

Contact IDHW's Idaho Tobacco Project at: 877-641-4468 ID Tobacco Project Website: <u>https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/providers</u>* *Scroll down to the topic "Retailers" then select "Idaho Tobacco Project." Volume 23, Issue 7 July 2024

FACTS AND STATS

What was the Compliance Grade for June 2024 state tobacco and electronic smoking device inspections?

Grade 🗛

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 customers under the age of 21.

How well did these Permitted Retailers comply with the law in June 2024?

- 186 Permitted Retailers were inspected.*
- 11 Permitted Retailers sold to the underage inspector.
- The compliance rate for June 2024 was:

94.09%

KEEP IT UP!

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

Boost Compliance and Health with Proper Tools and Signage

As a tobacco and vape retailer in Idaho, it is crucial to ensure that you are equipped with the right tools and signage to prevent the sale of these products to all customers under 21. By implementing robust age verification tools and displaying the correct signage, you contribute to a safer community while maintaining compliance with Idaho laws. Here are some key points to consider:

Age Verification Tools

- Electronic Age Verification Devices: Implementing electronic scanners that read IDs can help ensure accuracy and prevent the sale of tobacco and vape products to customers under 21.
- Training Staff: Ensure your employees are well-trained in using any electronic verification tools and can determine a customer's age based on the ID being presented. Regular training sessions can keep everyone up to date with the latest electronic age verification tools, legal requirements, and best practices of your business.

Required Signage for Compliance

- Minor Exempt Retailers (Bars and Adult Businesses): Minor exempt retailers must display signs prohibiting access to those under 21 at all entrances. To qualify as a minor exempt business, revenue from the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption must comprises at least fifty-five percent (55%) of total revenue, or the products and services being sold are primarily obscene, pornographic, profane, or sexually oriented.
- Vendor Assisted Sales Exemption: Retailers who qualify for the vendor assisted sales exemption must display signs prohibiting access to those under 21 at all entrances. To qualify for the non-vendor assisted sale exemption (where customers can pick up products themselves prior to purchase), at least 75% of the location's merchandise must consist of tobacco or electronic smoking devices.

Encouraged for All Retailers: Regardless of requirements, all retailers should post signage indicating that customers must be over 21 to purchase tobacco and e-device products at your store. This communicates to customers your commitment to following the law and prevents underage sales.

Benefits of Health Warning Posters

Health warning posters are an essential part of your signage strategy. They offer several benefits for your business and the community:

Promote Public Health Awareness

- Inform Customers: Health warning posters provide vital information about the risks associated with tobacco and vape products. By clearly communicating these dangers, you help customers make informed decisions about their health.
- Encourage Responsible Use: When customers are aware of the potential health risks, they are more likely to use these products responsibly. This supports broader public health initiatives aimed at reducing tobacco and vape-related illnesses.

• Enhance Store Credibility

- Show Commitment to Health: Displaying health warning posters demonstrates that you care about your customers' well-being. This can significantly enhance your store's reputation, positioning you as a responsible and trustworthy retailer.
- Build Community Trust: By actively promoting public health, you build trust within the community. Customers are more likely to support businesses that prioritize their health and safety.

Relaunch of Idaho Tobacco Project Website

The relaunch date for the Idaho Tobacco Project's new and improved website has been changed to the first week of September. To ensure the best possible retailer experience, final touches to the website are being completed prior to launch.

Don't forget! This relaunch will feature enhanced security, improved functionality, and updated permit management tools including the ability for permit holders to manage permits, view history, and access improved reports. Idaho Tobacco and E-Device Retailers are encouraged to monitor <u>IDHW's Retailer</u> <u>Training</u> page for latest updates on the new launch date and access to training resources for the updated site.

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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What's inside?

- Importance of Age Verification Tools
- Required Signage for Compliance
- Benefits of Health Warning Posters
- Relaunch of ITP Website
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PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES