

How to prepare for a health inspection: A Guide for Owners/Managers

First and foremost: Do what you are supposed to do, and follow the law! Click on this link to access the most recent version of [The Safe Body Art Act](#).

1. Ensure everyone at your facility that is practicing body art is a registered body art practitioner with this Agency. Having a practitioner working at your facility that is not currently registered (either never registered in OC or has an expired registration) can cost you. Owners can face having their facility health permit revoked and pay a fine. Valid registrations must be posted in a readily visible location at the facility.
2. The health permit for your facility is issued on a calendar year basis, January 1-December 31, provided your facility is in compliance with the law. To receive your health permit, correct any violation(s) identified in your most recent health inspection report. The health permit must be posted.
3. Ensure everyone at your facility receives training on the Infection Prevention and Control Plan (IPCP). Training must be provided annually, and when changes to the IPCP occur; maintain the training records on-site and available for review for three years.
4. Ensure everyone at your facility follows the requirements you established in your IPCP.
5. It is imperative that the steam autoclave is monitored with every use by a Class V integrator. Ensure the person who handles cleaning and sterilizing of all re-usable equipment is qualified to do so, and knows what to do in the event of a failure. Monthly spore testing must also be conducted. All testing and maintenance of the autoclave must be documented in a log, which is maintained on-site and available for review for three years.
6. All re-usable equipment that has been sterilized must be stored securely so that it is protected from dust and moisture. The sterilization pouches must be labeled with the date of sterilization and the initials of person who did the sterilization.
7. Disinfect all work surfaces in the procedure areas, and throughout the facility, properly. Follow the manufacturer's directions for contact time to ensure proper disinfection. An approved disinfectant must be effective against bloodborne pathogens, specifically hepatitis strains and HIV.
8. Store all equipment so that it is protected against dust and moisture, and make sure that all equipment is properly covered during the performance of body art.
9. Body art practitioners must wear gloves during the performance of body art, as well as a bib, apron or lap pad. Practitioners or apprentices that conduct the cleaning and sterilization of re-usable equipment must also don gloves and clothing protection.
10. Wash hands often, especially when changing tasks and every time gloves are changed during the performance of body art.
11. Maintain all sharps waste disposal records on-site and available for review for three years.
12. Have the Consent Form/Client Questionnaire and the Aftercare Instructions available for review. Ensure they are up-to-date with all of the requirements outlined in the law.
13. Store all completed consent forms securely.
14. Hot and cold running water must be available at all sinks.
15. Maintain liquid soap and paper towels in their appropriate dispensers; paper towel dispensers must be hands free.
16. No eating, drinking or smoking during the performance of body art; neither the practitioner, nor the client.

Other helpful information:

- Never, never, never perform body art on anyone under the age of 18. There is an exception for piercing if the minor has a parent/guardian present, and for permanent make-up if the minor is under the care of a physician.

- Don't perform body art on someone who appears to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. While that is not a requirement in The Safe Body Art Act, it is just a smart business practice.
- Follow Universal Precautions; always presume the client is contagious.