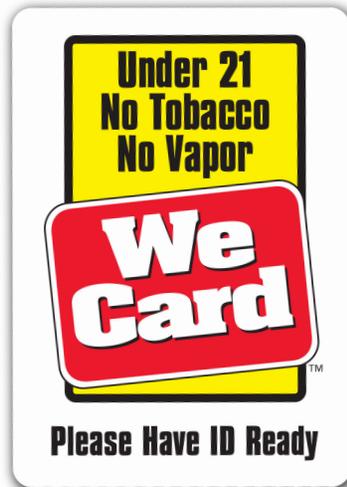


Connecticut New Law

Minimum-Age: 21 years old

Effective Date
October 1, 2019



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Minimum Age Restrictions

Connecticut Law Summary



NEW MINIMUM-AGE Law effective October 1, 2019 is 21 years old.

Customers must be 21 years or older to purchase tobacco products, e-cigarettes and vapor products (See Restricted Products section). The sale, gift or delivery of restricted products to persons under age 21 is prohibited, unless the person under 21 years of age is acting in the course of employment.

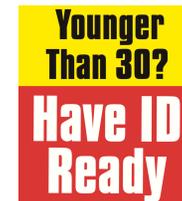
FDA Summary (Federal)

You must follow the Connecticut's 21 year minimum-age since it is higher than FDA's 18 year minimum-age requirement.

Minimum Age to Ask for ID

Connecticut Law Summary

Retailers must ask for ID for customers of Restricted Products who appear to be Under 30 years old.



FDA Summary (Federal)

Note: Follow the Connecticut requirement of **Under 30** because it is higher than FDA's **Under 27** requirement.

You must **Check photo ID of everyone appearing under age 27** who attempts to purchase FDA regulated products and verify the customer is of legal age to purchase. This is an each-and-every time requirement (even if you know the person to be of legal age.) If you "carded" them yesterday, you must "card" them again today!

Decline a sale when the customer is underage, has no photo ID, the photo ID contains no date-of-birth or the photo ID has expired.



Age Restricted Products - Tobacco and Vapor

Connecticut Law Summary

Tobacco in any form, vapor products (such as e-cigarettes) and electronic nicotine delivery systems, including but not limited to any product made or derived from tobacco and intended for human consumption, or likely to be consumed, whether smoked, heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to, a cigar, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff and snus, and any component or accessory thereof, including, but not limited to, a filter, rolling paper or pipe.

Vapor product means any product that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit or other electronic, chemical or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce a vapor that may include nicotine, that is inhaled by the user or such product.

Electronic nicotine delivery system means an electronic device used in the delivery of nicotine or other substances to a person inhaling from the device, and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device.

FDA Summary (Federal)



Cigarettes,
Cigarette Tobacco
& Roll-Your-
Own Tobacco



Smokeless
Tobacco



Cigars



Hookah
& Pipe
Tobacco



Loose Cigarettes



Nicotine
Gels



Dissolvable
Tobacco
Products



Electronic
Nicotine
Delivery Sales
(ENDS)

BANNED: SINGLE CIGARETTES OR "LOOSIES"

Do not sell single cigarettes ("loosies") or break open packs of 20 cigarettes to sell them in quantities of less than 20 cigarettes OR sell any quantity of smokeless tobacco that is smaller than the smallest package distributed by the manufacturer for individual consumer use.**

ENDS include e-cigarettes, e-hookah, ecigars, vape pens, advanced refillable personal vaporizers, electronic pipes, components & parts (such as e-liquids, atomizers, tank systems, batteries)

Acceptable forms of ID

Connecticut Law Summary

A motor vehicle operator's license, a valid passport or an identity card issued by the state Department of Motor Vehicles. If a person fails to provide such proof of age, a retailer or employee shall not sell cigarettes or tobacco products to the person.

FDA Summary (Federal)

Unless otherwise required by state or local law, FDA recommends that retailers accept only government-issued photographic identification with the bearer's date of birth. (e.g., State-issued driver's license or identification card, military identification card, passport or immigration card) for establishing a legal age to purchase FDA regulated products. The Photo ID is not acceptable if it has expired.

Post Signs Required by State Law

Connecticut Law Summary

Two possible signs are required depending upon which product(s) your store sells.

For tobacco selling retailers, a sign must be posted at each point of sale which states (1) that the sale, giving or delivering of tobacco products, including cigarettes, to any person under twenty-one (21) years of age is prohibited by section 53-344 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) the misrepresentation of age through the use of false identification by a person under twenty-one (21) years of age to purchase cigarette or tobacco products is prohibited by said section and (3) the penalties and fines for violating the provisions of this section and section 12-295a of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Failure to post a sign is punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.

