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**Rules of**  
**Department of Insurance,**  
**Financial Institutions and**  
**Professional Registration**  
**Division 2267—Office of Tattooing, Body Piercing,**  
**and Branding**  
**Chapter 2—Licensing Requirements**

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**Title 20—DEPARTMENT OF  
INSURANCE, FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS AND  
PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION**  
Division 2267—Office of Tattooing, Body  
Piercing, and Branding  
Chapter 2—Licensing Requirements

**20 CSR 2267-2.010 Licenses**

*PURPOSE: This rule outlines the requirements for obtaining a tattoo, body piercing and branding license.*

(1) No person shall operate a tattoo establishment, body piercing establishment and/or branding establishment unless he or she has obtained a license for the establishment from the division. An application for an establishment license shall be notarized and accompanied by the appropriate fee. Only one (1) application shall be required for any single establishment.

(2) No person shall tattoo, body pierce, and/or brand another person, use or assume the title of tattooist, body piercer, and/or brander, designate or represent themselves to be a tattooist, body piercer, and/or brander unless he or she has obtained a license from the division for the profession practiced. An application for a practitioner license shall be notarized, accompanied by the appropriate fee, and evidence of having successfully completed the following:

(A) A bloodborne pathogen training program (or equivalent) which includes infectious disease control; waste disposal; hand-washing techniques; sterilization equipment operation and methods; and sanitization, disinfection, and sterilization methods and techniques (Example: “Preventing Disease Transmission” (American Red Cross) and “Bloodborne Pathogen Training” (U.S. OSHA)); and

(B) First aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); and

(C) An apprenticeship, which shall include at least three hundred (300) documented hours of practical experience that includes at a minimum fifty (50) completed procedures in each area that the applicant has filed an application for licensure. The documented work shall be certified and supervised by a currently licensed Missouri practitioner or by a practitioner who is licensed to practice tattooing, body piercing, and/or branding in another state, territory, or commonwealth whose requirements for licensure are substantially equivalent to the requirements for licensure in Missouri. The supervising practitioner shall be present during the entire procedure and shall be licensed in the same field

of practice in which the applicant has filed a license application; or

(D) In lieu of an apprenticeship, an applicant may submit proof that he/she has successfully completed a course of study in tattooing, body piercing, and/or branding in a school licensed or accredited as a school by any state or federal agency. The course of study must have been completed in the same practice area that the applicant has applied for a license.

1. The course of study shall consist of at least three hundred (300) documented hours of instruction and/or training which shall include, at a minimum, instruction in sanitation, equipment handling, disease control, skin treatment and/or skin infections, design and/or artistry, and clinical practice. Applicants shall submit an official transcript demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this section. Official transcripts must be mailed directly to the division by the school.

2. A person applying under this subsection shall also submit proof of practical experience that includes at least twenty-five (25) completed procedures in the same field that the applicant has applied for licensure. For purposes of this subsection, proof of practical experience may be certified to by a school which meets the requirements of this rule or by any person licensed to practice tattooing, branding, or body piercing in another state, territory, or commonwealth; or

(E) Alternatively, and in lieu of an apprenticeship, an applicant may submit proof or other evidence which verifies that he/she has, within the last seven (7) years, practiced for a minimum of three (3) years in the same practice area that the applicant has applied for licensure. Sufficient proof or evidence may include, but is not limited to:

1. Affidavits from prior employer(s) or supervisors;

2. W-2 or 1099 forms; or

3. Tax returns verifying occupational status.

(3) Within a reasonable period of time after receiving a completed notarized application for a license, the division shall either approve the application and issue a license or deny the application. If the application for license is denied, the division shall give the applicant reasons in writing for the denial and provide information about how the applicant may appeal the decision.

(4) The division shall not issue a license to a new or temporary tattoo, body piercing and/or branding establishment or a new operator at an existing establishment without completing an inspection of the establishment

to ensure that the establishment complies with the requirements set forth in these rules.

(5) Applicants who are approved for licensure shall receive one (1) license. Duplicate licenses may be provided upon payment of the appropriate fee pursuant to the rules promulgated by the division.

(6) Reciprocity. A person licensed to practice tattooing, body piercing, and/or branding in another state, territory, or commonwealth may apply for licensure by reciprocity in the same practice area if the other state, territory, or commonwealth has requirements that are substantially equivalent to the requirements of Missouri for the license sought. Applicants for licensure by reciprocity shall submit or cause to be submitted the following:

(A) A completed notarized application and the accompanying application fee;

(B) A copy of a current tattoo, body piercing, and/or branding license from the other state, territory, or commonwealth;

(C) A current copy of the rules and regulations pertaining to tattooing, body piercing, and/or branding from the other state, territory, or commonwealth; and

(D) A letter of license verification mailed by the state, territory, or commonwealth licensing agency to the division which shall include—

1. Verification that the applicant holds a valid and unexpired license;

2. The license issuance date;

3. The license expiration date; and

4. A statement verifying whether the applicant has ever been subject to discipline or if there are any complaints or investigations pending against the licensee.

5. Upon request, a consent that allows the office to examine disciplinary, complaint, and/or investigative records of the other licensing authority.

(E) A person applying for licensure by reciprocity from a state, territory, or commonwealth whose licensing requirements are less stringent than those in force in the state of Missouri shall be required to meet the requirements of 20 CSR 2267-2.010(2).

*AUTHORITY: section 324.522, RSMo Supp. 2007.\* This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 267-2.010. Original rule filed Aug. 15, 2002, effective Feb. 28, 2003. Moved to 20 CSR 2267-2.010, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed April 10, 2008, effective Nov. 30, 2008.*

*\*Original authority: 324.522, RSMo 1998, amended 1999, 2001, 2007.*



**20 CSR 2267-2.020 Fees**

*PURPOSE: This rule establishes and fixes various fees and charges authorized by section 324.522, RSMo.*

(1) The operator of a tattoo, body piercing or branding establishment shall pay a biennial license fee to the office as follows:

- (A) Tattoo establishment \$187
- (B) Body piercing establishment \$187
- (C) Branding establishment \$187
- (D) Combined tattoo, body piercing or branding establishment \$225
- (E) Renewal for a tattoo, body piercing or branding establishment \$187
- (F) Renewal for a combined tattoo, body piercing and/or branding establishment \$225

(2) The operator of a temporary tattoo, body piercing and/or branding establishment shall pay a fee to the division as follows:

- (A) Temporary tattoo establishment (per event) \$125
- (B) Temporary body piercing establishment (per event) \$125
- (C) Temporary branding establishment (per event) \$125
- (D) Temporary combined tattoo, body piercing and/or branding establishment (per event) \$150

(3) A person who wishes to practice as a tattooist, body piercer, or brander shall pay a biennial fee to the division as follows:

- (A) Tattooist \$ 37
- (B) Renewal for tattooist \$ 37
- (C) Body piercer \$ 37
- (D) Renewal for a body piercer \$ 37
- (E) Brander \$ 37
- (F) Renewal for a brander \$ 37
- (G) Combined practitioner \$ 75
- (H) Renewal for combined practitioner \$ 75

(4) Additional Fees:

- (A) Duplicate license fee \$ 5
- (B) Bad check fee \$25

*AUTHORITY: section 324.522, RSMo Supp. 2005.\* This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 267-2.020. Original rule filed Aug. 15, 2002, effective Feb. 28, 2003. Amended: Filed Feb. 15, 2005, effective Aug. 30, 2005. Moved to 20 CSR 2267-2.020, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed July 17, 2006, effective Jan. 30, 2007.*

*\*Original authority: 324.522, RSMo 1998, amended 1999, 2001.*

**20 CSR 2267-2.030 License Renewal**

*PURPOSE: This rule outlines the process for renewing a practitioner's license and/or an establishment license.*

(1) All practitioner and establishment licenses shall be renewed biennially. All licenses shall be renewed in odd numbered years and shall expire on June 30 as defined in 20 CSR 2231-2.010. Failure of a practitioner or the holder of an establishment license to renew the license shall cause the license to expire. A practitioner who continues to practice or a holder of an establishment license who continues to operate without a valid license shall be deemed to be practicing in violation of sections 324.520 to 324.524, RSMo.

(2) Failure to receive notice shall not relieve the licensee or the holder of an establishment license of the obligation to renew and pay the required fee prior to the expiration date.

(3) Each practitioner or holder of an establishment license shall provide the division with a completed and signed renewal form containing updated information since the preceding application/renewal period, as well as the required fee for renewal.

(4) Renewals shall be postmarked no later than the expiration date of the license.

(5) Deposit of a licensee's or operator's renewal fee by the division does not constitute acceptance of the renewal application. Any practitioner or holder of an establishment license who fails to renew the license by the expiration date shall not perform any act for which a license is required.

(6) A practitioner or a holder of an establishment license who fails to renew said license by the expiration date shall reapply under the regulations in effect at the time of reapplication.

*AUTHORITY: section 324.522, RSMo Supp. 2007.\* This rule originally filed as 4 CSR 267-2.030. Original rule filed Aug. 15, 2002, effective Feb. 28, 2003. Moved to 20 CSR 2267-2.030, effective Aug. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed June 16, 2008, effective Dec. 30, 2008.*

*\*Original authority: 324.522, RSMo 1998, amended 1999, 2001, 2007.*