

Read on for announcements from the [Tobacco Control Network](#) (TCN) and our partners.

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TCN News

News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

FDA Public Commenting Resources

The public may provide comments on proposed rules prohibiting [menthol cigarettes](#) and [flavored cigars](#) through **Aug. 2. Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids** has provided the following background materials and talking points to guide public commenting:

- [Template Comments in Support of Proposed Rule to Prohibit Flavored Cigars](#)
- [Support Removing Flavored Cigars from the Market to Protect Kids](#)
- [Template Comments in Support of Proposed Rule to Prohibit Menthol Cigarettes](#)
- [Support Removing Menthol Cigarettes from the Market: FDA Action Will Protect Kids, Save Lives, and Advance Health Equity](#)
- [Talking Points in Support of Proposed Rules to Prohibit Menthol Cigarettes and Flavored Cigars](#)

Help Your Peers Requests

States Providing Expired NRT

Deadline: July 27

Are there states that have provided expired NRT to populations without liability to their entity?

The twice monthly **TCN News** provides a concise digest of tobacco control announcements to the Tobacco Control Network's membership base of tobacco control program managers and additional staff from each state, territory, and D.C., as well as our valued partners.

Upcoming Events

[Comment Period Open: FDA Proposed Rules Prohibiting Menthol Cigarettes](#) – FDA
Deadline: Aug. 2

[Comment Period Open: Tobacco Product Standard for Characterizing Flavors in Cigars](#) – FDA
Deadline: Aug. 2

[You Quit, Two Quit: Helping Clients Become Tobacco Free Before, During, and After Pregnancy](#) – UNC Collaborative for Maternal & Infant Health
Webinar
Aug. 9, 12 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Breathe Easy NC: Becoming Tobacco Free](#) – QuitlineNC
Virtual Training
Aug. 24, 9:30-3 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

External Evaluation

Deadline: July 28

Who does your state use for external evaluation? Please share contacts.

Speaker Recommendations for Tobacco Control and Treatment Capacity at Health Centers

Deadline: August 2

The Texas TPCP is planning a series of specialized training videos for increasing tobacco control and treatment capacity at health centers. For our veteran-specific video, we need assistance to find someone who can speak on the topic. Does anyone have any recommendations?

Partner Announcements

- In a new monograph, the **National Cancer Institute** [synthesizes](#) evidence that smoking cessation treatment increases the quit rate for patients who smoke and identifies evidence-based interventions that may enhance the delivery of smoking cessation treatment in cancer care settings.
- The following announcements are from **CDC**:
 - CDC [commits](#) to health equity by providing population-specific information on the health burden from commercial tobacco, unfair and unjust practices and conditions, and barriers and strategies to quitting successfully.
 - In a recent brief, CDC [shares](#) how to reduce disparities among American Indian and Alaska Native populations by developing strong relationships with Native leaders and members, communicating the harms of commercial tobacco, and respecting the use of traditional tobacco.
- The following announcements are from **FDA**:

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Livestream Training and Certification](#)

– Mayo Clinic
Nicotine Dependence Center
Virtual Event
Sept. 20-22 | *Registration Required*

[3rd National Menthol Conference](#)

– The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council
Washington, D.C.
Sept. 28-30 | *Registration Required*

[3rd International Symposium to Advance Total Worker Health®](#)

– NIOSH and the Center for Health, Work & Environment
Bethesda, MD
Oct. 11-14

[Agents of Change Summit 2023](#)

– Rescue Agency
San Diego, CA
March 6-7, 2023 | *Registration Required*

[30th Annual Nicotine Dependence Center Conference](#)

– Mayo Clinic
Phoenix, AZ
March 27-28, 2023 | *Registration Required*

Funding Opportunities

[Tobacco/Vape-Free College Grant](#)

– Truth Initiative
This program is offering up to \$20,000 to colleges and universities to support the adoption and implementation of a 100% tobacco and vape-free campus policy. All colleges and universities that do not already have a 100% tobacco/vape-free policy are

- FDA [issued](#) its first two warning letters to manufacturers for unlawfully marketing non-tobacco nicotine e-liquid products and issued 107 warning letters to retailers in the last two weeks for illegally selling non-tobacco nicotine products to underage purchasers.
- FDA [adopted](#) several updates to the desktop Safety Reporting Portal tobacco questionnaire to improve the clarity, internal consistency, and utility of the information being collected.
- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
 - Truth Initiative [provides](#) three lessons learned from failures of past tobacco regulations to prevent loopholes in its final rules that would remove menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars from the market.
 - Truth Initiative research published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* [concludes](#) that almost an entire sample of mailed ads (96%) for tobacco products included price incentives like coupons and discount codes.
- The **American Journal of Public Health** [features](#) a special section on FDA's 2020 Guidance for Industry about marketing flavors for e-cigarettes in its July issue.
- The **American Lung Association** [developed](#) a brief, which assists public health staff in understanding the role of state insurance commissioners and leveraging relationships with important stakeholders.
- **SAMHSA** [provides](#) behavioral health agencies with a step-by-step guide to becoming a tobacco-free facility and treating tobacco use in clients and staff.

eligible to apply.

Deadline: October 12

If you know of any funding opportunities that would appeal to state and territorial tobacco control programs, please send those to us at tcn@astho.org.

Job Listings

[Cessation Coordinator](#)

Texas Department of Health and Human Services
Austin, TX

[Health Communications Manager](#)

Maryland Department of Health
Baltimore, MD

[Tobacco/Cannabis Researcher \(Assistant or Associate Professor in the University Tenure Line\)](#)

Stanford University School of Medicine
Stanford, California

[Research Project Coordinator](#)

Washington University in St. Louis
St. Louis, MO

[Senior Tobacco Control Evaluator](#)

Professional Data Analysts
Minneapolis, MN (remote)

About the Tobacco Control Network

The TCN's mission is to improve the public's health by providing education and state-based expertise to tobacco prevention and control at the state and national levels.

The TCN is a network

State News

- A Washington County, **Oregon** judge [issued](#) an opinion on the law prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products, stating that the county cannot immediately require stores to stop stocking their shelves with flavored tobacco products, since the county had no immediate plans to enforce the ordinance.
- A *Prevention Medicine Reports* analysis of cross-sectional 2004 and 2013-2014 **New York City** Health and Nutrition Examination Survey data [concluded](#) that secondhand smoke exposure among New York City non-smokers has declined over time and odds of elevated cotinine doubled when living in multiunit housing in 2013-2014.

In the News

- *Intelligencer* [sheds](#) light on efforts to close the synthetic-nicotine loophole and how many companies, Air Bar included, remain in stores though they've already been told by FDA to stop selling in the United States.

Research

- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* sequential analysis of data collected from 34 NCI-designated cancer centers [concluded](#) that the proportion of centers offering remote treatment services increased each year for Quitline referrals, telephone counseling, and referrals to Smokefree TXT, while centers offering video-based counseling increased 41% from 2020 to 2021.

of tobacco program managers and staff from state and territorial health departments as well as Funder's Alliance organizations, and a peer group of the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](#) (ASTHO) on behalf of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health.

About ASTHO

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is the national nonprofit association representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia. ASTHO members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions, are dedicated to formulating and influencing sound public health policy and to ensuring excellence in state-based public health practice.



Forward to Friend

- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis of advertisement data from 106 convenience stores and gas stations around 42 middle and high schools [found](#) that schools with a higher enrollment of Hispanic/Latino and economically disadvantaged students were surrounded with significantly greater advertising at TROs than schools with lower enrollment of these groups.
- An analysis published in *Tobacco Control*, which used estimates from a recent expert elicitation on behavioral impacts of a menthol cigarette ban on the non-Hispanic Black population, [found](#) that under the menthol ban scenario, smoking- and vaping-attributable deaths are estimated to fall by about 18.5%, while life years lost will decline by 22.1%, which translate to 255,895 premature deaths averted, and 4.0 million life years gained, over a 40-year period.
- A *Tobacco Control* analysis an online 3x2 within-subjects experiment testing the effects of cigarillo pack size (1, 2, 5) and price (actual price, standardized price per stick) on intentions to purchase and smoke cigarillos [concluded](#) that intentions to buy and smoke were strongest for lower priced singles and two packs compared with higher priced five packs.

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