

Just the Job

Information Sheet

Job title

Stylist, Hairdresser

Job description

- * Consulting and creating a style that best suits the clients.
- * High attention to customer service, styling and personality
- * Cutting, colouring, waving, styling including special event styling

Qualifications required

A minimum of three years secondary/tertiary education is required to enter into an apprenticeship. It's not mandatory but recommended to achieve NCEA Level 1. Recommended subjects include English, maths, science, art.

Training costs

Apprentices pay a direct fee to the HITO to sign into their apprenticeship and then 25% of their off job training fees plus credit fees. This should equate to less than \$2500 to complete their qualification. The HITO pays the remaining 75% of the off job training attendance costs. Additional costs may include the personal procurement of tools including scissors and razors.

Location of job

Salon based around the country

Career path

Commence as salon support then work to build client base performing all cutting, chemical and styling services for clients.

Once the National Certificate in Hairdressing Practice is attained the opportunities range from senior stylist in a salon, salon trainer, salon management, salon ownership, platform stylist, industry assessor, tutor, technician for product companies, film and television styling.

Salary range

Starting out is usually at minimum training wage then progresses as skills develop into qualification.

The salary range is varied from \$35,000 - \$100,000 with no direct boundaries. Stylists are often paid on commission therefore their salary is dependent on the income that they produce.

Other careers this profession could lead to

Careers possibilities include senior stylist in a salon, salon trainer, salon management, salon ownership, platform stylist, industry assessor, tutor, technician for product companies, film and television styling plus in particular, tutoring and working abroad or regionally in film and television.

Often people with hairdressing skills and qualifications who leave the industry go on to careers with high customer service aspects or public relations where presentation is important. The communication skills gained within the profession serve people well to gain success in other careers.

How to increase your chances of successfully entering this industry

Gaining salon experience while at secondary school through the Gateway programme and therefore some unit standards can be beneficial for entering the industry.

Any work experience in a salon will provide evidence of the person being interested and committed to gaining a position. Visiting a number of local salons to see how these operate and talking to the stylists in these salons can be of assistance.

While not directly related, any social activities that include team work and communication such as public speaking could also be useful.

Other places to source information about this job

* HITO website - www.hito.org.nz

* New Zealand Association of Registered Hairdressers website – www.nzarh.org.nz

* Hairdressing product companies may also have information available on their websites about the industry.

Any other relevant points:

One of the most important aspects of this career or profession is the high customer service requirements and communication skills that are required to be able to talk to clients and ensure that the finished style meets their needs. Building a client base is dependent of the outcome of every client service.