

FAQ for The Safe Body Art Act (AB 300)

What is the Safe Body Art Act?

It is a law that has set a uniform set of standards for the body art industry. The law's regulations apply to all body art practices, including piercing, tattoos, permanent cosmetics, and branding. The Safe Body Art Act became law on January 1, 2012. Body art facilities and practitioners throughout the State of California are to have complied as of July 1, 2012 to.

Where can I find the law?

Legislation known as "The Safe Body Art Act" revised California Health and Safety Code, Sections 119300-119327. Here is a link...http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/asm/ab_0251-0300/ab_300_bill_2011009_chaptered.html

What is body art?

"Body art" means body piercing, tattooing, branding, or application of permanent cosmetics

Does the piercing of the ear count as body art?

The piercing of the ear with a mechanical stud and clasp device does not constitute body art as defined in AB 300.

Who regulates and inspects body art businesses?

Mendocino County Environmental Health Services is the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) charged with enforcing the regulations for body art within Mendocino County.

Are there Registration/Permit fees? How do I register?

Yes, the annual registration for practitioners is \$42 and the annual permit fee for the facility is \$125. Please visit our website at www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hhsa/chs/eh/index.htm and click on the heading "Body Art" for instructions and to find the permit/registration.

Whom do I pay?

You will receive an application from Mendocino County Environmental Health Services with the information on assessed fee and how to pay.

What do I need to submit with my facility application?

Body art facility owners are required to submit an "Infection Prevention Control Plan" for review and approval (see Section 119313 for minimum details of what the plan needs to include) along with their application. A floor plan of the facility identifying work areas, storage, hand wash sinks, equipment, etc. are to be included with the application.

What do I need to submit with my practitioner registration application?

A practitioner should submit proof of Hepatitis B vaccination or, if you are in the process of completing the series, check the “certification of completed vaccination” box and submit a copy of associated medical documentation (e.g. vaccination card). If you are declining the Hepatitis B vaccination series, provide a signed copy of a Hepatitis B Declination Statement and submit it with the application document.

Also provide a copy of your Bloodborne Pathogen Training certificate. A practitioner is required to undergo no less than two hours of a Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control training prior to registering with the local health department, and annually thereafter. This training must be provided by a person “knowledgeable in exposure control and infection prevention in the body art setting” and who are approved by the LEA in accordance with the provisions of Section 119307.

Does the Bloodborne Pathogen training need to be received in-person or can it be obtained online?

The Bloodborne Pathogen training may be acquired on-line or in person, as long as it meets the requirements of Section 119307.

Are there requirements for the floor plan/layout of a body art facility?

Yes, they are specified in Section 119314.

Are there construction requirements for a new body art facility or remodel?

Yes. They are specified in Section 119314.

Will there be an inspection of my facility?

Yes. There will be a minimum of one inspection a year.

What if I don’t register or get a permit?

AB 300 makes performing body art without being registered, operation of a body art facility without a health permit, or the operation of a temporary body art event without a permit, a misdemeanor. In addition, the LEA is authorized to assess an administrative penalty, in an amount not less than \$25 and not more than \$1,000, for violating a provision of the bill. The bill also authorizes the LEA, in addition to these penalties, to impose a penalty of up to three times the cost of the registration or permit to anyone who fails to obtain needed permits and/or registrations.