



MONTANA ACADEMY
OF SALONS

10 THINGS

i wish i knew before starting school



**HAIR
MAKEUP
DEDICATED
LOVE**

PASSION

A day in the life as a cosmetology student isn't just all hair and makeup. Many students are surprised by all the wonderful, lifelong friends they make and all of the information they learn. After an interview with our students, we found out the top 10 things students wish they knew before they started in a cosmetology program.

1. THE PASSION

If you think you love hair and makeup now, your passion will only grow as you surround yourself with others who are just as passionate in an environment dedicated to cosmetology. Everyday will be something new and exciting. One of the most rewarding parts of a career as a stylist is the customer interaction. You get to do what you love and share it with someone else. There is nothing more satisfying than seeing a guest walk out the door with a brand-new attitude because you gave them the cut that they've been dreaming of.

2. THE CAREER POSSIBILITIES

A lot of people don't know about the endless job opportunities available to licensed cosmetologists. A few of the jobs in the market are:

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|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 <i>Salon Owner</i> | 8 <i>Hair Color Specialist</i> |
| 2 <i>Salon Manager</i> | 9 <i>Salon Coordinator</i> |
| 3 <i>Salon Stylist</i> | 10 <i>Salon Sales Consultant</i> |
| 4 <i>High-end Stylist</i> | <i>And Many More!</i> |
| 5 <i>Wedding Stylist</i> | |
| 6 <i>Runway Stylist</i> | |
| 7 <i>Movie Makeup Artist</i> | |

The jobs you can pursue and the money you can make are completely based on how much time, effort, and dedication you put into your work! According to the [BLS](#) in 2015, jobs in cosmetology are expecting growth at a rate of 10% between 2014-2024. The demand for these jobs comes from the growth in the beauty industry itself (think of the amount of beauty bloggers and vloggers in the last few years) and the growth of Hollywood.

**AS STYLISTS, WE'RE
GROUNDSHAKERS AND DAYMAKERS**

**SETTING TRENDS, WHILE
FOSTERING CONNECTIONS
BETWEEN A PERSON'S INNER
AND OUTER SELF**

Rebecca Gregory
(Online Salon Systems, Technical Director)



**CAREER
SIDE-BY-SIDE
INCLUDE
REENERGIZE**

PEOPLE

3. THE FRIENDS

Because you are working side-by-side with the same people everyday, you often make lifelong best friends. It's easy to get along with people who love their career as much as you do. Getting along with the people you work with makes your days that much better!

4. HOW MUCH YOU'LL LEARN

There is a massive amount of information about cosmetology and beauty in general. Getting the right information about the industry and all the skills involved will make or break your career later in life. It's important to get the right education. Here at Montana Beauty Academy, we make the greatest effort to have the most [cutting edge courses](#) with the most up to date information.

**HAIRDRESSERS ARE WONDERFUL
BREED. YOU WORK ONE-ON-ONE
WITH ANOTHER HUMAN BEING,
AND THE OBJECT IS TO MAKE THEM
FEEL SO MUCH BETTER, AND TO LOOK
AT THEMSELVES WITH A
TWINKLE IN THEIR EYE**

Vidal Sassoon





**SUCCESS
STYLE
DREAM
CLIENT**

FINANCIAL

5. HOW MUCH FINANCIAL AID IS AVAILABLE

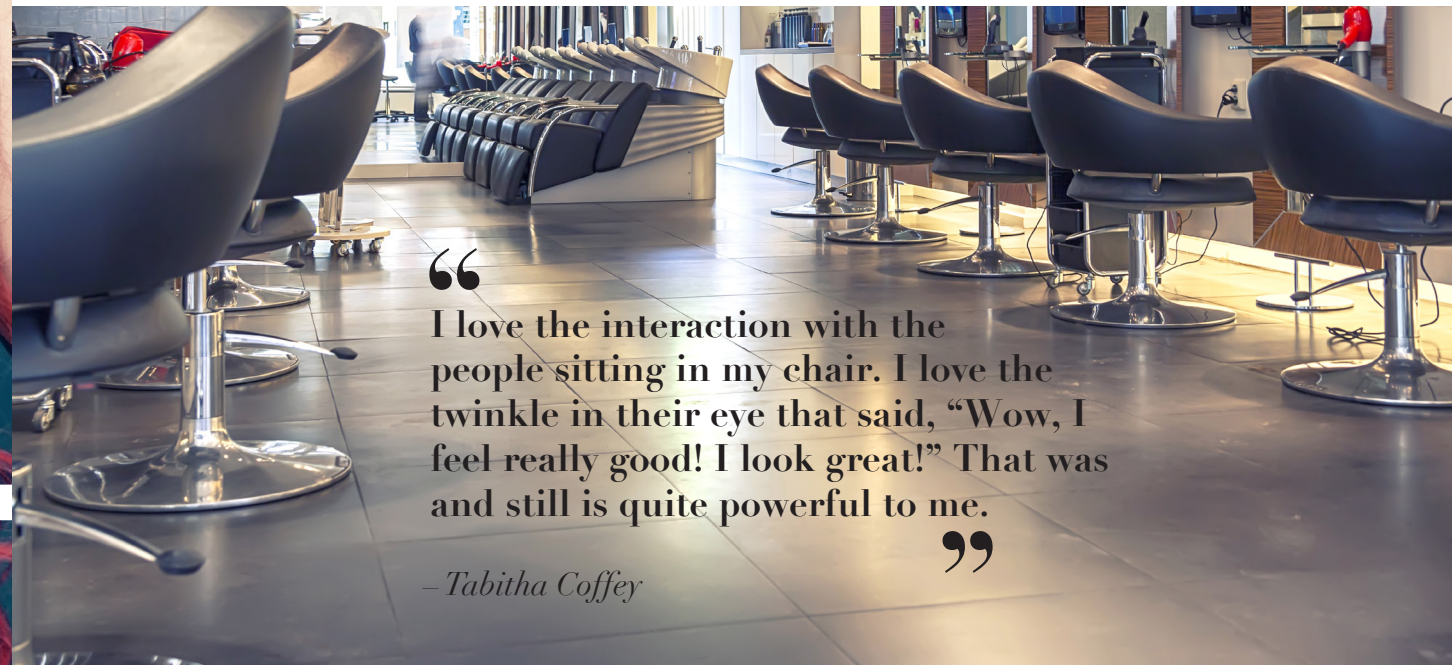
There are many types of [financial aid](#) available to qualifying Montana Beauty Academy students. Here are a few:

-  *Pell Grants*
-  *Subsidized Loans*
-  *Unsubsidized Loans*
-  *PLUS Loans*

You can apply for federal aid by submitting a [FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). There are also many scholarships available at our academy. You just have to ask! When you're on your tour be sure to ask if you qualify for any of our scholarships.

6. BECOMING A "THERA-STYLIST"

You'll spend between a few minutes to a couple hours with each individual client as a cosmetologist. And, hopefully, you'll see them a few times in a month. That means you'll probably get to know your customers intimately, as they share tidbits of information about themselves while they're in your chair. Many guests start to feel comfortable with their stylist after spending a lot of time with them. You may or may not want to know these things, but this is one upside of the job! You never know who you're going to meet next. Every person who comes in has a new story!



“I love the interaction with the people sitting in my chair. I love the twinkle in their eye that said, “Wow, I feel really good! I look great!” That was and still is quite powerful to me.

—Tabitha Coffey



**GLAM
BUSINESS
CREATIVE
COLORFUL**

MAKEUP

7. HOW SURPRISINGLY DIFFICULT MAKEUP APPLICATION IS

We love Instagram for the plethora of short, beautiful makeup video clips. However, you don't get to see behind the scenes. Sometimes makeup can take a few hours to apply, especially if it is particularly glam. You may not know it, but your favorite IG beauty guru probably takes a few hours to record their thirty second video.

Conceptually, makeup may be easy for most people to grasp. But when it comes to application, the techniques are a skill all their own. The end result can turn out several different ways depending on the way you blended, which lines you emphasized, or which color palette you chose. Makeup application takes time, dedication, and lots of practice to master.

8. THE BUSINESS END

When students start, they are taken by surprise by the business end of cosmetology! If you want to own or manage a salon or even become a freelance stylist, you'll need to know some business skills. These may include:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 <i>Marketing</i> | 8 <i>Current State Laws</i> |
| 2 <i>Networking</i> | 9 <i>Current State Rules</i> |
| 3 <i>Salon Management</i> | <i>And even more!</i> |
| 4 <i>Business Method</i> | |
| 5 <i>Customer Service</i> | |
| 6 <i>Professional Ethics</i> | |
| 7 <i>Appointment Booking</i> | |

The greatest thing about learning business skills is that they are applicable everywhere! If you move to another area of the industry, you can use what you've learned in cosmetology.





**CREATIVE
INDUSTRY
SUPPORT
FAST-PACED**

DRIVEN

9. YOU DON'T KNOW AS MUCH AS YOU THINK YOU KNOW

It can be a little overwhelming and discouraging when you start at the academy because you didn't realize how much goes into it. You may come in thinking you know hair basics, intermediate makeup application, and that you are a hair coloring amateur, but you're not! THAT'S OK! Our certified facilitators are here to make sure that you are learning everything you need to know. We want you to feel as comfortable as possible with asking questions and consulting with our facilitators. Your success is of the utmost importance to us.

“
Hairdressing is not a job, it's a craft.
”
–Anonymous

10. YOU CAN DO IT!

It's OK to struggle every once in awhile. It's OK to have bad days and ups and downs. There's no shame in not knowing something. No one is perfect. We strive to make our courses as direct as possible; we like to make sure all information is clear and concise. [Our staff](#) is here to help and encourage you! We have the passion for the beauty industry and for our students' success! The best things in life take hard work and dedication. Push yourself to grow and learn; you'd be amazed at how much you can accomplish, and we're here to support you!

TAKE SOME TIME FOR REFLECTION

Here are a few things you can ask yourself before you start a career in cosmetology:

- ➔ Are you a people person?
- ➔ Can you stand for long periods of time?
- ➔ Are you creative?
- ➔ Are you driven?
- ➔ Do you love making people happy?
- ➔ Are you ready to work in a fast-paced industry?

If you answered yes to all of these questions, you should check out our [course information page](#), or [contact our admissions office](#)! If you already know that Montana Beauty Academy is the place for you, [submit an application](#).

