What are the agency’s reasons for adopting this rule?
The department has received numerous requests from stakeholders to have the existing safety and sanitation procedures updated and amended for clarity, intent and statutory authority. Stakeholders have requested a reduced location fee when cosmetology and permanent cosmetic services are offered at the same location to reduce the burden to small businesses. The department held a series of stakeholder workshops throughout the year and as a result, the proposed amendments were drafted. The proposed rule amendments are supported by industry.

Also, SHB 1063 was passed during the 2015 legislative session giving the department authority to amend Chapter 308-20 WAC in order to implement the new hair design license, allow instructor-trainee credit for training in a licensed school and online distance learning.

Summary of all public comments received on this rule proposal and the agency’s response to those comments:
The department received oral comments in support of the proposed rules. Tina Evans, from Everett Community College, and Megan Pedersen, from MultiCare MedSpas, testified in support of the proposed rules as written.

The department received written comments that expressed neither support nor opposition to the proposed rules. One comment expressed concern regarding licensing of the method of epilation commonly referred to as threading, which is not included in the proposed rules.
The other comment expressed concern there should be a reduced rate for retired cosmetologists, barbers, manicurist and estheticians so they can continue to purchase from beauty supply stores. This comment will be discussed at the next rules workshop.

The Department has considered all comments. The final rule is the same as the proposed rule. Threading is currently in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and the department has jurisdiction over the practice. The department does not have the authority to reduce licensing fees for retirees, as it is not defined in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

WAC Changes:
None.