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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF
COSMETOLOGY AND BARBERING

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Policy No. 2016-01

Policy on English Language Testing and Translation Dictionaries

All Practical examinations for licensure by the Board of Registration of Cosmetology and Barbering will be administered in English only. Written examinations are offered in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

As of April 12, 2016, word-for-word translation dictionaries will be permitted in the Written examination at the examination sites; interpreters and other translation aids will not be permitted at any of the examination sites.

Candidates may bring a translation dictionary into the testing room. Translation dictionaries must be reviewed by the test administrator and only direct word-to-word dictionaries are allowed. Translation dictionaries must meet the following requirements:

- The dictionary may not provide definitions to words. Definitions or anything other than a word-for-word translation will not be permitted for use during the exam.
- No electronic translation dictionaries are allowed.
- Loose pages, writing or notes will not be permitted inside the dictionary. Test Center staff will inspect the pages of the dictionary to make sure there are no loose pages, writing or notes on the pages.

Test Center staff will monitor the candidate during the exam to ensure the candidate is not writing in the dictionary, and will inspect the pages of the dictionary after the exam to make sure the candidate has not written in the dictionary.

Questions regarding this Notice should be directed to the Board at (617) 727-9940.

