet, or other method of storage, so that clean towels are stored separate from used towels;
- (13) have at least one functional sink or lavatory, with hot and cold water, for each two barber chairs, located within seven unobstructed linear feet of each barber chair. This sink distance requirement does not apply to schools permitted on or before September 1, 2009;
- (14) have the school separate from any other place or type of business, except for a business allowed by G.S. 86A-15(a)(1)(b), by a wall of ceiling height;
- (15) have a classroom area, separate from the practical area, with desk chairs sufficient to serve the number of students enrolled, and a desk and chair for the instructors;
- (16) have a means for electronic recordation of student hours;
- (17) have a sign displayed in each practical area of the school stating that all barbering services are performed by students; and
- (18) have a bulletin board hanging in each classroom area with a posting of the rules in this Subchapter and the minimum school curricula as set forth in 21 NCAC 06F .0120.

This Paragraph applies to barber schools permitted on or after December 1, 1994 or which undergo structural renovations after that date.

(c) All barber schools seeking a new permit shall receive a satisfactory building inspection by the jurisdiction having authority prior to obtaining a shop inspection pursuant to 21 NCAC 06L .0105.

History Note: Authority G.S. 86A-15; 86A-22;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. February 8, 1978;
Amended Eff. September 1, 2013; October 1, 2009; June 1, 2008; December 1, 1994; May 1, 1989;
Readopted Eff. July 1, 2016;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2018.