



## **Gwinnett County Environmental Health Temporary Event Requirements**

Body Art is defined as the performance of tattooing and/ or body piercing. Each body artist must qualify for a Gwinnett County Body Artist Permit before performing any body art. A body artist can only perform body art at a studio with a valid body art studio permit.

### **Body Artist Permit requirements are as follows:**

1. Must be a minimum of eighteen years old
2. Pay \$50.00 fee, reduced to \$25.00 between January 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> of every year. **-Must be received no later than one week before the event.**
3. Submit Body Artist Permit Application-**Must be received no later than one week before the event.**
4. Proof of approved trainings in blood-borne pathogens, sterilization, sanitary procedures, First Aid, and CPR. **The trainings cannot be more than two years old unless the training organization states the training is valid for less time, then the training organization's requirement must be followed. Must be received no later than one week before the event. See current "Gwinnett Environmental Health Body Artist Training" handout.**

Each separate body art studio must qualify for a permit. Every booth will be considered a separate body art studio unless more than one body art studio owners are sharing a booth, then each owner must qualify for a permit.

### **Temporary Body Art Studio requirements are as follows:**

1. \$125.00 fee-**Must be received no later than one week before the event.**
2. Body Art Studio Permit Application- **Must be received no later than one week before the event.**
3. **Equipment**
  - a. All work tables and chairs for customers must be smooth, nonporous, nonabsorbent, corrosion resistant, and easily disinfected. All work tables and chairs must be kept visibly clean from ink and/or any other stains.
  - b. **All tattoo needles, piercing needles, initial piercing jewelry, and piercing forceps must be commercially pre-packaged and labeled as sterile.** Needles must not be used past printed expiration dates.
  - c. A hand sink with hot and cold running water must be within a fifteen feet unobstructed distance from each body art customer chair. A door requiring hands to open is considered an obstruction. **The hand sink must be designed so hands do not have to be used to control the water flow. The water flow must be controlled by wrists, feet, or motion sensor.**
  - d. **All hand sinks must have liquid anti-bacterial soap and paper towels both in dispensers.**
  - e. A clean, dry area must be used to store all pre-packaged sterile items (tattoo/ piercing needles, piercing forceps, and initial piercing jewelry).



- f. All tattoo tubes and piercing forceps must be pre-sterilized, single customer use, disposable, and commercially pre-packaged with a printed expiration date, which has not been exceeded.
  - g. A leak-proof, red sharps box, with an adequate biohazard label and a **self-closing lid**, must be present.
  - h. Red bags with an adequate biohazard label must be present.
  - i. Initial piercing jewelry must be made out of implant grade stainless steel, gold, platinum, titanium, niobium, or dense low porosity plastic.
4. **Facilities**
- a. All body art activities must be performed indoors.
  - b. Floors, walls, and ceilings must be kept visibly clean.
  - c. Food and drinks are not allowed in the procedure area.
  - d. Animals not allowed in the body art studio.
5. **Procedures**
- a. Someone must be 18 to receive a tattoo.
  - b. Someone must be 18 to receive a body piercing unless the parent or legal guardian is present and gives permission.
  - c. For a substance to be considered antibacterial it must be labeled on the package that it is either antibacterial, antiseptic, antibiotic, or antimicrobial.
  - d. The body area to be tattooed or pierced must be cleaned, before the tattoo, with an antibacterial wash.
  - e. The tattooed area or pierced area must be cleaned, after the tattoo or piercing, with an antibacterial wash. **Green soap is not considered antibacterial. Green soap can be used in the tattoo procedure, however if you use green soap, you still must use some other properly labeled substance to meet the antibacterial wash requirement.**
  - f. After the completed tattoo is cleaned with an antibacterial wash, an antibacterial ointment must be applied and then a bandage applied. **A&D ointment is not considered antibacterial. A&D ointment can be used in the tattoo procedure, however if you use A&D ointment you still must use some other properly labeled substance to meet the antibacterial ointment requirement.**
  - g. Single customer use, medical gloves must be worn during the application of all tattoos and body piercings. Gloves must be changed when there is any interruption in the body art procedure. Once gloves are removed they must be discarded. If gloves become torn, they must be discarded.
  - h. Hands must be washed before performing a tattoo or a piercing and between every glove change.
  - i. Body artists' must remove all jewelry from hands and wrists, including watches, before performing body art.
  - j. All items which touch the skin must be for a single customer use and disposable. **This includes items which touch unbroken skin.**
  - k. Tattoo ink must be poured into a single customer, disposable ink cap before use. The cap and any leftover ink must be discarded, after the tattoo is completed, into a red biohazard bag.



- l. Any item which is caked with blood or releases blood, when it is squeezed will be considered biohazardous.
- m. All tattoo/ piercing needles and **razors** must be discarded into the red biohazard sharps box.
- n. Worktables, customer chairs, clip cords, tattoo machines and any other surface which has been touched by the body artist and/ or the customer during the body art procedure must be disinfected between customers. Waste receptacles have to be disinfected at least once a day unless visible contamination occurs and/or the receptacles are touched during the body art procedure, then the container must be disinfected before the next customer. **For a substance to be considered a disinfectant, the product label must state it is a disinfectant and list an EPA registration number. Manufacturer's instructions must be followed in regards to the minimum time, the product must be allowed to sit, for a surface to be considered disinfected.**
- o. Any protective coverings for surfaces such as plastic wrap must be for a single customer use and disposable.
- p. Aftercare instructions must be given to each customer with the name of the booth and body artist listed.
- q. Each booth must keep a log of all customers with the following information listed:
  - i. Customer name
  - ii. Customer Address
  - iii. Customer phone number

**ANY VIOLATION OF THE REQUIREMENTS IN A RED PRINT OCCURRING DURING AN INSPECTION WILL LEAD TO PERMIT SUSPENSION UNLESS CORRECTED ON SITE.**

**Contact:**

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