

City of New Haven Department of Public Health Salon Ordinance (Tattoo/Body Piercing)



PRESENTATION FOR OPERATORS
MAY 2025
PRESENTED BY:
BRIAN WNEK, MPH, REHS/RS
PROGRAM DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



Statement of Purpose

To adopt an ordinance that provides for the **licensing and inspecting** all Tattoo/Body Piercing Establishments in the City of New Haven.

Inspections will focus on **operational standards and maintenance of establishments and to minimize health hazards**.

Capability to **respond to and investigate complaints** concerning the operation or condition of these establishments.

Accurately count the number of establishments and individuals operating in the City of New Haven, which is integral to data collection.

Effectively enforce the provisions of CT General Statutes on Tattoo/Body Piercing.

The purpose
of this
presentation
is to:

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1. Define what a Tattoo Establishment and a Body Piercing Establishment is
 2. Application Process
 3. Frequency of Inspections
 4. Fee Structure
 5. Overview of the inspection form
 6. Provide Participants a Question-and-Answer Period

Tattoo/Body Piercing Establishment Definitions

A **Tattoo Establishment** is “any room or space where tattooing is practiced or where the business of tattooing is conducted or any part thereof.”

A **Body Piercing Establishment** is “any room or space where body piercing is practiced or where the business of body piercing is conducted or any part thereof.”

License to operate a Tattoo/Body Piercing Establishment



No person shall operate or maintain a TATTOO/BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENT unless said person has obtained a license to operate from the Director of Health.



Licensure shall occur upon application and/or subsequent inspection and shall be valid for one (1) year unless otherwise revoked for cause.



Licenses are not transferable.

Plan Review

- **No Tattoo / Body Piercing establishment may be relocated, built, remodeled, or converted** without the approval of NHV Health and other relevant city agencies.
- **Plans for construction, remodeling, or alteration must be submitted to the Director of Health for approval before work begins.** The plans must show the layout, materials, and equipment used. Approval will be granted if the plans meet this regulation and state laws.
- **Before opening, the Director of Health or their agent will inspect the establishment** to ensure it complies with approved plans, this regulation, and state laws.
- For questions related to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please contact:
Gretchen Knauff
Director, Office of Services for Persons with Disabilities
Office: 203.946.7651
Cell: 475.254.5654
www.newhavenct.gov/Disability

Tattoo/Body Piercing Establishment Application

An online application has been set up for all establishments to utilize

As part of the application process, establishments must submit the following information as part of their application:

- The name(s) of the partners, members, officers, or, if applicable, the duly authorized representative thereof, including but not limited to a fiduciary, trustee, or receiver, and their addresses.
- Establishment name, proposed hours of operation
- Names of all employees and their exact duties, as well as a complete description of services provided
- Inventory of equipment to be utilized in the tattoo or body piercing procedure
- A copy of the written aftercare instructions provided to each client
- A copy of the informed consent that each client must sign

Tattoo/Body Piercing Establishment Application

Each Tattoo Technician shall provide NHV Health with the following information:

- Name
- Home address and home phone number
- Location of the Tattoo Establishment where he or she is employed
- Proof that he/she is licensed as a Tattoo Technician by the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health

Tattoo/Body Piercing Establishment Application

Each Body Piercer shall provide NHV Health with the following information:

- Name, home address, and home phone number
- **Location** of the Body Piercing Establishment where he or she is employed
- Provide proof that **they are licensed as a Tattoo Technician** by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health
 - If the Body Piercer is not licensed as a Tattoo Technician, he or she must:
 - Complete a bloodborne pathogens course yearly. The course shall be approved by the Director of Health or authorized agent, and a certificate of completion must be submitted to the Department and posted in a prominent location in the establishment where clients can observe it

Inspection Frequency

Tattoo/Body Piercing Establishments will be inspected **annually**

or

As deemed necessary due to a failed inspection, complaint, or a public health emergency.

Fees

Establishments will be required to obtain an **annual license** from NHV Health **to operate**.

The fees are as follows:

- A \$150.00 annual license fee + a \$250.00 annual inspection fee (Total= \$400.00)
- A \$100.00 application fee for all new licenses/ establishments will be required
- A fee of \$150.00 will be charged if a second reinspection is required

Fees are subject to change based on the approved annual budget by the City of New Haven's Board of Alders, which is included in the annual city budget and may be amended.

Tattoo/Body Piercing Inspection Form Overview

Standardized State of CT Department of Public Health Inspection Form

Inspection categories include:

- Water Supply
- Sewage Disposal
- Facility Requirements
- Record Keeping
- Workstations
- Personnel
- Sanitation and Sterilization
- Machines and Set-up

Tattoo and Body Piercing Shop
Health Code Inspection

Name of Establishment:

Address:

Services: Tattooing,Body Piercing

Inspection Date: 2024-Dec-12

Key: IN: In compliance | OUT: Out of compliance | N/O: Not observed | N/A: Not applicable

Water Supply	Compliance	Work Stations	Compliance
Water supply adequate and safe	IN	In-residence shop completely separate from living/sleeping quarters	IN
Hot and cold water pressurized and provided as required	IN	No foods or beverages on premises unless permitted	IN
Sewage Disposal	Compliance	No animals/pets in working areas	IN
Approved method of sewage disposal	IN	Work stations properly maintained	IN
Facility Requirements	Compliance	A labeled sharps container available for each work station	IN
Approved plumbing fixtures present, clean, and maintained	IN	A door, partition, or curtain present in procedure rooms to provide privacy	IN
No potential cross-connection, back siphonage, backflow	IN	All work surfaces non-porous, durable, and easy to clean and sanitize	IN
Toilets and washbasins adequate, convenient, accessible, designed, installed	IN	Hand sinks easily accessible	IN
Proper restroom fixtures in good repair and clean	IN	Personnel	Compliance
Anti-bacterial soap in dispensers, single-use towels provided at hand sinks	IN	All personnel properly licensed as required by DPH	IN
Adequate number of covered refuse containers provided and clean	IN	Licenses are posted in a conspicuous area	IN
Utility sink provided for instrument cleaning	IN	All personnel are up-to-date with bloodborne pathogens and First Aid training	IN
Outside disposal area and enclosures properly constructed and clean	IN	No personnel with infectious or communicable diseases present	IN
Floors/walls/ceilings properly constructed, in good repair, and clean	IN	Good hygienic practices, smoking/vaping prohibited	IN
Adequate ventilation, no excess heat or odors	IN	Hands washed effectively before and after serving each client	IN
Record Keeping	Compliance	Clean outer garments	IN
Informed consent, waiver, and medical release forms on file for a minimum of 2 years for each client with properly documented/verified identification	IN	Sanitation and Sterilization	Compliance
Appropriate written aftercare instructions available	IN	Disposable gloves available	IN
Needle stick protocol available	IN	Disinfected utensils kept in sanitary covered containers when not in use	IN
Sharps collection service records maintained and available	IN	Proper use of recommended disinfection techniques/solutions	IN
A complete set of procedures outlining the use of the equipment and disinfecting/sanitizing procedures	IN	Attached equipment and fixtures are properly constructed, maintained, and clean	IN

Water Supply



Water supply is adequate and safe



Hot and cold water available

Sewage Disposal

Approved Method Use

Facility Requirements

Approved plumbing fixtures, clean, and maintained

Utility sink provided for washing equipment

No cross-connections

Toilets and washbasins are adequate, convenient, in good repair, and accessible

Soap provided at hand sinks with disposable paper towels

Adequate number of covered trash cans provided

Exterior trash area properly constructed and clean

Floors, walls, and ceilings in good repair and clean

Adequate ventilation provided

Record Keeping



Informed consent, waiver, and medical release forms on file for a minimum of two years for each client with adequately documented and verified identification



Appropriate written aftercare instructions



Needle stick protocol available



Sharps collection service records maintained and available for review



A complete set of procedures outlining the use of the equipment and disinfecting/sanitizing procedures

Workstations

Establishment completely separate from living/sleeping quarters

No foods or beverages on premises unless permitted

No animals/pets in working areas

Workstations properly maintained

A labeled sharps container available for each workstation

A door, partition, or curtain present in procedure rooms to provide privacy

All work surfaces non-porous, durable, and easy to clean and sanitize

Hand sinks easily accessible

Personnel

All personnel properly licensed as required by DPH

Licenses are posted in a conspicuous area

All personnel are up-to-date with bloodborne pathogen training and either the [American Red Cross](#) or [American Heart Association](#) Basic First Aid training (copies of certifications onsite)

No personnel with infectious or communicable diseases present

Good hygienic practices, smoking/vaping prohibited

Hands washed effectively before and after serving each client

Clean outer garments

Sanitation and Sterilization



Disposable gloves available



Disinfected utensils kept in sanitary covered containers when not in use



Proper use of recommended disinfection techniques/solutions



Attached equipment and fixtures are properly constructed, maintained, and clean

Machines and Set-ups

- All chemicals and liquids are properly labeled and stored
- All items in setup are new, disinfected, or sterilized, and only those pieces of equipment necessary for the procedure are present
- Sterilizer packs intact and have temperature/sterilizer indicator and posted expiration date that does not exceed 6 months
- Ultrasonic cleaning unit present and functioning with an appropriate cleaning agent
- Autoclave is approved, cleaned, and properly maintained with up-to-date spore test results (if used)
- Autoclave area at least 36" from the ultrasonic cleaning unit
- Non-disposable instruments cleaned and disinfected after each customer
- Non-disposable instruments processed in an ultrasonic unit, packed individually in sterilized packs, and sterilized by steam autoclave
- Proper use of single-service items

Correction of Violations

If any establishment is found to be unsanitary, the Director of Health shall issue a written order requiring it to correct any inspection violations identified within a specific time frame.



If the establishment fails to make said correction within this period of time, the establishment's license may be revoked or suspended.

Access to Full Ordinance

To read the City of New Haven Salon (including Tattoo/Body Piercing) Ordinance, visit

NHVHealth.org/salon-licensing-inspection

Benefits

Promotes **standardized** public health practices and guidelines by ensuring the sanitary conditions of salons

Prevents infection and disease

Protects employees and customers

Guarantees that **all Tattoo and Body Piercing establishments are licensed**

Guarantees that **all employees are licensed to practice**

- Per CT State Law, all individuals must hold a license to perform a service and must have a current/active license available for review during inspection
- Provides contact information with salons for Public Health PSA / Education
- Provides an accurate database of licensees and an **accurate number of salons operating in the City of New Haven**

Additional Information From the State of CT DPH

1. Tattoo License and Information
2. Body Piercing Information

Questions or Need Help With Your Application?

Please contact:

Mr. Geovanny Rivera

Administrative Assistant, NHV Health

grivera@newhavenct.gov

Office Phone: 203-946-8174

NHVHealth.org/salon-licensing-inspection/