Missouri: the rules for aesthetic practice

What Missouri's laws and boards say about who may do aesthetic treatments, who must supervise them, and who can own the practice.

Nurse practitioners: Restricted Practice

Nurse practitioners

Restricted (AANP). APRNs keep a collaborative practice arrangement with a physician for their whole career; the Board of Nursing alone licenses them (RSMo 334.104, 335.036). Controlled substances only by the physician's delegation: Schedules III-V and Schedule II hydrocodone, with Schedule III narcotics and Schedule II hydrocodone limited to a 120-hour supply without refill (buprenorphine for addiction treatment up to 30 days).

Medical director or supervising physician

The physician and APRN must keep geographic proximity (no fixed mileage; waivable for telehealth set out in the arrangement, up to 28 days a year at some rural clinics, or on application to both boards). The APRN sends at least 10% of charts to the physician every 14 days, and the physician reviews at least 20% of charts with controlled-substance prescriptions every 14 days. When the APRN diagnoses and starts treatment, the physician is present at least every 2 weeks. A new arrangement starts with at least one month of practice with the physician continuously present. One physician may collaborate with no more than 6 full-time APRNs, PAs or assistant physicians combined (RSMo 334.104).

Delegating to RNs, estheticians and staff

No Missouri board guidance on cosmetic injections or lasers by RNs or estheticians was checked in November 2026. Ask the Board of Nursing or the Board of Registration for the Healing Arts before delegating.

Who can own the practice

Missouri professional corporations (physicians and registered nurses are both covered) may combine professions only where each profession's licensing board expressly permits it, and only licensees of a service the corporation provides may own shares (RSMo 356.021, 356.051, 356.111). Whether a business owned by a non-physician may employ or contract physicians is not settled: no statute, board ruling or court decision on it was found. Confirm the entity type with a Missouri healthcare attorney.

The biggest risk in Missouri. Opening a new location before the one month with the physician on site, and missed 14-day chart reviews.

Check it with your boards: Missouri State Board of Nursing - pr.mo.gov/nursing.asp and Missouri State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts - pr.mo.gov/healingarts.asp. Checked November 3, 2026. Rules change, so read the current rule on the board's own site before you act.

Ask S.A.G.E. next. S.A.G.E., our AI practice advisor, answers from this same Missouri reference, free in your TMAA account, which you can set up at go.medicalaestheticsassociation.com/start-here. Try:

1. I'm an RN in Missouri. What has to be in place before I offer injectables?
2. What must my medical director agreement cover in Missouri?
3. What can an esthetician do in Missouri, and what needs an order?

S.A.G.E. is not legal advice. For a binding answer, talk to a healthcare attorney in your state.