

Contact IDHW's Idaho Tobacco Project at: 877-641-4468 ID Tobacco Project Website: <u>healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/providers</u> Select the topic "Retailers" then "Idaho Tobacco Project." Volume 23, Issue 2 February 2024

FACTS AND STATS

What was the Compliance Grade for Calendar Year 2023's state tobacco and electronic smoking device inspections?

Grade A

According to Idaho Code 39-5701, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare must inspect each Permitted Retailer that sells tobacco and electronic smoking devices to ensure that it does not sell these products to minors.

How well did these Permitted Retailers comply with the law in calendar year 2023?

- 1872 Permitted Retailers were inspected.*
- 108 Permitted Retailers sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for calendar year 2023 was:

94.23%

GREAT WORK!

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

Why Retailers Should "Prevent the Sale"

Inspections Are Underway

The 2024 compliance inspections for tobacco and vape enforcement in Idaho are underway. As part of our commitment to public health and regulatory adherence, these inspections will ensure that all establishments are operating in accordance with state laws and regulations concerning the sale and distribution of tobacco and vape products.

Inspectors will be conducting unannounced visits at various retail locations to verify compliance with age restrictions, product placement, labeling, marketing restrictions, and other pertinent regulations designed to safeguard the well-being of our communities, especially our youth.

Idaho's Tobacco and Vape Retailers are reminded to ensure they have a current and valid 2024 Idaho Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Device Permit and to ensure that their establishments are fully compliant with all relevant laws and regulations.

Contact us at **877-641-4468** should you have any questions regarding your permit status.

Why Should Idaho Retailers "Prevent the Sale?"

Idaho retailers should comply with regulations and prevent tobacco and vape sales to underage customers for several reasons:

- Legal Compliance: It is a legal requirement to prevent the sale of tobacco and vape products to anyone under the age of 21. Non-compliance can result in fines to the clerk and retailer. Too many violations can result in the suspension or revocation of the retailer's permit to sell these products.
- Public Health: Tobacco and vape products pose significant health risks, particularly for young people whose bodies and brains are still developing. Preventing underage access helps mitigate these health risks and promotes healthier communities.

- Ethical Responsibility: Retailers have an ethical responsibility to protect the well-being of young individuals and prevent them from developing harmful habits at a young age.
- **Community Relations:** Complying with regulations regarding the sale of tobacco and vape products demonstrates a retailer's commitment to the well-being of the community, fostering positive relationships with customers and local authorities.

We appreciate your cooperation in upholding the legal standards of tobacco and vape enforcement in Idaho. Together, we can promote healthier communities and reduce the harmful effects of tobacco and vape products.

What are the Benefits of Delayed Tobacco and Vape Use?

By preventing the sale and aiding in delaying the initiation of tobacco and vape use, Idaho Tobacco and Vape Retailers can directly influence the health and well-being of their customers. What are the benefits of delayed use?

- **Healthier Lifestyle:** Delaying tobacco and vape use reduces the likelihood of addiction and related health issues such as respiratory problems, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer.
- Improved Academic and Social Outcomes: Young individuals who do not engage in tobacco and vape use are more likely to perform better academically and socially, as they are not affected by the negative impacts of nicotine addiction.
- **Financial Savings:** Avoiding tobacco and vape use saves money that would otherwise be spent on purchasing these products, leading to better financial stability in the long run.
- **Reduced Peer Pressure:** Delaying tobacco and vape use can help young people resist peer pressure and make independent, informed decisions about their health.

Prevent-The-Sale!

Idaho Tobacco Retailers have two resources for Prevent-The-Sale content: Visit Idaho's Department of Health and Welfare's official <u>Idaho Tobacco Project-Prevent The Sale</u> webpage for statewide information.

Visit Idaho Tobacco Projects interactive website <u>Preventhesale.com</u> for interactive and evolving content, including newsletter archives, information on IDs, and downloadable resources and documents.



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PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES