

# License to Sell Tobacco Required in Oregon

## Tobacco Retail License Information and Support

Since Jan. 1, 2022, any retailer in Oregon who sells tobacco, or inhalant delivery system (IDS) products, also known as e-cigarettes or vaping products must have a license.

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### Tobacco retail licenses protect youth

Since Jan. 1, 2022, any retailer in Oregon who sells tobacco, or inhalant delivery system (IDS) products, also known as e-cigarettes or vaping products must have a license.

It's too easy for kids in Oregon to get tobacco and IDS products. In 2023, in a review by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), nearly one in four tobacco retailers inspected by OHA sold tobacco products to people under 21. That is against the law.



### The tobacco retail license law can help

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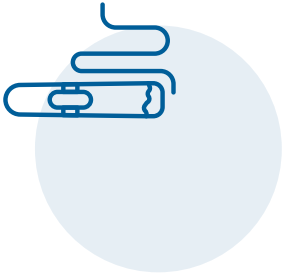
Tobacco retail licensing holds all retailers to the same standards. The state can then:

- Track where tobacco is sold
- Enforce tobacco sales laws, and
- Support retail owners and staff with education and training.



# What the license covers

## Products



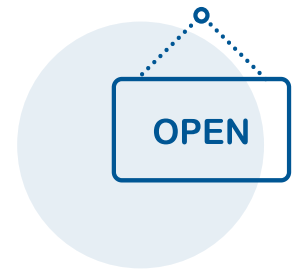
The law requires a tobacco retail license to sell any tobacco or IDS product, such as:

- Cigarettes
- Cigars
- Chewing tobacco
- E-cigarettes and vape products, and
- Any other item designed for tobacco product consumption, use or preparation.

## Retailers

Anyone who sells tobacco or IDS products directly to consumers is a tobacco retailer. Those who must have a tobacco retail license to sell tobacco include:

- Retail stores
- Cigar and hookah lounges
- Vape shops, and
- Bars.



The law does **not** apply to:

- Retailers on tribal lands
- Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC)-licensed marijuana retailers, or
- OHA-licensed marijuana dispensaries that don't sell IDS products that contain nicotine.



# Retailer license

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Retailers must post the license in a location visible to customers.

Retailers in some counties operate under their county tobacco retail license program. The Oregon Department of Revenue (DOR) has a list of local program websites on their [Statewide Tobacco Retail License web page](#).

The DOR and OHA together regulate the statewide tobacco retail license. Below are the roles of each.



DOR:

- Administers tobacco and cigarette taxes
- Issues licenses
- Collects fees
- Enforces licensing requirements, and
- Suspends or revokes licenses if needed.

OHA:

- Educates retailers on tobacco sales laws
- Conducts compliance checks, and
- Issues penalties for violations of tobacco sales laws.



## Requirements and resources for retailers

Retailers apply for a tobacco retail license at the Department of Revenue's Tobacco Retail License webpage

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Cost



Retailers pay an annual fee of \$                      Retailers with multiple locations need a license for each location. The license fee covers the costs of administering the program.

Scan the QR code or go to Department of Revenue webpage: <https://www.oregon.gov/dor/programs/businesses/pages/statewide-tobacco-retail-license.aspx> to learn more about the statewide tobacco retail license.

## OHA enforcement

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Conducts two inspections per year to make sure retailers:

- Do not sell to people under 21, and
- Follow all tobacco retail sales laws.

Go to [www.healthoregon.org/tobaccoretailsales](http://www.healthoregon.org/tobaccoretailsales) for information on:

- DOR penalties for not having a license, and
- OHA penalties for failing to comply with tobacco sales laws.



## Compliance resources

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DOR, OHA and local public health authorities are available to help retailers understand and comply with the law. OHA provides the following resources **for free**:

- A tobacco retail license training manual for retailers
- Answers to frequently asked questions about the law in multiple languages.
- Education and support from state program staff
- A regular newsletter with tools to help retailers follow Oregon's tobacco laws
- Updates when laws change.
- Access to state program staff to answer questions.



Scan the QR code or go to Tobacco Prevention webpage: [healthoregon.org/tobaccoretailsales](http://healthoregon.org/tobaccoretailsales) to learn more about the statewide tobacco retail license resources.



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