



Contact us: 208-334-0642

ID Tobacco Project Website: healthandwelfare.idaho.gov
Select the "medical" menu and then "Idaho Tobacco Permits"

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2021 FACTS AND STATS

What was the
Compliance Grade
after last month's
state tobacco
inspections?

Grade **A**
for
May 2021

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 May 2021?

- 225 Permitted Retailers were inspected.*
- 8 Permitted Retailers sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for May 2021:

96.44%
SUPER!

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

Idaho Tobacco Retailer Training: Is your store doing enough?

As Idaho Tobacco Retailers, you have the opportunity and the legal obligation to refuse the sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to any underage customer. Retailers and their clerks are the last line of defense to ensure underage customers are denied these products.

It is important that retailers and staff are properly trained and equipped with the knowledge needed to properly identify underage customers. Store policies set the tone for how those under 21 perceive your store. Ask yourself:

- Is my store an easy target for customers seeking tobacco and electronic smoking devices illegally, or is my store partnering with Idaho to assist in the prevention effort?
- Is my store committed to following the law and protecting the health of Idaho's minors?
- What type of training does my store offer its staff that addresses the sale of tobacco and electronic smoking devices?

Providing Good Training to Idaho Tobacco Retailer staff.

Staff should have sufficient training to know how to deal with stressful circumstances throughout the day. This training should include how to refuse the sale of tobacco and electronic smoking devices to all underage customers.

Here are some ideas to improve your training on how to prepare your clerks and staff to be compliant with [Idaho Code 39-5700](http://preventionthesale.com/Idaho/law.htm) (<http://preventionthesale.com/Idaho/law.htm>)

- Be sure each employee is well trained on all store policies, especially any related the sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices. Have employees read and sign your training documents to document each employee has successfully completed their training.

- Be sure each clerk is prepared for the states unannounced compliance checks. Train clerks to assume every underage customer is part of a compliance check. Remaining vigilant will help to avoid costly fines and penalties.
- Be sure that all clerks feel confident to say “No” to any underage customers who try to purchase tobacco products and electronic smoking devices. Role-playing difficult situations is an excellent way for staff to become comfortable in most any situation. Role-playing can provide staff with the confidence to resist peer pressure and make the right decisions, particularly for younger staff who may have underage friends or acquaintances that attempt to purchase tobacco products or electronic smoking devices.
- Be sure that all tobacco products and electronic smoking devices are properly secured according to [Idaho law](#). Also review regulations regarding the [FDA's requirements](#) for its product restrictions including its advertising and labeling requirements. Sources: <http://preventthesale.com/Idaho/law.htm>, <https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/rules-regulations-and-guidance/family-smoking-prevention-and-tobacco-control-act-overview>
- Make it clear that clerks are always to ask for ID of any customer attempting to purchase tobacco products or electronic smoking devices. By always checking IDs, your clerks will build daily habits that will not only help them comply with the law and avoid costly fines but will build a comfortable familiarity with Idaho’s ID formats and how to spot a customer’s age quickly.
- As part of checking IDs, train your clerks how to identify the age of any customer using the age codes built into the Idaho’s IDs WITHOUT using math. Idaho’s IDs use color coding, ID layout, and pre-calculated dates printed on the IDs that give your clerks all the information they need to know if the customer is of legal age to purchase tobacco and electronic smoking devices. **No mental math needed!**
- Be certain that both you, as the owner/manager, and all the staff are familiar with state and federal laws regarding tobacco and electronic smoking device access.

Need More Help?

The FDA also has a number of [compliance webinars](#) (<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/compliance-enforcement-training/fda-tobacco-compliance-webinars>) where you review helpful videos and sign up to receive updates about new trainings. In addition, check out of website, Preventthesale.com:



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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PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES