



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Board of Cosmetology



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May 12, 2026

Board Guidance Regarding Emergency Distance Learning

On March 9, 2026, the Board provided guidance in regards to distance learning during emergency school closers, as listed below. **ALL** courses taught during an emergency period **MUST** be synchronized **AND MUST** be theory **ONLY**. Synchronized learning is described as real-time learning through a virtual platform. Instructors and students must be visible at all times and instructors must be actively engaging with students. Hours are to be recorded as if the student were present in the classroom. **AT NO TIME WILL PRE-RECORDED OR NON-SYNCHRONIZED LEARNING BE ACCEPTED.**

Unplanned/Emergency Closures:

- **Weather Conditions:** Heavy snow, ice, extreme wind chills, or severe storms.
 - Issued by town/city, county or state government – Please refer to the [SC Emergency Management Division](#) (SCEMD)
- **Natural Disasters:** Earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, or wildfires.
 - Issued by town/city, county, state or federal government – Please refer to the [SC Emergency Management Division](#) (SCEMD) or the [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#) (FEMA)
- **Facility Issues:** Utility failures (power outages, lack of heat/water), fire damage, or structural hazards. **(Must seek approval within 24 hours of the emergency)**
- **Health and Safety:** Infectious disease outbreaks, threats of violence, or environmental hazards like asbestos. **(Must seek approval within 24 hours of the emergency)**

Distance learning must not exceed 14 consecutive school/teaching days unless it is due to weather conditions or natural disasters as deemed by the local, state or federal government, and approved by the Board.

*****During emergency distance learning, the Board is to be notified prior to beginning instruction by sending an email to BoardInfo@llr.sc.gov. A link to the virtual portal MUST be sent within that email to provide access to the instructive time. The Board and/or Board staff reserves the right to attend the virtual learning class(es).***