

Hairstylist

Hairstylists provide the following professional services to their customers: hair and scalp treatment and shampooing, hair cutting, shaping and trimming; hair styling, using heat and chemical preparations; hair colouring; face and scalp massage and treatment; servicing of wigs and hairpieces; personal services related to the practice of beauty culture such as eyebrow or eyelash treatment and manicures.

THE JOB

WORKING CONDITIONS

Hairstylists work indoors in a pleasant environment, but must stand all day and sometimes work through their breaks. They often work weekends and evenings, and may be required to work extra hours during peak periods, i.e. Christmas.

WAGES

Apprentices earn at least 60% of the prevailing journeyperson wage in the first period and 80% in the second. The average wage for qualified Hairstylists is difficult to estimate because they can be paid in several different ways: hourly wages, straight salary or wage/salary plus commission. Income also depends greatly on the salon's client base and salon prices. Tips and gratuities for good work are a common supplement to a Hairstylist's income. The average wage ranges from \$12 - \$17 per hour, but can be as high as \$25 - \$50 per hour.

EMPLOYMENT AND ADVANCEMENT

Most Hairstylists work in beauty salons. Part-time work is more common than in most other occupations.

Hairstylists can move into other areas such as sales positions for beauty supply houses, or colour or permanent wave technician (demonstrating new techniques at hair shows or in salons for staff). Advancement is usually limited to managing a salon or owning and operating one's own establishment.

THE APPRENTICESHIP

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND SKILLS

To enter the Hairstylist trade, an applicant must score at least 70% on the Trade Entrance Exam. The applicant must also find an appropriate employer who is willing to hire and train the apprentice.

Students enrolled in the Schools North Apprenticeship Program (SNAP) are given special exemption, and are required to write the trades entrance examination prior to signing the apprenticeship contract. They must obtain 50% on the examination to be eligible for the program.



Desirable qualities include: a patient and helpful manner; the physical stamina required to stand all day and sometimes go without breaks; a well-groomed, professional appearance; and an interest in keeping up-to-date on new styles, supplies and technology. They should also enjoy providing advice about hair care and styling, using combs, scissors and other devices to cut and style hair, and working with people.

APPRENTICESHIP TERM

The term of apprenticeship is two years and includes two employment terms of not less than 1,800 hours each, and two classroom-training periods of 10 weeks each.

DESIGNATION

Upon successful completion of the apprenticeship, graduate apprentices receive a Northwest Territories Completion of Apprenticeship Certificate and a Certificate of Qualification.

TRADES QUALIFICATION

Available with 5,400 hours of verified trade experience and written examination.

INTERPROVINCIAL RED SEAL

An Interprovincial Red Seal is available for this trade.

