



Environmental Services

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Environmental Health & Safety Division
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Steps to Apply for Tattoo Permit

PLEASE NOTE: New tattoo businesses require approval from municipal planning development/zoning. Approval must be submitted to our office before an inspection can be scheduled. Plans may be required by municipal building inspections if structural, electrical, or plumbing changes are made. *The municipal planning development/zoning approval is not required for renewals or artists starting work in an existing tattoo business.*

An initial application and associated fees required for issuance of a tattooing permit shall be submitted no less than 30 days before anticipated commencement of tattooing by the artist.

Permit Application Process:

1. Create an account at the [Wake County Permit Portal](#). This account will be used for invoicing of fees following submittal of application.
2. Tattoo Permit Application is available [here](#). Complete the Tattoo Permit Application and email as an attachment to: escustomersupport@wakegov.com. Please include a message acknowledging that you have created an account on the Permit Portal.
3. Once a staff member receives the emailed application, an invoice will be created in the Permit Portal within 24-48 hours. Once an invoice has been generated, you can then re-enter the Permit Portal to make the payment online. We are unable to take payments by phone. If you are unable to pay online, instructions for paying by mail or in person are below. Permit fees are as follows:
 - a. \$300 for annual permit *or*;
 - b. \$150 for temporary permit tattoo (convention/temporary student/visiting artist no longer than 14 days)
4. Once payment is received, the Tattoo Program Coordinator will be notified and you will be assigned an inspector. The inspector will contact you to schedule an inspection.

Customers may choose to pay in our office at the Wake County Office Building, 6th floor, 336 Fayetteville St, Raleigh. Photo ID is required to enter the building. Payments may also be mailed to: Wake County Environmental Services, PO Box 550, Raleigh, NC 27602, Attn: Environmental Services. We accept cash, credit card, cashier's check or money order. **No personal or business checks.** Please make money orders payable to Wake County Environmental Services.

For assistance with registering through the Permit Portal or with making a payment, please contact the Customer Support Center at 919-856-7400 (Option 8) or Joshlyne Privette at 919-856-7431.

Preparing for Your Inspection

The list below contains supplies that are typically expected in a tattoo business and which may be reviewed during inspection. This list may not be all inclusive. Items in *italics* may not be required for permanent make-up/microblading businesses.

List of supplies

- Customer consent forms (name, address, phone number, date of birth, signature should be included)
- Gloves
- Apron, lab coat or lap cloth
- Inks/pigments
- Tattoo machine(s)
- Individually packaged sterile needles
- Individually packaged sterile stainless tubes or disposable tubes
- Ink caps
- Biohazard/Sharps container
- Nail Brush and file
- 70% Isopropyl Alcohol
- Makeup remover wipes (if tattooing eyes)
- Approved hospital grade disinfectant (listed below)
- *Clip cord covers*
- *Biofilm*
- *Rubber bands*
- *Grommets*
- *Green soap*
- *Petroleum jelly*
- *Autoclave (if not using all disposable equipment)*
- *Negative autoclave test result*
- *Sterile bandages*
- *Medical bandage tape*

Known EPA Registered Hospital Grade Disinfectants

EPA Reg #	Product Name
46781-12	CAVICIDE 1 METREX RESEARCH
46781-13	CAVIWIPES 1 METREX RESEARCH
46781-6	CAVICIDE METREX RESEARCH
46781-8	CAVIWIPES METREX RESEARCH
10492-4	DISCIDE ULTRA DISINFECTING TOWELETTES PALMERO HEALTH CARE
10492-5	DISCIDE ULTRA DISINFECTING SPRAY PALMERO HEALTH CARE
1677-233	MULTI-PURPOSE DISINFECTANT CLEANER ECOLAB, INC.
34810-35	CLEANCIDE WEXFORD LABS, INC.
34810-36	CLEAN-CIDE WIPES WEXFORD LABS, INC.
37549-1	MICRO-KILL BLEACH GERMICIDAL BLEACH WIPES MEDLINE INDUSTRIES INC

56392-4	CITREX HOSPITAL SPRAY DISINFECTANT CLOROX PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS
56392-7	DISPATCH HOSPITAL CLEANER DISINFECTANT WITH BLEACH CLOROX PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS COMPANY
56392-8	DISPATCH HOSPITAL CLEANER DISINFECTANT TOWELS WITH BLEACH CLOROX PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS COMPANY
5736-104	HOSPITAL DISINFECTANT CLEANER
70385-6	MICROBAN QGC
70144-1	OPTI-CIDE 3 MICRO-SCIENTIFIC, LLC
70144-2	OPTI-CIDE-3 WIPES MICRO-SCIENTIFIC, LLC
70627-60	OXIVIR WIPES DIVERSEY, INC.
9480-4	SANI-CLOTH GERMICIDAL WIPES PROFESSIONAL DISPOSABLES INTERNATIONAL, INC.
9480-5	SANI-CLOTH GERMICIDAL DISPOSABLE CLOTH PROFESSIONAL DISPOSABLES INTERNATIONAL, INC.
9480-6	SANI-CLOTH PLUS GERMICIDAL DISPOSABLE CLOTH PROFESSIONAL DISPOSABLES INTERNATIONAL, INC.
9480-8	PDI SANI-CLOTH BLEACH WIPES PROFESSIONAL DISPOSABLES INTERNATIONAL, INC.
60142-3	VIRAHOL HOSPITAL SURFACE DISINFECTANT TOWELETTE
70627-24	VIREX II/256 DIVERSEY, INC

Additional Requirements

The list below addresses some common questions and issues found during inspections. Please visit [our website](#) to review the NC Tattoo Rules and Regulations prior to your inspection.

- The tattoo room must have floors and furniture that are washable. Carpet and non-cleanable cloth furniture are not approved for use in a tattoo room.
- A hand sink shall be provided in the tattoo room for artist use only. A restroom sink is not approved for this purpose. Sinks shall be permanently plumbed. **Portable hand sinks are NOT approved for use in NC.**
- Tattoo machine(s) and all supplies should be present on site at time of inspection.
- If using an autoclave, a negative autoclave spore test result is required prior to opening and monthly thereafter.
- Tattoo artist should be able to answer questions pertaining to their tattooing procedure and be familiar with NC Tattoo Rules and Regulations.
- A copy of the customer consent form will be reviewed during the inspection.
- Failure to have equipment and supplies present, or failure to demonstrate knowledge and ability to comply with NC Tattoo Rules and Regulations may result in delays in permitting.