



Contact us: 208-334-0642
ID Tobacco Project Website: healthandwelfare.idaho.gov
Select the "medical" menu and then "Idaho Tobacco Permits"

2020 FACTS AND STATS

Compliance Grade:
A
Calendar Year 2019

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.

How well did Idaho Tobacco Retailers comply with the law?

- 1663 Tobacco Retailers were inspected.*
- 92 Tobacco Retailers sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for the last six months was 94.47%

WELL DONE!

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

Coronavirus (COVID19) Impact to Tobacco Retailers

Idaho public health officials continue to monitor the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) situation very closely. Officials are working with the CDC and other states and are also in regular communication with Idaho public health districts and health care providers around the state. For information on the number of COVID-19 cases in Idaho and additional updates on COVID-19 specific to Idaho please visit <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/> or call the state's COVID-19 hotline at 888-330-3010.

Statewide Stay-Home Order

Governor Little has issued a Statewide Stay-Home Order beginning March 25, 2020 that will continue for at least the next 21 days. You can review the Governor's Order here. https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/127/2020/03/statewide-stay-home-order_032520.pdf.

In addition, the State of Idaho has put out a poster that provides guidance on the Governor's order. That can be found at https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/127/2020/03/statewide-stay-home-order_032520.pdf.

Answers to frequently asked questions regarding the Stay-Home Order can be found at https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/127/2020/03/032520_Order-FAQ_updated.pdf

Essential Services

As Tobacco Retailers, you may find that your business can stay open under the Governor's Stay-Home Order. For example, convenience stores, gas stations, grocers, and some hotel/motels are considered essential and can remain open. Some retailers are not considered essential like bars and adult businesses and must close during this time. A complete list of retailers that are considered essential can be found at https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/127/2020/03/IdahoEssentialServices_updated.pdf.

While Idahoans pull together during this crisis, please remember that the laws governing tobacco have **NOT** changed. Please remember the following when selling tobacco:

1. Although the state's minimum age to purchase tobacco products remains at 18, retailers should be aware that the federal legal minimum age for tobacco products has increased to 21.
2. Tobacco Sales must be **Vender Assisted**: Retailers must ensure customers have no access to tobacco products until the sale of the tobacco product is complete. (Idaho Code 39-5706 (1)).
3. Tobacco Sales and **Self-Service Displays**: In general, Idaho prohibits self-service displays of any kind. This means if a customer can touch or pick up tobacco from a display in the store, that would be a violation of the law. The only exception are businesses with at least 75% of its merchandise in tobacco products. (Idaho Code 39-5706 (4)).
4. Tobacco Sales and **Open Packages, Samples, Freebies**: Open packages, samples and freebies are illegal in Idaho. Keep it simple and only sell tobacco in its original packaging and at the lawful price. (Idaho Code 39-5707 (1) (2)).
5. Tobacco Sales and **Vending Machines**: Selling tobacco products directly to customers through a Vending Machine is illegal in Idaho. (Idaho Code 39-5776(2)).
6. Idaho businesses who wish to sell tobacco must have an **Idaho Tobacco Permit**. (Idaho Code 39-5704).

Have Questions?

There are resources available if you have questions about COVID-19 and how it could affect you and your business. For frequently asked questions about COVID-19 please visit <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/frequently-asked-questions/>, call the state's COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-330-3010, or your local public health district. <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/contact/>.

For information on how to protect yourself or if you believe you may be sick the CDC has helpful information that can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Stay Health and Safe!

Everyone should take precautions to avoid all respiratory diseases, including staying home if you're sick, avoiding sick people, and covering your coughs and sneezes with the crook of your elbow or a tissue (<https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/>).

Idahoans and Tobacco Retailers can work together to stop the spread of COVID-19 and get through this time challenging and difficult time. Please do your part by following the health guidelines from the CDC and Idaho Public Health Departments, as well as the Stay-Home Order requirements from the Governor.



Need information on the Idaho tobacco law, training and point-of-sale resources, information about what IDs look like, a helpful quiz and game to practice when to refuse the sale of tobacco to a customer, and many other resources tailored to Idaho Tobacco Retailers? Check out our website designed just for Idaho Tobacco Retailers: Preventthesale.com/Idaho



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Volume 19, Issue 3
March 2020

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PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES