



Schenectady County Public Health Services

Environmental Health
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TEMPORARY BODY ART PERMIT Requirements

The Schenectady County Sanitary Code Body Art Tattoo/Body Piercing Regulations effective October 12, 2021, allows body art practitioners to obtain a temporary permit to perform tattooing and body piercing within Schenectady County at one event lasting 14 days or less.

- *All practitioners must adhere to the code requirements listed in the Schenectady County Sanitary Code Body Art Tattoo/Body Piercing Regulations Effective October 12, 2021 to insure that body art procedures are safe for the customer and body art practitioner. A copy of the code book and application for a permit to operate may be obtained from the Schenectady County Public Health Services Environmental Health Unit or online at www.schenectadycounty.com Department of Public Health - Environmental Health-Body Art*
- *An application for a permit to operate must be submitted to the Schenectady County Public Health Services Environmental Health Unit at least **30 days prior** to the intended event and must include:*
 - *Two Passport Photos taken within 30 days, or two copies of a driver's license photo taken within 3 years*
 - *Completed NYS Workers Compensation CE-200 Certificate signed and dated*
 - *Certifications – CPR/First Aid, Blood Borne Pathogens, Skin Course*
 - *Listing of Experience – Permanent Place of Employment- Studio name and address, Studio owner's name and phone number, number of years as an artist or body art permit or license issued under the jurisdiction of another political subdivision, state or nation.*
 - *Temporary Permit fee of \$100.00 (**Please make checks made payable to Schenectady County**)*
- *Temporary body art stations must be completely enclosed to be protected from environmental factors such as wind, rain, dust, and separated by a half wall if held indoors.*
- *Temporary hand washing stations must be available and be properly equipped with hot and cold potable water, liquid hand soap and disposable paper towels.*
- *All temporary body art stations must have properly lighted work surfaces to perform body art procedures.*
- *The body art station equipment must be cleaned and sanitized after each use. Used equipment must be stored separately from sterilized equipment and supplies.*

- *Tattoo needles and needle tubes and piercing needles must be for **single use only**. If using pre-sterilized body art equipment, the equipment must be in sealed sterile indicator bags dated within 6 months of sterilization*
- *All inks must be **single use only**. Cups and caps are to be discarded after each customer.*
- *Disposable gloves must be changed between each customer or at any time they become pierced, torn or contaminated by unclean surfaces or objects. Hands are to be thoroughly washed and new gloves put on.*
- *Alcohol based hand sanitizers may be used **in conjunction with** proper hand washing.*
- *Skin of tattoo and piercing sites must be prepared using **sterile gauze with hospital grade germicidal solution***
- *All ointments and skin preparations used in the body art procedure must be dispensed in a sanitary manner from **single service packets or collapsible tubes and applied with sterile gauze. Open tubes or jars are prohibited.***
- *All products applied to the skin, including body art stencils, applicators, gauze , razors must be **single use only***
- *All completed tattoos and body piercings must be washed with **sterile gauze and germicidal solution**. After air drying an antibacterial ointment is to be applied to the site and covered with a sterile dressing.*
- *Prior to performing a body art procedure, the artist **must inform the customer verbally and in writing** of the health conditions that may increase health risks associated with receiving a body art procedure. The client must sign a form confirming that the information was provided and that the client does not have a condition that prevents him/her from receiving body art. Consent forms must include the name, address, age, date, the type of body art procedure performed, location on the body, name, and signature of the artist. Consent forms must be retained for not less than 5 years.*
- *Prior to performing a body art procedure, the artist must present to the customer all single use needles that are to be used in the body art procedure in sterile sealed packages. The customer must also sign a form confirming that the artist presented all single use needles that are to be used in the procedure in a sterile sealed package and opened all single use needles in the customers presence. A copy must be given to the customer. The artist must retain a copy for 7 years.*
- *Aftercare instructions are to be given **both verbally and in writing** to the customer*
- *All used needles and other disposable materials contaminated with blood or bodily fluids must be properly disposed of in sharps containers. Each station must be equipped with a sharps and covered trash container.*
- ***No one that is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or is less than 18 years of age shall be tattooed.***
- ***No one that is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or is less than 18 years of age without parental consent shall be pierced.***

Failure to comply with applicable body art regulations will result in revocation of the permit to operate within Schenectady County and possible hearings and/or fines imposed.

Please contact the Schenectady County Public Health Services Environmental Health Unit with questions regarding the above requirements Monday – Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM at (518) 386-2818.