

# BODY ART FACILITY PLAN CHECK GUIDE



CITY OF  
**LONG BEACH**  
BUREAU OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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This Body Art Plan Check Guide was created by Ventura County Environmental Health Division and adopted by the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Environmental Health

## INTRODUCTION

The Safe Body Art Act (AB 300) was signed into Law and was developed to provide minimum statewide standards for practitioners engaged in the business of tattooing, body piercing, branding, and the application of permanent cosmetics in California. The requirements listed in California Health and Safety Code Sections 119300 – 119328 are intended to protect both the practitioner and the client from transmission of infectious diseases through the application of proper body art procedures and the control of cross-contamination of instruments and supplies. A body art facility must meet requirements listed in the California Health and Safety Code to offer or perform body art procedures to the public.

The Safe Body Art Act authorizes specified inspections by an enforcement officer, and would provide for the suspension or revocation of a certificate of registration or a health permit in specified circumstances. Performing body art without being registered, operation of a body art facility without a health permit, or operation of a temporary body art event without a permit is a misdemeanor and would authorize the local enforcement agency to assess an administrative penalty, in an amount not less than \$25 and not more than \$1,000, for violating a provision of the bill. The local enforcement agency, in addition to these penalties, can impose a penalty of up to three times the cost of the registration or permit on a practitioner, owner of a body art facility, or sponsor of a temporary body art event who fails to obtain needed permits.

A person proposing to construct a body art facility or a mobile body art facility, other than a temporary body art event booth, shall submit plans to the Plan Check Unit of the local enforcement agency. The plans shall be approved in advance of the issuance of a building, plumbing, or electrical permit. All required corrections must be made and the body art facility approved to open and issued a health permit before body art can be performed in the facility.

This plan check guide has been developed to provide assistance to the facility owner/operator with the Health and Safety Code requirements needed to open up a body art facility in the City of Long Beach and provide guidance when submitting plans to the city of Long Beach Development Services Department.

**Body art** is defined as body piercing, tattooing, branding, or application of permanent cosmetics.

**Body art facility** is defined as a specified building, section of a building, or vehicle in which a practitioner performs or demonstrates for the purpose of instruction body art, including reception areas, the procedure area, and the decontamination and sterilization area. “Body art facility” does not include a facility that only pierces the ear with a disposable, single-use, pre-sterilized clasp and stud or solid needle that is applied using a mechanical device to force the needle or stud through the ear.

**Owner** is defined as the person or persons whose name or names appear on the health permit, business license, property deed, or rental agreement of the body art facility. A person acting as a principal of a corporation or partnership, who employs practitioners to perform body art or other activity regulated by the Safe Body Art Act.

**Practitioner** is defined as a person who performs body art on a client.

**Vehicle** is defined as a vehicle that has been fitted or designed to perform body art.

## BEFORE YOU START

Prior to opening a body art facility, contact the following departments to obtain all necessary permits and licenses to operate a business.

**Planning or City Zoning** – Check with the City Zoning Department and Planning Department for approved locations.

**Business License** – Apply for a business license to operate a body art facility.

**Building and Safety** – A building permit will be required when any construction involves electricity, plumbing, or the construction of separate rooms.

**Health Inspection and Permitting** – Preliminary and final plan check inspection are required after construction plan is approved and before health permit is granted. Body art facility may not open for business until health permit is approved.

### City Contact Information

#### **Development Services Department**

411 W. Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
Tel: (562) 570-5237  
Email: [lbds@longbeach.gov](mailto:lbds@longbeach.gov)  
[www.longbeach.gov/lbds/](http://www.longbeach.gov/lbds/)

#### **Bureau of Environmental Health**

2525 Grand Ave, Room 220  
Long Beach CA 90815  
Tel: (562) 570-4132  
Email: [Environmentalhealth@longbeach.gov](mailto:Environmentalhealth@longbeach.gov)  
[www.longbeach.gov/eh](http://www.longbeach.gov/eh)

## PLAN CHECK PROCESS

Before constructing a new body art facility, you must submit plans to the Long Beach Development Services Department. The plans may be prepared by an architect, contractor, or owner detailing all applicable requirements of this plan check guide.

A plan check fee will be required to be submitted along with the facility plans. The fee schedules are available on our website at:

<http://longbeach.gov/health/inspections-and-reporting/inspections/environmental-health-bureau/>

Plans will be reviewed as they are submitted electronically. Plans shall be e-mailed to [longbeach.gov/lbds/building/project-submittal/](http://longbeach.gov/lbds/building/project-submittal/). Any comments or corrections to be made to the plans will be e-mailed to the contractor and owner. Once the plans have been approved by the Environmental Health Bureau, you may begin the construction of the body art facility.

Prior to opening up for business, an inspection at the facility will be conducted to determine that the proposed body art facility and its method of operation have met the specifications of the approved plans. You may open for business once the health permit is issued by this bureau, and you have obtained all necessary permits/licenses.

## BODY ART FACILITY PLANS

The following locations of the body art facility shall be outlined in your schematic or drawing of the plans:

1. **Waiting Area** – Should be separated from the procedure area.
2. **Front Counter Area** – Should have the practitioners' certificate of registration and all necessary health permits posted.
3. **Procedure Area(s)** – Room(s), or designated portion of a room, that is set apart and only used to perform body art. The procedure area shall be equipped with a light source that provides adequate light. The area shall be separated, by a wall or ceiling-to-floor partition, from nail and hair activities. The procedure area shall also be equipped with a handwash sink(s) supplied with hot and cold running water, containerized liquid soap, and single-use paper towels that are dispensed from a wall-mounted, touchless dispenser.
4. **Workstation** – The area within a procedure area where a practitioner performs body art. The workstation includes, but is not limited to, the client chair, or table, counter, instrument tray, storage drawer, and practitioner's chair.
5. **Decontamination and Sterilization Area** – Shall be separated from the procedure area(s) by a space of at least five feet or by a cleanable barrier. It shall also be equipped with a sink supplied with hot and cold running water, liquid soap in a wall mounted dispenser, and single-use paper towels that are dispensed from a wall-mounted, touchless dispenser that is readily accessible to the practitioner.
6. **Lined Waste Containers** – Shall be located at each procedure area and decontamination and sterilization area.
7. **Handwashing Sink(s)** – Must be located inside each restroom and in the procedure area(s) and made accessible to practitioners. Handwash sinks must be supplied with hot and cold running water, containerized liquid soap, and single-use paper towels that are dispensed from a wall-mounted, touchless dispenser.
8. **Sharps Containers** – Sharps containers shall be available at each procedure area. They shall be portable, if portability is necessary to ensure that the sharps container is within arm's reach of the practitioner. The sharps waste container shall be labeled with the words "sharps waste" or with the international biohazard symbol and the word "BIOHAZARD."

9. **Autoclave and Ultrasonic Machine** – Shall be located in the decontamination and sterilization area/room. The steam autoclave should be placed in a separate and clean area inside the decontamination and sterilization room away from the bio sink. Only equipment manufactured for the sterilization of medical instruments shall be used. Provide a copy of the manufacturer's specification for the autoclave. A spore test result showing the steam autoclave to be used is operational shall be provided. The spore test must be recent (less than 30 days) and sampled according to manufacturer's recommendation for testing for non-use, re-conditioning, repair, or handling for relocation. Provide a copy of the service agreement with the spore testing laboratory. If using an ultrasonic machine, it can be placed near the bio sink. An ultrasonic machine is not required if manual washing is to be conducted instead of a chemical washing.
10. **Floors and Walls** – The body art facility shall have floors and walls that are smooth, free of holes, and washable. Provide information regarding the materials used for the floors as well as the materials used for the cabinets and counters (for example, concrete, laminate, tile, etc.).
11. **Storage Cabinets** – Clean instruments and sterilized instrument packs shall be placed in clean, dry, labeled containers, or stored in a labeled cabinet that is protected from dust and moisture.
12. **Branding Area/Room** – Must be conducted in a procedure area. No other clients are allowed in the procedure area during a branding procedure. Appropriate protective face filter masks are required.



## USEFUL WEB LINKS

### **CDPH Medical Waste Management Program**

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DRSEM/Pages/EMB/MedicalWaste/Transporters.aspx>

**Los Angeles County Approved Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Training Providers** <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/docs/baTrainingProviders.pdf>

### **Summary of the Safe Body Art Act**

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/docs/baSummary.pdf>

## **DOCUMENTS REQUIRED WHEN PLANS ARE SUBMITTED**

1. A schematic or drawing of the body art facility as outlined on pages 7 and 8 of this guideline.
2. A Finish Schedule and Equipment Schedule. See page 15 of this guideline for examples of Equipment Schedule and Finish Schedule layout.
3. List of Body Art Practitioners that will be working or anticipated to work in the body art facility.
4. Copy of the service agreement with the spore testing laboratory, if the facility will be using a steam autoclave.
5. Copy of the manufacturer's specification for the steam autoclave.
6. A copy of the body art facility's proposed Infection Prevention and Control Plan. The plan shall be provided by the owner or established by the practitioners, specifying the following areas:
  - Procedures for decontaminating and disinfecting environmental surfaces.
  - Procedures for decontaminating, packaging, sterilizing, and storing reusable instruments.
  - Procedures for protecting clean instruments and sterile instrument packs from exposure to dust and moisture during storage.
  - A set up and tear down procedure for any form of body art performed at the body art facility.
  - Techniques to prevent the contamination of instruments or the procedure site during the performance of body art.
  - Procedures for safe handling and disposal of sharps waste.

The Infection Prevention and Control Plan shall be revised when changes are made in infection prevention practices, procedures, or tasks. Onsite training on the facility's Infection Prevention and Control Plan shall take place when tasks where occupational exposure may occur are initially assigned, any time there are changes in the procedures or tasks, and when new technology is adopted for use in the facility, but not less than once each year. Records of training shall be maintained for three years and shall be available for inspection upon request of the enforcement officer.

## ITEMS REQUIRED AT THE TIME OF THE HEALTH PERMIT INSPECTION

1. Client consent forms – see below for details.
2. Written aftercare instructions – see below for details.
3. Client medical questionnaires and proposed locked storage unit.
4. Bio sink supplied with hot and cold running water, containerized liquid soap, and single-use paper towels that are dispensed from a wall-mounted, touchless dispenser.
5. Handwash sinks supplied with hot and cold running water, containerized liquid soap, and single-use paper towels that are dispensed from a wall-mounted, touchless dispenser.
6. Decontamination and Sterilization room set-up with the steam autoclave machine and ultrasonic machine, if applicable.
7. A recent spore test (less than 30 days) and sampled according to manufacturer's recommendation for testing for non-use, re-conditioning, repair, or handling for relocation.
8. Single use supplies for the body art facility, such as gloves, tattoo equipment, needles, disposable ink containers, disposable plastic wrap or other coverings for chair, tattoo machine, workstation, etc.
9. Approved EPA or DPR disinfectants to be used at the body art facility.
10. Sharps containers.
11. Lined waste containers.
12. Accessible restroom with handwash sink supplied with hot and cold running water, containerized liquid soap, and single-use paper towels that are dispensed from a wall-mounted, touchless dispenser.
13. Storage cabinets.
14. Adequate lighting.
15. Body art facility that is clean, free of vermin and rodents, free of holes and in good repair.

**Client consent forms** - shall have a description of the procedure, a statement regarding the permanent nature of the body art, a description of what to expect after the procedure, suggested care, and information on medical complications that may occur as a result of the procedure. The consent form must include a notice that tattoo inks, dyes, and pigments have not been approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration and that the health consequences of using these products are unknown. The consent form must include post-procedure instructions with information on the care of the procedure site, restrictions on physical activities, signs and symptoms of infection, and signs that indicate the need to seek medical care.

**Medical history questionnaire forms** - are required to include information such as, whether the client may be pregnant, has a history of herpes infection at the proposed procedure site, diabetes, allergic reactions to latex or antibiotics, hemophilia or other bleeding disorder, or cardiac valve disease. It should also include if the person has a history of medication use or is currently using medication, including being prescribed antibiotics prior to any dental or surgical procedures and other risk factors for bloodborne pathogen exposure. The complete and signed questionnaire requesting medical history shall be kept in a secure and confidential locked storage on file with the permanent or mobile body art facility.

## **BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN INFECTION CONTROL TRAINING**

Body art procedures, such as tattooing, branding, body piercing, and permanent cosmetics can potentially provide an exposure to bloodborne pathogens from one person to the next. To ensure the safety of the practitioner and client, proper safety precautions and procedures should be followed within the body art facility.

Body art practitioners, contractors, volunteers, and employees that could possibly have a bloodborne pathogen exposure are required to complete a bloodborne pathogen training class that meets the requirements of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration Bloodborne Pathogen Standard contained in section 5193 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations. Bloodborne pathogen training classes and trainers must be approved by this department. A list of approved trainers in Los Angeles County can be found on this website:

<http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/docs/baTrainingProviders.pdf>

The training and training material must be specific to performing body art and shall consist of not less than two hours of instruction. Records of training shall be maintained for three years and shall be available for inspection upon request of the enforcement officer.

The training must be consistent with the following:

- Training shall be conducted by a person or persons who are knowledgeable in exposure control and infection prevention in the body art setting and who are approved by the local enforcement agency in accordance with the provisions of the California Health and Safety Code.
- Training shall include a copy and explanation of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration Bloodborne Pathogens Standard contained in Section 5193 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, or its successor.
- Discussion of transmission, control, and symptoms of the diseases caused by bloodborne pathogens.
- Discussion of tasks involved in performing body art and how those tasks may lead to exposure to bloodborne pathogens for the client or practitioner.
- Discussion of the types and uses of personal protective equipment, such as disposable gloves, including an explanation of the limitations of the equipment.
- Discussion of the types of tasks, proper task technique, and order of tasks before and after putting on and removing personal protective equipment, to avoid contamination.
- Discussion of the importance of hand hygiene and a demonstration of proper

hand hygiene techniques.

- Discussion of choice, use, and storage of disinfectants and antiseptics.
- Information on the signage required for biohazard materials and the importance of properly labeling chemicals and supplies.
- Information on hepatitis B vaccine, including safety and accessibility.
- Discussion of what constitutes a bloodborne pathogen exposure incident, including all of the following:
  1. Examples of bloodborne pathogen exposure, how the exposure occurred, and what actions to take to prevent or minimize future exposures.
  2. Risk of infection following a bloodborne pathogen exposure incident.
  3. Procedures to be followed after an exposure incident, including medical follow-up.
  4. Opportunities for interactive questions and answers with the instructor.

## EXAMPLE FINISH SCHEDULE

Item Description	Location	Supplies
Handwash sink	Restroom	Hot and cold running water, containerized liquid soap, and single-use paper towels from a wall mounted touchless dispenser.
Handwash sink	Procedure Area(s)	Hot and cold running water, containerized liquid soap, and single-use paper towels from a wall mounted touchless dispenser.
Bio sink	Decontamination & Sterilization Room	Hot and cold running water, containerized liquid soap, and single-use paper towels from a wall mounted touchless dispenser.

**Provide Specification Sheets for Each Equipment:**

Item	Location	Manufacturer	Model Number
Autoclave			
Ultrasonic Machine			

**Provide Specification Sheets for Equipment:**

Permanent Cosmetic Machine	Manufacturer	Make and Model Number

**Provide Specification Sheets for Equipment:**

Water Heater Manufacturer & Model Number	Size of Water Heater

Item Description	Floors	Walls
Restroom		
Procedure Areas		
Decontamination & Sterilization Room		
Body Piercing Room		
Drawing/Stencil Area		
Reception and Waiting Area		

**Provide Specification Sheets for Each Equipment:**

Equipment Listings	Description of Material
Practitioner Chair	
Client Chair	
Body Piercing Table	
Stool	
Arm Rest	
Mayo Trays	
Counters	
Storage Cabinets	
Disposable Instruments	