



Contact IDHW's Idaho Tobacco Project at: 877-641-4468  
ID Tobacco Project Website: <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/providers>\*  
\*Scroll down to the topic "Retailers" then select "Idaho Tobacco Project."

## FACTS AND STATS

What was the Compliance Grade for September 2024 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 customers under the age of 21.

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

- 166 Permitted Retailers were inspected. \*
- 23 Permitted Retailers sold to the underage inspector.
- The compliance rate for September 2024 was:

**93.37%**

**KEEP IT UP!**

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

## Renewal Season Tips and Reminders for Idaho Tobacco and Vape Retailers!

As the Idaho Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Device Permit renewal season approaches, it's important for retailers to consider strategies that ensure compliance and success. Here are a few key practices to keep in mind:

- ▶ **Stay Informed on State and Local Laws.** Retailers should consistently stay up-to-date on legal requirements. Access the latest Idaho Tobacco Code and Administrative laws on the [Prevent the Sale](https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/preventthesale) website, while information on federal requirements is available through the [Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](https://www.fda.gov) website.
- ▶ **Train Staff Thoroughly.** Effective staff training is essential for preventing illegal sales. Employees must understand age requirements, the importance of ID verification, and the penalties for non-compliance. Periodic refresher courses and testing can help keep knowledge current, especially as age-verification technology and product options continue to evolve.
- ▶ **Implement Robust Age Verification Processes.** Age verification at the point of sale is vital for compliance with tobacco and e-cigarette laws. Installing ID scanners and clear signage to remind customers and employees about age restrictions can help prevent underage sales. Investing in technology to verify customer age can further reduce the risk of human error.
- ▶ **Keep Accurate Records and Documentation.** Regularly updated and accessible records of employee training, inspection results, and incident logs are essential for demonstrating compliance. This documentation can serve as an affirmative defense should a retailer face state fines for non-compliance, showing proactive efforts to follow regulations.
- ▶ **Engage in Community Outreach.** Retailers who participate in local community programs, including youth prevention initiatives, can improve public perception and stay informed of potential legal changes. Partnering with community anti-tobacco initiatives also aligns business practices with community health goals and reinforces legal requirements to prevent the sale of tobacco and e-cigarette products to customers under 21.

By integrating these practices, retailers can reduce the risk of penalties and establish a reputation for responsible business practices, which is beneficial in regulated markets.

## REMINDER Time to Renew Permits!

Renew your Idaho Tobacco and Electronic Smoking Device Permits before they expire on **December 31, 2024**. Permit renewal can be completed online for **free** on the Idaho Tobacco Project (ITP) website - [TobaccoPermits.com/Idaho](https://TobaccoPermits.com/Idaho).

### Need help renewing?

We are here to help! Have any technical difficulties, questions, want help renewing, or need a copy of your permit? There are two ways to reach us:

- ▶ Send us an email through the "[Contact Us](#)" link on the [ITP homepage](#).
- ▶ Call the ITP message hotline at **877-641-4468**. Listen to the message options and then leave us a detailed message. Your call will be returned in the order it was received. Most calls are returned within 2 business days.

### Renewal Reminders

- ▶ **Permits are Not Transferrable.** Remember that if you sell your retail location, your permit is **NOT** transferrable. The new owner must get their own Idaho issued permit.
- ▶ **No Sales from Vending Machines.** It is illegal to sell tobacco and/or electronic smoking devices from a vending machine in Idaho.
- ▶ **Temporary Permits are not allowed.** Permits for temporary markets, community events, fairs, tasting events, and mobile businesses are not allowed.

### No longer need a permit?

Email us using the "[Contact Us](#)" feature on the homepage. In your email, be sure to indicate why you no longer need a permit. These reasons include Change of Ownership; No longer selling tobacco or electronic smoking devices; On an Indian Reservation; Out of Business; or provide us with another explanation.

### Prevent-The-Sale!

Idaho Tobacco Retailers have two resources for Prevent-The-Sale content: Visit Idaho's Department of Health and Welfare's official [Idaho Tobacco Project-Prevent The Sale](#) webpage for statewide information.

Visit Idaho Tobacco Projects interactive website [Preventthesale.com](https://Preventthesale.com) for interactive and evolving content, including newsletter archives, information on IDs, and downloadable resources and documents.



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### What's inside?

- Renewal Season Tips and Reminders
- Reminder: Time to Renew Permits!
- Prevent-The-Sale Resources

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES**