



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"

### Facts and Stats

#### Grade "A" for 2018

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 **2018**:

- 1743 Vendors were inspected.\*
- 112 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for the month was 93.57%

\*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!

## Prevention Makes All the Difference

Over the last two decades, Idaho has worked in close partnership with local tobacco retailers to reduce teen access to tobacco. Since that time, the state's tobacco inspection compliance rate has continued to improve with each passing year. Tobacco retailers should be proud of their efforts to keep tobacco out of the hands of teens. Unfortunately, more work needs to be done, and we cannot do it without you and your commitment to the health and well-being of Idaho's teens!

According to the latest from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), if smoking were to continue at its current rate among youth in this country, 5.6 million of today's teens will die early from smoking-related illness. That's about 1 of every 13 teens!

Preventing tobacco use among teens is critical to ending the tobacco epidemic. Here are some alarming statistics from the CDC on current tobacco use:

- Tobacco use is started and established primarily during adolescence.
  - Nearly 9 out of 10 cigarette smokers first tried smoking by age 18, and 98% first tried smoking by age 26.
  - Each day in the United States, about 2,000 youth under 18 years of age smoke their first cigarette, and each day in the United States, more than 300 youth under 18 years of age become daily cigarette smokers.
- Flavorings in tobacco products can make them more appealing to youth.
  - In 2014, 73% of high school students and 56% of middle school students who used tobacco products in the past 30 days reported using a flavored tobacco product during that time.

Learn more facts on youth and tobacco use [here](#).

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## How can tobacco retailers continue the effort?

As tobacco retailers you have the opportunity and the legal obligation to refuse the sale of tobacco to any customer under the age of 18. Retailers and their clerks are the last line of defense between teens and tobacco. They must be equipped with the knowledge and training needed to properly identify teens and refuse the sale of tobacco to them.

Store policies set the tone for how teens perceive your store. Are you an easy target for teens seeking tobacco illegally, or are you partnering with Idaho to assist in the prevention effort? Are you a retailer committed to following the law and protecting the health of Idaho's teens? Teens get the answer from you! As we begin the new year, ask yourself what type of tobacco retailer you want to be. One of the most important New Year's resolutions you can make is to protect Idaho's future generation! Commit today to continue the effort to keep tobacco out of the hands of our youth.

Prepare your clerks and staff by:

- Ensuring each employee is will trained on store policies.
- Ensuring each clerk is prepared for the states unannounced compliance checks.
- Ensuring your employees are trained to say "No" to teens trying to purchase tobacco products.
- Ensuring your tobacco is properly secured according to Idaho law.
- Ensuring your clerks always ask for ID.
- Ensuring your clerk can look at an ID and know the age category of each customer **WITHOUT** using math but instead using the IDs color coding and age indicators provided.
- Ensuring you and your employees are familiar with state and federal laws regarding tobacco access.
- Ensuring you and your employees have access to and review the content on [Preventthesale.com](http://Preventthesale.com). Idaho has provided retailers with this site to help in training and to provide information to retailers regarding Idaho laws.

Let's make 2019 the best and most successful yet in preventing the sale of tobacco to minors. After all, prevention makes all the difference!



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### What's inside?

- Prevention Makes All the Difference
- How retailers can continue the effort

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES**