

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



EDWARD P. ROMAINE  
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Gregson H. Pigott, MD, MPH  
Commissioner

## Suffolk County Body Art Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **I was a licensed/certified artist in another jurisdiction; do I need to complete the Apprenticeship requirement?** *No. A reciprocal Body Artist Certificate can be issued once you have completed the “Attestation” form and submitted the form along with the required Letter of Recommendation from your former shop owner, and subsequently attend the Body Artist Certificate Class and pass the written exam given by this Department.*
- **What requirements does my mentor need to meet in order to be approved?** *Article 14 requires that a mentor hold a valid Suffolk County Body Artist Certificate for a period of no less than 3 years, and be in good standing with the Department (no documented violations).*
- **Can I perform my apprenticeship outside of Suffolk County?** *The Suffolk County Department of Health Services does not have jurisdiction over any other license/certificate program. As long as you comply with the regulations for the jurisdiction you are working in, experience gained in an outside jurisdiction will be reviewed and accepted on a case-by-case basis. An “Attestation” form must be completed in addition to your apprentice log, and the credentials/experience of the person acting as your mentor outside of Suffolk County shall be submitted. A variance of the mentor requirement can be requested in writing, as allowed for by section 760-1420 of Article 14.*
- **Can my consent forms and patron records be electronically signed and stored?** *While Article 14, section 760-1411.1.c does require that “records shall be entered in ink, on paper”, a variance of this section can be requested in writing, as allowed for by section 760-1420 of Article 14.*
- **I want to be able to perform Cosmetic Tattoo procedures (such as microblading), but I do not have an equivalent of a Body Artist license/certificate from another jurisdiction. Do I need to complete the Apprenticeship requirement?** *Not necessarily. Often times, professional licenses and trainings can be used as a substitute for the apprenticeship requirement of Article 14. Most commonly, persons who are licensed estheticians and cosmetologists have completed education programs as provided for by the New York State Division of Licensing Services and the mandated hours of your education program in skin enhancement procedures can be accepted along with documentation of your modality-specific training. A variance of the apprenticeship requirement can be requested in writing, as allowed for by section 760-1420 of Article 14. The Department will provide you with documents to complete in order to facilitate this variance request.*
- **Can I perform Body Art procedures from my home or home business office?** *Article 14 does not contain any specific restrictions regarding working from your home. However, Article 14 does require that all Body Art procedures be performed in a permitted facility. In order to obtain a permit for a home business, you will need to provide proof of a business certificate from your*



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*local Town or Village Building Department or Zoning Board that allows you to conduct business from your residence. If you are approved to conduct business out of your residence by your local Town or Village, you will still need to go through the plan review process in order to obtain a permit from this Department.*

- **Do I need to have a Body Artist Certificate and a permitted facility to work out of, even if I am performing Body Art procedures on friends and family for free?** *YES! There is no distinction in Article 14 between performing Body Art procedures for free or for compensation. Article 14 does not provide an exemption for performing Body Art procedures on friends or family relatives.*
- **I am a duly licensed Health Professional (as defined by New York State Ed Law); can I perform Body Art procedures without a Body Artist Certificate?** *Yes, Article 14 does allow for licensed Health Professionals to perform Body Art procedures without a valid Body Artist Certificate. However, an individual is required to hold a Body Artist Certificate if they are the sole owner/operator of a permitted Body Art Establishment.*

