

1983 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. 58 (S.C.A.G.), 1983 S.C. Op. Atty. Gen. No. 83-38, 1983 WL 142709

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

Opinion No. 83-38

July 11, 1983

\*1 The Honorable Dalton Sheppard, Jr.  
Member  
House of Representatives  
Box 420  
Irmo, South Carolina 29063

Dear Representative Sheppard:

You have requested that this office advise you as to whether an individual, licensed as a cosmetologist, must also have to obtain a license as an esthetician in order to practice skin care, make-up or similar work. Act No. 388 of the 1982 Statutes at Large defines cosmetology as engaging in ‘. . . waxing, tweezing, cleansing, stimulation, manipulating, beautifying, or similar work, the scalp, face, neck, arms, hands, or by manicuring or pedicuring the nails of any person, or similar work . . .’ Subsection (4) defines esthetician as a person ‘who is licensed to practice skin care, make-up or similar work. Skin care shall be limited to moisturizing, cleansing, or facial or neck massage for the sole purpose of beautifying the skin.’ Since the definition of cosmetology appears to encompass the same type of work as an esthetician performs, a licensed cosmetologist would not have to obtain a separate license to perform this type of work.

This opinion would be the same even if the individual was licensed to practice cosmetology prior to the effective date of the 1982 Act (June 3, 1982). The prior statute, [§ 40-13-10\(1\) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina \(1976\)](#), defined the practice of cosmetic art as ‘. . . the systematic massaging with the hands or mechanical apparatus of the scalp, face, neck, shoulders and hands; the use of cosmetic preparations and antiseptics in connection therewith . . .’ A licensed cosmetologist would therefore have been empowered under this statute to perform the services now performed by an ‘esthetician.’

If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Carol P. Black  
Staff Attorney

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