

Commonly asked questions

1. What does it cost?

The permit is \$5 each year. The inspection fee is \$33 per unit each year.

2. How long does it take once I submit my application to get my permit?

We can usually have the application processed within 2 weeks of the date of receipt.

3. Can I offer tanning sessions while I wait for the permit?

No. You must have the permit first.

4. How old do you have to be to tan?

Currently, there are no age restrictions set by the state. The facility owner may set restrictions if he/she wants. The federal government is suggesting that no one under the age of 18 be allowed to tan.

5. How old do you have to be to operate a tanning bed?

You must be at least 16.

6. What kind of records do I need to keep?

Record the date and number of minutes tanned for each tanner, the signed statement that the tanner has read the IDPH health warnings, the test for each employee, an equivalency chart if you use lamps different from those recommended on the labeling.

7. Do I have to post anything?

Yes. Post the permit to operate, a large warning sign at the sign-up area, a small warning sign in each room, and the IDPH Health Warnings in each room. The inspection form does not have to be posted.

8. Do I have to follow the recommended session frequency on the label?

Yes. No deviation is allowed. If the unit says 48 hours between sessions, that is what you must enforce.

9. Do I have to follow the recommended minutes per skin type on the label?

You may deviation from these recommendations provided you document on the tanner's record why you deviated from the recommendations. Acceptable reasons are: already had a

base tan, or “my lamps need to be replaced and are not tanning at maximum.” You still may not exceed the maximum minutes recommended.

10. Can you get a skin disease from the unit such as herpes, lice, etc?

The light is intense enough to prevent passing of these diseases. But you must cleanse the unit between sessions anyway.

11. Can pregnant women tan?

Yes. The light does not penetrate deep enough to harm the baby. But the woman may suffer heat exhaustion, skin rashes, or skin blotching. A pregnant woman may tan but should exercise extreme caution and be monitored carefully.