
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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2021 Wisconsin Act 60
[2021 Assembly Bill 121]

**Natural Hair Braiding
Without a License**

2021 WISCONSIN ACT 60

2021 Wisconsin Act 60 specifies that a person does not need to obtain a barbering or cosmetology license in order to perform “natural hair braiding,” which is defined in the act as twisting, wrapping, weaving, extending, locking, crocheting, or braiding hair by hand or with a mechanical device. The act defines “mechanical device” as a clip, comb, crochet hook, curler, curling iron, hairpin, roller, scissors, needle, thread, or hair binder. The act further provides that natural hair braiding includes all of the following:

- Using natural or synthetic hair extensions, natural or synthetic hair or fibers, decorative beads, and other hair accessories.
- Trimming of natural hair or hair extensions incidental to twisting, wrapping, weaving, extending, locking, crocheting, or braiding hair.
- Making wigs from natural hair, natural fibers, synthetic fibers, or hair extensions.
- Using topical agents such as conditioners, gels, moisturizers, oils, pomades, and shampoos in conjunction with an activity permitted under the act.

Lastly, the act provides that natural hair braiding does not include either the application of dyes, reactive chemicals, or other preparations to alter the color of the hair or to straighten, curl, or alter the structure of the hair, or the use of chemical hair joining agents such as synthetic tape, keratin bonds, or fusion bonds.

Effective date: July 10, 2021

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