

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*

### TCN Announcements

- TCN has compiled a [Tobacco 101 Resource Guide](#), which includes a collection of TCN and ASTHO briefs, blogs, state success stories, and virtual workshop recordings on policy, COVID-19, flavored tobacco products, preemption, and more. This guide can be especially useful for training health agency tobacco control staff and can be found on the [Resources](#) page of the TCN website.

### Call for Papers

Preventing Chronic Disease (PCD) has issued a Call for Papers for its upcoming collection: **From Data to Action: National, State, and Local Efforts to End Commercial Menthol and Other Flavored Tobacco Product Use.**

- **April 14:** Deadline for authors to submit inquiries to the journal to determine interest and fit for this collection. [Learn more](#) about how to submit inquiries.
- **April 28:** Papers are due to OSH for Courtesy Review.

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

[Tobacco Regulation in an Evolving Landscape: Update from FDA's Center for Tobacco Products](#) – Smoking Cessation Leadership Center at UCSF  
Webinar  
March 22, 2-3 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[Media Campaign Resource Center 101](#) – CDC's Office on Smoking and Health  
Webinar  
March 23, 1-2 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[30th Annual Nicotine Dependence Center Conference](#) – Mayo Clinic  
Phoenix  
March 27-28, 2023 | *Registration Required*

[Spring Menthol Cessation TA Learning Cohort](#) – American Lung Association  
Virtual

- **Aug. 15:** Final manuscripts are due to PCD.  
(Note: Papers may be submitted ahead of this deadline and will be published on a rolling basis.)

## Help Your Peers Requests

### Resources for Increasing Medicaid Participation in State Quitlines

**Deadline:** Mar. 29

AZ is looking for tips or resources around increasing Medicaid participation in state quitlines. We have a state goal of 225 Medicaid enrollments per month, but we're only getting about 75-80 per month. Do other states have any resources to share? We are currently running the TIPS campaign in areas with high smoking prevalence and low SES now that we have our new quitline vendor, National Jewish Health, fully operational.

### Comprehensive Drug-Free School Policies

**Deadline:** Mar. 31

UT is working to expand our current school tobacco policy guide to a comprehensive drug-free policies toolkit to address more than just tobacco (marijuana, alcohol, etc.). Have any other states created something similar or have examples of comprehensive drug-free school policy guides?

## Partner Announcements

- In response to high turnover in tobacco control program staff, **CDC/OSH** announced a new orientation series for 2023 with sessions

April 11, April 18, and May 2, 2023  
| *Pre-Assessment Registration Required*

[TRAC Tobacco Retail Compliance Training](#) – Action on Smoking & Health, Canada  
Webinar  
April 20, 2023, 12-1 p.m. ET  
| *Registration Required*

[Champions for Youth Summit](#) – Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth and Prevention Connections  
Falls Church, VA  
April 24-26, 2023 | *Registration Required*

[NatCon23](#) – National Council for Mental Wellbeing  
Los Angeles  
May 1-3, 2023 | *Registration Required*

[2023 National Tribal Health Conference](#) – National Indian Health Board  
Anchorage, AK  
May 1-5, 2023 | *Registration Required*

[State of Black Health National Conference](#) – The Center for Black Health & Equity  
San Juan, Puerto Rico  
September 6-9, 2023 | *Registration Required*

[Clear the Vapor \(save the date\)](#) – Parents Against Vaping e-cigarettes  
Webinar  
October 24-25, 2023

## Funding Opportunities

[Visiting Lectureship Grants](#) – American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)  
The AAP Julius B. Richmond Visiting Lectureship Program provides awards of up to \$1,000 to

highlighting different teams and units monthly. To view and register for sessions, contact your OSH public health advisor.

- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
  - On March 17, FDA issued [marketing denial orders](#) for two menthol e-cigarette products marketed by R.J. Reynolds Vuse Vapor Company, citing the applications did not provide enough evidence that the marketing of these products would be appropriate for the protection of public health.
  - Copenhagen Classic Snuff received [authorization](#) from FDA to be marketed as a modified risk tobacco product, allowing the smokeless product to market claims that it can reduce risk of lung cancer among smokers who switch completely to the product.
  - FDA recently proposed [new requirements](#) for manufacturing, designing, packing, and storing of tobacco products to minimize and prevent contamination with foreign substances such as glass, metal, and plastics, and maintain consistency with e-liquid product labeling. A public [oral hearing](#) will be held on April 12 and public comments will be available for 180 days prior to the rulemaking.
  - A Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee [meeting](#) will take place on May 18 to seek recommendations from FDA's outside panel of experts on the requirements presented in the proposed rule, during which the

support customized virtual programs focused on educating pediatric health clinicians and other collaborators on protecting the health of children and families by controlling tobacco smoke exposure. Only virtual programs leveraging traditional and non-traditional tobacco control programs and partnerships will be considered. Applicants are encouraged to join us for an application Q&A session on **March 10, 2023**, from 12-1 p.m. ET. Session information and programmatic questions can also be accessed by emailing [mrichmondcenter@aap.org](mailto:mrichmondcenter@aap.org)  
**Deadline:** April 6, 2023

[Drug-Free Communities \(DFC\) Support Program](#) – CDC  
Since 1997, the DFC program continues to be the nation's leading effort to mobilize communities to prevent and reduce substance use among youth. The program provides up to \$125,000 per year for up to 10 year to community coalitions to strengthen collaboration among local partners and create an infrastructure that reduces youth substance use.  
**Deadline:** April 11, 2023

[UpRISE Advocacy Burst Mini-Grant](#) – Center for Public Health Practice, Colorado School of Public Health  
This program is offering a \$1,000 award (for approximately 10 hours of participation) to five youth-serving organizations and/or schools interested in advocacy, and who are willing to introduce youth to tobacco prevention work with a social justice lens.  
**Deadline:** Ongoing basis until April 30, 2023

*If you know of any funding opportunities that would appeal to state and territorial tobacco control*

public will have the opportunity to make oral presentations.

- FDA reported that it has made [determinations](#) on more than 99% of nearly 26 million tobacco products with applications submitted to FDA, including authorization of 23 new e-cigarette products and devices. FDA [issued](#) a refuse to accept (RTA) letter on Feb. 21 to an e-cigarette manufacturer associated with 17 million individual tobacco products.
  - A new [webinar](#) outlines the process for manufacturers and vape shop owners to respond to warning letters for tobacco product manufacturer violations.
- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
    - Truth Initiative is [raising alarms](#) about tobacco imagery in entertainment media and popular culture, with research indicating that 37% of adolescents starting smoking because of smoking images seen in movies and youth heavily exposed to on-screen smoking had triple the risk to begin smoking or vaping.
    - A [report](#) published by Truth Initiative analyzes tobacco imagery appearing in popular streaming shows, movies, and music videos.  
A [video](#) and [toolkit](#) were also released.
    - The number of e-cigarettes sold on the market between June 2021 and June 2022 [quadrupled from 453 to 2,023](#), according to a Truth Initiative review of U.S. retail sales data.

programs, please send those to us at [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org).

### **Job Listings**

[Director, Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program](#)  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Boston, MA

[Arizona Smokers' Helpline \(ASHLine\) Cessation Manager](#)  
Arizona Department of Health Services  
Remote

**For more information on how to apply, please contact Emily Carlson, Office Chief, at [Emily.Carlson@azdhs.gov](mailto:Emily.Carlson@azdhs.gov).**

[Senior Attorney](#)  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
Washington, D.C.

[Legislative & Policy Counsel](#)  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
Washington, D.C.

[Postdoctoral Fellow in Health Communication and Tobacco Control](#)  
UNC School of Medicine  
Chapel Hill, NC

[Director](#)  
University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention  
Madison, WI

### **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.

- March 31 is **Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids' [Take Down Tobacco National Day of Action](#)**, an annual movement that empowers young people to rally together against the tobacco industry.
- **American Lung Association** is hosting a peer-to-peer learning cohort for State Tobacco Control program staff on how they can prepare to help people quit menthol tobacco products for good, focusing on both improving coverage and enacting health systems change. The cohort will meet for three 90-minute calls, and each is scheduled from 12-1:30 p.m. ET on the following dates:
  - Tuesday, April 11
  - Tuesday, April 18
  - Tuesday, May 2
 To indicate your interest in participating in this cohort, please complete this brief pre-assessment: [Spring 2023 - Cessation TA Cohort Pre-Assessment](#).
- **ASH Canada** is hosting a [webinar](#) on its TRAC Tobacco Retail Compliance Training program on Thursday, April 20. This program represents a flight simulator for tobacco retailers by providing a deep-learning experience in a simulated retail setting.

The TCN is a network 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.



## State News

- The **Alaska** State Senate is considering [bill SB 89](#), which would raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco and e-cigarettes from 19 to 21 and would place a point of sale tax on e-

cigarettes.

- The following state announcements are from **Minnesota**:
  - The U.S. Supreme Court [granted Edina, Minnesota motion to dismiss a challenge by R.J. Reynolds to ban flavored tobacco sales](#), following Los Angeles County's recent court challenge dismissal.
  - The Minnesota [case against Juul and Altria](#) for their role in accelerating the vaping epidemic is scheduled for March 27, after the court rejected Juul's and Altria's request for the case to be dismissed on March 14.

## In the News

- Altria exchanged [its entire investment](#) in Juul labs for heated tobacco intellectual property rights as a result of regulatory and legal challenges.

## Research

- E-cigarette nicotine strengths sold in the U.S. have been trending upwards, according to a *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* study, which found [monthly average nicotine strength increased from 2.5% to 4.4% over the five years](#).
- A recent study published in *Health Equity* found [flavored tobacco product use](#)

[increased from 2019-2020 among youth](#) across all racial/ethnic groups, with the largest increase observed among Hispanic youth (30.3%), who also had the highest susceptibility to future e-cigarette use (42.3%).

- A data brief from the *CDC Foundation* highlights trends in e-cigarette unit sales from January 2018 through December 2022, revealing [significantly high increases in flavored product sales and use of among youth](#). A separate brief reviews these trends in [specifically selected states](#).
- A *Tobacco Control* research article examines the relationship around discrimination, identity connectedness, and tobacco use among sexual and gender minority populations, finding that [higher levels of discrimination were associated with polytobacco use](#).

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