



Kansas Board of Cosmetology

714 SW Jackson Suite 100 Topeka, KS 66603
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Policy – Administration of Exams in English Only

Approved by the Board: October 9, 2017
Effective date: Immediately

Purpose

The purpose of this policy shall be clarification for staff, Board members, licensees, exam candidates, Exam providers, Legislators, and the public that all Kansas Board of Cosmetology exams will be administered in English only, and KBOC will only provide resources, forms or applications in English.

Background

The Board is often challenged by candidates for exam or by others representing candidates to have the right to exam in a language other than English or other exceptional circumstances such as using an other-than-English-dictionary for translation purposes during a State board exam.

Kansas has adopted English as the official language of the State of Kansas for any official public document or record and any official public meeting through statute. Though the law does not *prevent* a public agency from publishing any official public document or record in languages other than English or permitting a person to speak or communicate at a public meeting with the assistance of an interpreter, it is at the public agency's discretion to publish official public documents in another language or allow an interpreter at a public meeting. Further, the law does not diminish or expand any existing rights to have materials provided by a public agency in any language other than English. *See* K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 73-2805.

The Kansas Board of Cosmetology (KBOC) holds the position that in protecting the health and safety of the consuming public, it is necessary that licensed practitioners be able to read product labels representing safety measures and to communicate with their consumers any health and or safety hazards related to use of such products or practices.

Authority

2016 Kansas Statutes

73-2801. English designated official language of state.

- a) English shall be designated as the official language of the state of Kansas.
- b) The official language is designated as the language of any official public document or record and any official public meeting:
 - 1) An official public document or record is any document officially compiled, published or recorded by the state including deeds, publicly probated wills and



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- any other document or record required to be kept open for public inspection pursuant to the open records act.
- 2) An official public meeting is any meeting required to be open pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4317 et seq., and amendments thereto
 - c) Except as otherwise provided by law, no state agency or political or taxing subdivision of the state shall be required to provide any documents, information, literature or other written materials in any language other than English. Nothing shall prohibit state agencies or political or taxing subdivisions from:
 - 1) Publishing any official public document or record in languages other than English at their discretion, so long as the document or record is also published in English; or
 - 2) permitting a person who does not speak English to speak or communicate at an official public meeting with the assistance of an interpreter. History: L. 2007, ch. 186, § 1; July 1.

Policy

Kansas Board of Cosmetology State Board Exams shall be administered in English only. Additionally, and in accordance with authority based on Kansas statutes, KBOC will only provide resources, forms or applications in English.