



## A Newsletter for Idaho Tobacco Retailers Sponsored by Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

Contact us: 208-334-0642

ID Tobacco Project Website: [healthandwelfare.idaho.gov](http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov)  
Select the "medical" menu and then "Idaho Tobacco Permits"

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### Facts and Stats

#### Grade "A" for 2015

According to Idaho Code 39-5701, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare must inspect each business that sells tobacco to ensure that it does not sell tobacco to minors. In 2015:

- 1768 Vendors were inspected.\*
- Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for the month was 91.12%

\*Non-minor Exempt Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

### Prevent the Sale Website

[Preventthesale.com/Idaho](http://Preventthesale.com/Idaho)

Look for our new game, additional training and point-of-sale resources for retailers, and updated ID information!

## More Tobacco Taxes for 2016

By Cheryl Reed

### The effects of increased tobacco tax

Research has shown that increasing the cost of tobacco products reduces adult and underage smoking. President Obama has proposed a big increase on the federal excise tax for 2016 on cigarettes and other tobacco products to fund early childhood education and the Children's Health Insurance Program. Tax on cigarettes and small cigars would increase by 94 cents; roll-your-own tobacco would be taxed at \$44.23 per pound and snuff and chewing tobacco at \$10 per pound. The estimated revenue generated from the new tax would be \$50 billion over five years.

A similar increase in tobacco tax in 2009 produced a historic drop in cigarette sales of 11.1 percent, and an estimated 220,000 to 287,000 fewer smokers among middle and high school students.

Sources: <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0374.pdf>  
<http://taxfoundation.org/blog/proposed-tax-changes-president-obama-s-fiscal-year-2016-budget>

### Staff compliance training

In addition to holding a valid and current Idaho Tobacco Retailer permit, the retailer is also responsible to train staff to comply with Idaho and FDA requirements for selling tobacco and tobacco products in the state of Idaho. The FDA and Idaho Tobacco Project compliance inspections are conducted separately and the consequences of non-compliance different and costly. However, both Idaho and the FDA may reduce fines if the retailer has training policies in place that meet their requirements.

To comply with state and federal requirements, tobacco retailers must have an established training policy for employees. The information for the training policy is available on our prevent-the-sale website (<http://preventthesale.com/idaho/resources.htm>) and includes a number of helpful resources that employees can reference if they have questions.

It's important to know the federal and state compliance laws, not just to protect yourself and your business, but to also protect youth from the harmful effects of tobacco.

*Remember: It is against the law to sell tobacco to someone under age 18. Compliance inspections occur without warning at any time and are conducted by minors. If you sell any tobacco products to the inspecting minor, you will be fined.*

## Smoking at an all-time low

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's latest report shows that smoking among Americans has reached an all-time low of just 16.9 percent, a significant decline since the 2005 report of 20.9 percent and even more remarkable since the 1965 report of 42.4 percent.

How has it happened? The U.S. government has taken several proactive steps, including increased tobacco taxes, public health campaigns, and smoke-free zones. Still, smoking remains the number one cause of preventable disease in the U.S. (<http://cdc.gov>).

## QuitSTART App

A free phone app for teens who want to quit smoking! The app can prepare teens to quit, monitor progress and earn badges for milestones, manage cravings and bad moods, provide distractions, provide inspiration, and share your progress and tips through social media. QuitSTART can be downloaded from any app store, including iTunes and Android. It was created by the Tobacco Control Research Branch of the National Cancer Institute in collaboration with the FDA. Tobacco control professionals, smoking cessation experts, and former smokers all helped design the App. Questions? Contact [smokefreeteam@icfi.com](mailto:smokefreeteam@icfi.com). (<http://teen.smokefree.gov>).

*Happy New Year!*



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### What's inside?

- Increased tobacco tax
- Staff compliance training
- Smoking decreases
- QuitSTART phone app

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES**