

Program	Contact	Date Updated
Cosmetology and Esthetics	BreAnne Walker, Associate Dean (704) 748-5255 Walker.breanne@gaston.edu	June 10, 2026

State	Meets state educational requirements for licensure or certification	Does not meet state educational requirements for licensure or certification	Undetermined	State	Meets state educational requirements for licensure or certification	Does not meet state educational requirements for licensure or certification	Undetermined
Alabama			X	Nebraska			X
Alaska			X	Nevada			X
American Samoa			X	New Hampshire			X
Arizona			X	New Jersey			X
Arkansas			X	New Mexico			X
California			X	New York			X
Colorado			X	North Carolina	X		
Connecticut			X	North Dakota			X
Delaware			X	Northern Mariana Islands			X
Florida			X	Ohio			X
Georgia			X	Oklahoma			X
Guam			X	Oregon			X
Hawaii			X	Pennsylvania			X
Idaho			X	Puerto Rico			X
Illinois			X	Rhode Island			X
Indiana			X	South Carolina			X
Iowa			X	South Dakota			X
Kansas			X	Tennessee			X
Kentucky			X	Texas			X
Louisiana			X	US Virgin Islands			X
Maine			X	Utah			X
Maryland			X	Vermont			X
Massachusetts			X	Virginia			X
Michigan			X	Washington			X
Minnesota			X	West Virginia			X
Mississippi			X	Wisconsin			X
Missouri			X	Wyoming			X
Montana			X				

Comments: A person can request Reciprocity into another state with a current NC COS or Esthetics license. Some states may require 1-3 years of work experience.

Cosmetology and Esthetics licensure requirements vary by state and other individual factors; credentials, training, job experience, criminal history, and military experience. Student applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

*Alaska-will accept 1,500 hours with one year of full-time employment.

*Arizona-needs one year of practice in current state.

*California-must have a current cosmetology license.

*Idaho-The holder of a current license in another state may also be eligible for licensure by endorsement if an applicant either: holds a current license from another state whose standards are not less than Idaho (1600 hours), or the applicant holds a current license from another state and has met work experience requirements of at least one year of actual practice under certification or licensure in the three years immediately prior to the application in the profession for which the license is being sought.

*Louisiana-Reciprocity to those states that use the NIC (National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology) test.

*West Virginia-Accepts the training provided in other states if the state uses the NIC examination for licensure.

For state agencies contacts for cosmetology, visit <https://www.associatedhairprofessionals.com/cosmetologist-state-board-info>. Students may contact these offices with questions related to transferability of credentials between states.