

# **Arkansas Beauty School-Little Rock Cosmetology Program Consumer Packet**

**8521 Geyer Springs Road, Unit 30  
Little Rock, AR 72209**

[www.studyhair.org](http://www.studyhair.org)

Arkansas Beauty School-LR (ABSLR) is proud of its educational record and cosmetology curriculum. ABS-LR's accredited faculty and staff are dedicated to giving our students the skills to excel in this industry and the knowledge to enhance employment opportunities. The School does not discriminate its admittance on the basis of sex, age, race, color, religion or ethnic origin. Our well-organized cosmetology and instructor program is proud of its educational record, offering day and evening classes, providing students with every opportunity to pursue their education.

FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK, 2014-15 EDITION (<http://stats.bls.gov/oco/>) looking your best has never been easy. It requires exquisite nails, and the perfect hairstyle. Hair has been a center of attention since people first began to care about their appearance. As people increasingly demand styles that are better suited to their individual characteristics, they must choose from a vast array of cosmetic products and rely on professionals to help them make sense of the different options. Although tastes and fashions change from year to year, the basic task of Barbers has remained the same – helping people to look their best.

### ***What do Cosmetologist Do?***

Cosmetologists provide beauty services and treatments to clients. Examples of cosmetology services include hairstyling, makeup application and nail care. To work as a cosmetologist, you need a professional license issued from the state you intend to work in. These license are only available after you complete a state-approved cosmetology training program. Before investing your time and money in a training program, it is wise to know the career outlook for the field, including industry growth, where to work and the average pay.

### ***What is the work environment like?***

Barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists work mostly in a barbershop or salon. Physical stamina is important, because they are on their feet for most of their shift. Many work part time, and nearly half were self-employed in 2014. Many full-time barbers, cosmetologists, and other personal appearance workers put in a 40-hour week, but longer hours are common, especially among self-employed workers. Work schedules may include evenings and weekends, the times when beauty salons and barbershops are busiest. Many workers, especially those who are self-employed, determine their own schedules. In 2008, about 29 percent of barbers, hairstylists and cosmetologists worked part time, and 14 percent had variable schedules.

Barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists held about 656,400 jobs in 2014. Nearly half were self-employed (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/personal-care-and-service/barbers-hairdressers-and-cosmetologists.htm>).

Employment in the detailed occupations that make up barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists was distributed as follows:

- Hairdressers, hairstylists, and cosmetologists 611,200
- Barbers 52,100

Barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists work mostly in a barbershop or salon, although some work in a spa, hotel, or resort. Some lease booth space in other people's salons. A good number manage salons or open their own shop after several years of experience.

Barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists usually work in pleasant surroundings with good lighting. Physical stamina is important, because they are on their feet for most of their shift. Prolonged exposure to some chemicals may cause skin irritation, so they often wear protective clothing, such as disposable gloves or aprons.

### ***How do you become a cosmetologist?***

All states require barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists to be licensed. To qualify for a license, candidates are required to graduate from a state-approved cosmetology program.

*Education and training.* A high school diploma or GED is required for some personal appearance workers in some States. In addition, most States require that barbers and cosmetologists complete a program in a State-licensed barber or cosmetology school. Programs in hairstyling, skin care, and other personal appearance services can be found in both high schools and in public or private postsecondary vocational schools.

Full-time programs in barbering and cosmetology usually last at least 9 months and may lead to an associate's degree. Most of these workers take advanced courses in hairstyling or in other personal appearance services to keep up with the latest trends. Those who want to open their own business also may take courses in sales and marketing.

*Licenses, Certifications, and Registrations.* All states require barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists to be licensed. Qualifications for a license vary by state, but generally, a person must fulfill the following:

- Minimum age of 16
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Graduated from a state-licensed barber or cosmetology school

After graduating from a state-approved training program, students take a state licensing exam that includes a written test and, in some cases, a practical test of styling skills or an oral exam.

In many states, cosmetology training may be credited toward a barbering license and vice versa, and a few states combine the two licenses. A fee usually is required to apply for a license, and periodic renewals may be necessary.

Some states have reciprocity agreements that allow licensed barbers and cosmetologists to get a license in another state without needing additional formal training, but such agreements are not common. Consequently, people who want to work in a particular state should review the laws of that state before entering a training program.

### ***What are the physical demands of the job?***

Barbers, cosmetologists, and other personal appearance workers usually work in clean, pleasant surroundings with good lighting and ventilation. Good health and stamina are important, because these workers are on their feet for most of their shift. Prolonged exposure to some hair and nail chemicals may cause irritation, so protective clothing, such as plastic gloves or aprons, may be worn.

### ***What type of work schedule would I have as a Cosmetologist?***

Many barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists work part time. However, some self-employed workers may have long hours. Work schedules often include evenings and weekends—the times when barbershops and beauty salons are busiest. Those who are self-employed usually determine their own schedules.

### ***How much does a cosmetologist make?***

In May 2015, the median annual wage for barbers was \$24,850. The mean annual wage for hairdressers and cosmetologists was \$27,940 according to The Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)).

Employment of barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists is projected to grow 10% from 2014 to 2024, faster than average for all occupations. Most job openings will result from the need to replace workers who leave the occupation (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/personal-care-and-service/barbers-hairdressers-and-cosmetologists.htm>).

### ***What are the job prospects?***

Job opportunities generally should be good, particularly for licensed personal appearance workers seeking entry-level positions. A large number of job openings will come about from the need to replace workers who transfer to other occupations, retire, or leave the labor force for other reasons. However, workers can expect keen competition for jobs and clients at higher paying salons, as these positions are relatively few and require applicants to compete with a large pool of licensed and experienced cosmetologists. Opportunities will generally be best for those with previous experience and for those licensed to provide a broad range of services.

### ***Important Qualities***

***Creativity.*** Barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists must keep up with the latest trends and be ready to try new hairstyles for their clients.

***Customer-service skills.*** Workers must be pleasant, friendly, and able to interact with customers in order to retain clients.

***Listening skills.*** Barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists should be good listeners. They must listen carefully to what the client wants in order to make sure that the client is happy with the result.

***Physical stamina.*** Barbers, hairdressers, and cosmetologists must be able to stand on their feet for long periods.

***Tidiness.*** Workers must keep a neat personal appearance and keep their work area clean and sanitary. This requirement is necessary for the health and safety of their clients, as well as to make the clients comfortable enough to want to return.

***Time-management skills.*** Time-management skills are important in scheduling appointments and providing services. For example, routine haircuts do not require the precise timing of some other services, such as applying neutralizer after a permanent wave. Clients who receive timely hair care are more likely to return

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION about careers in cosmetology and state licensing requirements can be obtained from:**

Department of Health, Cosmetology Section  
4815 West Markham, Slot B  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501-682-2168

AACS  
American Association of Cosmetology Schools  
9927 E. Bell Rd, Suite 110  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
1-800-831-1086

National Accrediting Commission for Cosmetology Arts and Sciences (NACCAS)  
4401 Ford Avenue Suite 1300 Alexandria, Virginia 22302  
(703)600-7600  
<http://www.naccas.org>

## **8 Reasons to Pursue a Career in Cosmetology**

Cosmetology is one of the most creative, exciting, and rewarding careers available today. Just consider what's waiting for you!

1. Cosmetology offers you the potential to earn an excellent salary and benefits.
2. It lets you become a working professional and begin earning money very quickly. At Arkansas Beauty School, as a full time student, you can complete the program in less than a year!
3. Cosmetology gives you the power to help others look and feel their best. Whether you are giving a child their first haircut or creating that perfect cut for your client's wedding day, you'll become a friend, confidant, and most importantly, a trusted image consultant who guides them from one point to the next.
4. Cosmetology gives you career options! As a licensed cosmetologist, you can work as a hair designer or sales representative. If you like to teach others, become a barber instructor. You can work in your local salon, on a cruise ship or at an exotic resort.
5. Cosmetology provides job openings all the time, everywhere. There is a huge demand for cosmetologists in almost every salon across the country. You will be able to find a place to work where you feel comfortable and can learn to grow as a professional.
6. Cosmetology lets you work a flexible schedule. What's great about cosmetology is that there's almost always every salon that's open to the hours that you want to work. Need to work around caring for children or parents? It's possible with Cosmetology.
7. Cosmetology is one of the only careers that lets you develop and pursue your creative and business talents at your own pace. Love the creative side of business? Then there's a career path as a color specialist, artistic director, platform artist or even a stylist for movies or television waiting for you. Want to focus on your business skills? Then consider becoming a salon manager, salon coordinator, regional manager for a chain salon company or distributor salon consultant. The opportunities are endless....
8. Cosmetology lets you take your career anywhere. Whether you need to move from one community to another for family commitments or want to go clear across the country to pursue your dreams, there is always a salon waiting for your talents. Note: some states require additional educational requirements to transfer your license. Check with your State Board of Barbering for more information.)

**Outcomes Rates**

Completion 50%  
Licensure 100%  
Placement 100%

**License Requirements:** A candidate who wishes to obtain a Cosmetologist license must pass both a written and a practical examination. To qualify to take either of these examinations, a candidate must:

1. Have successfully completed a 1500 hour course of instruction in a cosmetology section approved school of cosmetology. School must submit a Certificate of Training Form. Forms can be downloaded online at [www.arkansas.gov/cos](http://www.arkansas.gov/cos)
2. Be at least 16 years old.
3. Must have completed the 10<sup>th</sup> grade or its equivalent.

Cosmetology Practical Exam Fee \$65.00

Cosmetology Written Exam Fee: \$60.00

**Entrance Requirements for Arkansas Beauty School-Little Rock**

- Proof of date of birth
- Social Security Card
- High School Diploma or sealed transcript/G.E.D Diploma

**Tuition and Fee Information**

**COSMETOLOGY PROGRAM**

TUITION:	\$18,540
REGISTRATION FEE:	\$ 100
APPLICATION FEE:	\$ 50
BOOKS, SUPPLIES, UNIFORM AND KIT:	\$ 1,250
TOTAL COST:	\$19,940

Enrollment: A registration fee and application fee must be paid to reserve a place in the class of your choice. All necessary enrollment requirements are to be completed at least two weeks prior to class start date.

Installment Method: Students may choose to make monthly payments. The payment plan is as follows: students are able to make 10 monthly payments in the amount of \$1500.00. The first payment is made no later than the first day of class and then continues monthly until paid in full.

# Financial Aid

## What types of financial aid are available?

Information for financial aid is available at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).

Arkansas College of Barbering and Hair Design is approved by the United States Department of Education. Barber/Cosmetology students wanting financial aid should consider the various programs

Our programs are set by the U.S. Department of Education guidelines. Whether a student is eligible for assistance, and how much is determined by the need of the particular student. Each case is different. The school makes an evaluation on the individual, privately and impartially.

### Federal Pell Grant

- A Federal Pell Grant, unlike a loan, does not have to be repaid. Federal Pell Grants usually are awarded only to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's or a professional degree.
- Amounts can change yearly. The maximum Federal Pell Grant award is \$5,730 for the 2015–16 award year (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016). For the 2016–17 award year (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017), the maximum award will be \$5,815. The amount you get, though, will depend on
  - your financial need,
  - your cost of attendance,
  - your status as a full-time or part-time student, and
  - your plans to attend school for a full academic year or less.
- You may not receive Federal Pell Grant funds from more than one school at a time.
- Effective on July 1, 2012, you can receive the Federal Pell Grant for no more than 12 semesters or the equivalent (roughly six years)

### Federal Direct Loans- Subsidized and Unsubsidized

- Subsidized and unsubsidized loans are federal student loans for eligible students to help cover the cost of higher education at a four-year college or university, community college, or trade, career, or technical school. The U.S. Department of Education offers eligible students at participating schools Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans.
- **LOANS MUST BE REPAID.**

### Subsidized Loans

- Direct Subsidized Loans are available to undergraduate students with financial need.
- Your school determines the amount you can borrow, and the amount may not exceed your financial need.
- The U.S. Department of Education pays the interest on a Direct Subsidized Loan
  - while you're in school at least half-time,
  - for the first six months after you leave school (referred to as a grace period\*), and
  - during a period of deferment (a postponement of loan payments).

### Unsubsidized Loans

- Direct Unsubsidized Loans are available to undergraduate and graduate students; there is no requirement to demonstrate financial need.
- Your school determines the amount you can borrow based on your cost of attendance and other financial aid you receive.
- You are responsible for paying the interest on a Direct Unsubsidized Loan during all periods.
- If you choose not to pay the interest while you are in school and during grace periods and deferment or forbearance periods, your interest will accrue (accumulate) and be capitalized (that is, your interest will be added to the principal amount of your loan).

### PLUS

- The U.S. Department of Education is the lender.
- The borrower must not have an adverse credit history.
- The maximum loan amount is the student's cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial aid received.

## Who qualifies for financial aid?

1. You are enrolled at least half time (23 hours per week)
2. You are a US citizen or an eligible non-citizen
3. You show you have a need (the difference between the cost of education and expected family contribution). Need is determined by the information supplied by the student on the application for financial aid (FAFSA).
4. You are making satisfactory progress towards completing your program of student.
5. You are not in default on an education loan.
6. You do not have an overpayment on a Pell Grant or SEOG at any school.

## How do I apply for Financial Aid?

1. The student must complete the application for Federal student aid at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
2. If you are interested in taking out a student loan, you must complete entrance counseling at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).
3. For loans, you must also complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN) at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).
4. Use the school code when completing the FAFSA, Entrance Counseling, and MPN. The Financial Aid Office must receive confirmation electronically.

## How does my tuition and fees get paid?

Disbursements are made directly to the school. In most cases, the Federal Student Loans and Pell Grant will be disbursed at

1- 450 hours  
451-900 hours  
901-1200 hours  
1201-1500 hours

Further explanation of the available programs may be obtained from our Financial Aid Administrator.