For e-cigarette/vapor product retailers, a sign must be posted at each point of sale which states (1) the sale, giving or delivering of electronic nicotine delivery systems and vapor products to any person under twenty-one (21) years of age is prohibited by section 53-344b of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) the misrepresentation of age through the use of false identification by a person under twenty-one (21) years of age to purchase an electronic nicotine delivery system or a vapor product is prohibited, and (3) the penalties and fines for violating the provisions of this section and section 53-344b of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Failure to post a sign is punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.

Obtaining the state required signs: The Connecticut government is developing new education and awareness materials that is planned for release in September before the change in law on Oct. 1, 2019. A courtesy state notice sign(s) will be included in the direct mail package to retailers. [The state government has posted the new 21 year minimum-age sign here.](#)



Penalties and Fines

Connecticut Law Summary

Violators will be fined not more than \$300 for the first offense; not more than \$750 for any second offense on or before 36-months after the date of the first violation or subsequent violation after the first violation, and not more than \$1,000 for each subsequent offense on or before 36-months after the date of the first violation. The Commissioner of Revenue Services may require the employee to complete online tobacco prevention education program administered by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services within 30 days. If the employee fails to successfully complete the training, the Commissioner shall assess a civil penalty of \$200. For a second or subsequent violation within a 24-month period, the Commissioner shall assess a \$250 civil penalty.

The Commissioner may also require the retailer to complete the training as noted above, and failure to do so within 30 days, may bring a civil penalty of \$300. For a second violation on or before 36-months after the date of the first violation, the Commissioner shall assess a \$750 civil penalty. For a third violation on or before 36-months after the date of the first violation, a 1,000 civil penalty and a license or certificate suspension of at least 30 days. For a fourth violation, on or before 36-months after the date of the first violation, the Commissioner shall assess a \$1,000 civil penalty and revoke any license or certificate.

A seller may perform a transaction scan to check the validity of a driver's license or identity card presented by a cardholder as a condition for selling, giving away or otherwise distributing restricted products to the cardholder. No retailer or employee shall electronically or mechanically record or maintain any information derived from a transaction scan, except the following: the name, date of birth, and expiration date and identification number of the card. Any person who violates this subsection shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,000.

FDA Summary (Federal)

FDA has a variety of enforcement tools to address retailers who violate Federal statutes or regulations, including civil money penalties, warning letters, seizures, injunctions, no-sale orders and/or criminal prosecution. Retailers who violate the regulations may also be in violation of state law and subject to state penalties or other related orders.

FDA FINES & PENALTIES	
# of Violations	Fine
1st	Warning Letter
2 within 12 months	\$285
3 within 24 months	\$570
4 within 24 months	\$2,282
5 within 36 months	\$5,705
6 within 48 months	\$11,410
5 or more within 36 months	No Sale Order

Fines and penalties shown here are as of July 19, 2019.



Customers Who Are Now Underage Due to 21 Year Law

New "21" state laws* require retailers to refuse the sale of tobacco and vapor products to anyone under the age of 21. And it's quite possible that you, the retailer, will be the first one to inform your customers about this new law.

We Card training covers challenges like handling difficult situations including refusing an underage sale using the A-E-R-O method.

* See state laws summaries for any exceptions to the 21 year minimum-age.

We recommend A-E-R-O when speaking with customers who are no longer the legal age to buy tobacco and vapor products.

A-E-R-O

APOLOGIZE **EXPLAIN** **REMOVE** **OFFER**
the product from the counter another service



What do YOU say?



Hey, can I get that vape pen and 2 refill cartridges?

Sure, can I see some ID?

Here you go.

Thanks. I'm sorry, this ID shows you're under 21 so it would be against the law for me to sell the vape pen to you . . .

I'm 20 years old. I buy vape stuff and refills all the time!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

I'm sorry, there's a new state law with 21 as the minimum age. We have to follow that law. Can I get you something else in the store?

Oh, I didn't now about the new law. Just this bottled water, thanks.

Store Sales Associate

Responsible Retailing Resources

About We Card

The *We Card* Program is a national non-profit organization focused on ensuring that age-restricted product retailers are fully educated, trained and prepared to reject underage sales.



When you need *We Card* at your fingertips!



wecardnow.com

We Card eLearning Center



Award-winning training, now even better!
• Employee • Refresher • Manager

Learn FDA Requirements of Retailers, Rules on Regulated Products, FDA Fines and Penalties
**Based upon FDA Guidance for Tobacco Retailer Training Programs*

Additional interactive exercises and more practice in the steps employees need to prevent tobacco sales to minors.

Built to be LMS-ready and SCORM-compliant. Ask for a test drive on your LMS!



Equip Your Stores



Call 1-800-934-3968 or visit wecard.org.

Mystery Shopping

We Card offers the ID Check-Up mystery shopping service at a low cost of \$26 per mystery shop which allows even the smallest retail store to participate in an ID checking system that is proven to increase carding rates.



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