



CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES FOR

Body Art Facilities



**County of Orange Health Care Agency
Public Health Services, Environmental Health
1241 E. Dyer Road, Suite 120, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Phone (714) 433-6000**

Introduction

This construction guide is for any person wanting to construct or remodel a body art facility that performs tattooing, permanent cosmetics, body piercing or branding. Any other body art facility, such as nonpermanent application of pigment (e.g. henna), and/or the piercing of an ear with a disposable, single-use, pre-sterilized stud or solid needle that is applied using a mechanical device to force the needle or stud through the ear is not covered in this guide.

Plan Check Process Overview

Plan Submittal

Before beginning any construction or remodeling work, you must submit three (3) copies of detailed plans/blueprints and specifications to the Environmental Health office (see below for plan specifics). The plans may be prepared by an architect, draftsman, contractor, or owner. All plans must be drawn in a professional manner encompassing all applicable requirements of this construction guide. In addition, you must be sure that local cities and jurisdictions will allow the facility to be constructed at that location.

Plan Check Fee

When your plans are submitted, a plan check fee must be paid. Current fee schedules are available on our website at <http://ohealthinfo.com/eh/bodyart> and by request.

Remodels of body art facilities also require plan review and submittal of the associated fee. A remodel is any construction or alteration to an existing body art facility. Remodeling also includes repairs to a body art facility which alters its configuration or method of operation. Installing a body art facility in a new structure or in an empty building is new construction.

If you are starting from a former body art facility that does not meet current Safe Body Art Act Standards, a plan check for the facility will be required prior to operation. If you have any questions, please contact this Agency at (714) 433-6000 and ask to be connected to the body art district inspector for your area.

Initial Plan Review

Plans that are submitted will be reviewed and approved as submitted, approved with corrections, or denied. In order for plans to be approved, they must include all the information regarding structural requirements that are listed in this guide, and the plans themselves must be drawn to scale (e.g., $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'$), using non-erasable ink or print (no pencil). Your plans must include:

- Floor plan with plumbing and fixtures.
- Finish schedule for walls, ceilings, floors, and base coves that indicates the type of material and surface finish. Samples of proposed finish materials may be required.
- Remodel plans must identify all proposed changes to existing structures, spaces, and equipment.
- A site plan showing all areas including the proposed procedure area, and decontamination and sterilization area.
- A list of any equipment to be used at the facility such as single use wall mounted touchless paper towel dispensers, soap dispensers, wall mounted sharps containers, and steam sterilizer (autoclave).

Approval or Denial

If the plans you submitted do not contain all the information in order to meet the Safe Body Art Act requirements, additional information will be needed and the plans may have to be revised before approval is granted. If your plans do meet all the requirements, your plans will be marked with approval stamps and you will be given back two sets of the originals that you submitted. Your plans may need to be reviewed by your city building department for further approvals. One of these copies must be kept at the job site until the end of the construction/remodel project. It is only after you receive the approval of your plans by both the county and city (if required) that you can begin construction/work at your facility.

Modification of Plans

If any changes are proposed to the plans *after* approval, they must be reviewed and re-approved by this Agency prior to being implemented.

Preliminary Inspection

When construction is approximately 75% to 80% completed, you must call your inspector (the person indicated on your approved plans) for a *preliminary construction inspection*. Requests should be made at least two (2) working days prior to the date of inspection requested. The preliminary inspection is usually scheduled at least two weeks prior to the proposed opening of the body art facility. Note that approved materials and approved workmanship are significant factors in the evaluation and field approval of body art facility construction and equipment installation.

Final Inspection

Upon completion of 100% of the construction, including all finishing work, you must call your inspector to arrange for a *final construction inspection*. Contact your inspector at least two (2) working days in advance for an appointment for the final inspection.

Issuance of Permit

When your facility has passed the final construction inspection and the facility is in compliance with all Safe Body Art Act requirements, you will be issued a Health Permit and you are then able to open for business or begin using the newly remodeled areas of your business.

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS

1. FLOORS, WALLS, CEILINGS

- a. Floors, walls, and ceilings in procedure areas, restrooms and decontamination and sterilization areas shall be smooth, free of open holes, and washable.

2. GENERAL PURPOSE

- a. Provide a water heater which is capable of constantly supplying hot water at a temperature of at least 120°F to all sinks and other cleanup facilities.
- b. Be free of insect and rodent infestation.

3. PROCEDURE AREAS

- a. Procedure areas must be equipped with adequate lighting.
- c. Procedure areas must have a wall or ceiling to floor partition from any nail and hair activities.
- d. All procedure areas must have a sink with hot and cold running water.
- e. Provide single use paper towels that are dispensed from a wall-mounted, touchless dispenser that is accessible to the practitioner.
- f. Provide containerized liquid soap.

4. DECONTAMINATION AND STERILIZATION AREAS (for locations not utilizing only pre-purchased, sterilized single use items)

- a. Decontamination and sterilization areas must be separated from the procedure area by a space of at least five feet or by a cleanable barrier.
- b. Decontamination and sterilization areas must have a sink with hot and cold running water.
- c. Provide liquid soap in a wall mounted dispenser.
- d. Provide single use paper towels that are dispensed from a wall-mounted, touchless dispenser that is accessible to the practitioner.

5. BODY ART FACILITY WITHIN A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING

- a. Provide separation from residential areas used for sleeping, bathing, and meal preparation.
- b. Provide a separate entrance and toilet facility.
- c. Eliminate any door that allows direct access between the body art facility and the residential dwelling.

Notes:

1. Sterilization of reusable instruments shall be accomplished by steam autoclave only. No other methods will be accepted.
2. Sharps containers must be maintained within arm's reach of the practitioner in the procedure and decontamination and sterilization areas. In addition, all sharps containers must be properly labeled, and sent for disposal by approved methods.
3. Procedure and decontamination and sterilization areas must have lined waste containers.