



# New Body Art Facility Permitting Guide

## Department of Environmental Health Consumer Protection Division

All permanent body art conducted within Santa Clara County must be conducted at a Body Art Facility permitted by the Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health (DEH). Examples of permanent body art include, but are not limited to, tattooing, permanent makeup, and body piercings. Body Art Facilities must comply with [The Safe Body Art Act](#) and [Santa Clara County Local Ordinance](#).

If you are interested in operating a Body Art Facility in Santa Clara County, complete the steps outlined below:

- **Body Art Facility Plan Review**
  1. **Provide a completed Body Art Plan Check Application Form**
    - [Body Art Plan Check Application](#)
  2. **Provide floor plan showing the layout of the facility and list of wall, floor, and ceiling finishes**
    - See [Body Art Facility Plan Check Guideline](#) for more information
      - Provide a drawn Facility Floor Plan.
      - Provide a schedule of finishes (Floors, walls, ceiling material, etc.).
      - Photos of proposed facility are recommended in addition to the above, if available.
  3. **Provide your Infection Prevention Control Plan (IPCP)**
    - [Body Art IPCP Template](#)
  4. **Provide a Permanent Body Art Facility Application**
    - [Body Art Facility Permit Application](#)
  5. **Provide a Body Art Practitioner Application (if applicable)**
    - Permanent body art may only be provided by a DEH permitted body art practitioner. A facility permit does not authorize an individual to perform body art.
    - If practitioner does not have a current Body Art Practitioner's permit, submit application and required supporting information.
      - [Body Art Practitioner Application](#)
  6. **Provide a copy of the Body Art Informed Consent Forms and Client Aftercare Instructions that will be used at the facility**
    - [Body Art Informed Consent form and Client Aftercare Instructions template](#)
  7. **Identify your Sharps Waste Transporter**
    - Sharps waste drop-off is not allowed for Body Art facilities or practitioners.
  8. **Submit Plan Check Fee:**
    - Once all necessary forms are submitted, the applicant will be invoiced the **Body Art Plan Check Review Fee**, based on the scale of the project. Reviews will not begin until the fee is paid.
      - New Body Art Facility [Fee Schedule](#)
      - Remodel of Body Art Facility [Fee Schedule](#)

## 9. Obtain a Construction Final Inspection

- Body Art Plan Check Application Packet will be reviewed for compliance. If it is determined that the items submitted for the proposed Body Art Facility meets standards, a construction final inspection will be scheduled. All supplies and equipment required to operate a Body Art Facility must be available at the time of final inspection (single-use needles, PPE, disinfectant, machine, etc.). If the final construction inspection confirms that the construction standards for a Body Art Facility are met, the business will be APPROVED TO OPERATE contingent upon payment of the invoiced Body Art Facility Permit Fee. [Fee Schedule](#)

*Submit the required items via email to [bodyart@deh.sccgov.org](mailto:bodyart@deh.sccgov.org) or mail/in-person: 1555 Berger Drive, Suite 300, San Jose, CA 95112.  
Office hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30am-4:30pm.*

Body Art Facilities are invoiced renewal permit fees on an annual basis. Body Art Facilities are subject to inspections by DEH. *Operating in an unpermitted facility is a misdemeanor and subject to fines, penalties, and other enforcement action.*

Any questions, please contact us by email at [bodyart@deh.sccgov.org](mailto:bodyart@deh.sccgov.org) or call (408) 918-3400.