

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

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News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

Help Your Peers Requests

Sampling for Youth Tobacco Survey

Deadline: Oct. 1

The WI program is preparing for the 2026 YTS. One process that we do not have enough information on is the process followed, and parameters considered, for school sample selection and classroom selection. We are working with a small survey center which is part of a small college, and they have not worked on a YTS before. Our historical records do not have enough information on these processes, mainly because this process was handled by a contracted survey center.¹ Do you have step-by-step instruction/guidelines to pull sample of schools and classrooms for

*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

For more Tobacco Control Network events and deadlines, please visit the [TCN Events](#) page!

[Project TEACH ECHO](#) —

middle and high schools? 2. Do you stratify schools by size before random selection of school sample(s)? Any information or guidance would be much appreciated.

Strategic Plans Including Cannabis

Deadline: Oct. 2

Washington State is in the process of updating our next 5-year strategic plan, which will be our first iteration to cross incorporate commercial tobacco and cannabis. Are there any other states willing to share their strategic plans which cover both tobacco and cannabis?

Partner Announcements

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through the **FDA**, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection [announced the seizure of 4.7 million units of unauthorized e-cigarette products](#) with an estimated retail value of \$86.5 million — the largest-ever seizure of this kind.
- **CDC Foundation's Monitoring Tobacco Product Use** published the newest TEEN+ Nicotine Pouch Data Brief, which is featured on the [TEEN+ Study background page](#) and is also available under the [Project Reports](#)

The University of Texas MD Anderson Center — Free hour of CE
Sept. 30 | *Registration Required, Bimonthly sessions*

[Project TEACH ECHO](#) —
The University of Texas MD Anderson Center — Free hour of CE
Oct. 7 and 21 | *Registration Required, Bimonthly sessions*

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist \(TTS\) Training](#) —
Rutgers Institute for Nicotine and Tobacco Studies
Virtual Training (self-paced also available)
Oct. 20-21, 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[Champions for Youth Summit](#) — Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth
Reston, VA
May 4-6, 2026
| *Registration Required*

Job Opportunities

[and Data Briefs page](#). The brief highlights nationally representative findings from a survey of youth and young adults, fielded February-June 2025.

- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
 - Truth Initiative youth activists [appeared at a press conference with Arizona Attorney General \(AG\) Kris Mayes](#), met with staff from the offices of District of Columbia Attorney G Brian Schwalb and Georgia AG Chris Carr, and [appeared in a video to thank New York AG Letitia James](#) for closing a vape shop that was selling products to young people.
 - A Truth Initiative report [provides suggestions for how best to address student tobacco and nicotine use at school](#), equipping students with the knowledge and skills to make healthy decisions and helping those who are already vaping to quit.
 - As of June 30, 2025, 418 jurisdictions and three Native

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

Funding Opportunities

[Tobacco Regulatory Science Small Grant Program for New Investigators \(R03 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) – NIH Office of Disease Prevention
Deadline: Nov. 18, 2025

This Notice of Funding Opportunity aims to support new biomedical, behavioral, and social science investigators who are in the early stages of establishing independent careers in tobacco regulatory research. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of projects, including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology.

American tribes have [placed some type of restriction on the sale of flavored tobacco products](#). Of those, 157 have fully comprehensive policies that prohibit sales of all types of flavors across all products, including menthol/mint/wintergreen flavors that are sometimes exempted from flavor policies, at all retailers.

- **SelfMade Health Network** [published webinar presentation slides](#) for the series, *Enhancing Emergency Preparedness Approaches for Low-Income Populations Along the Cancer Continuum: Free Cancer Support Services Available (Year-Round) for Your State, Patients, Employees and Communities (Part 1 and Part 2)*.
- **FDA** [launched a pilot program](#) that aims to increase efficiency and streamline the review process for premarket tobacco product applications for nicotine pouch products.
- The **North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services**, in

Applicants are encouraged to conduct projects that ultimately have the potential to inform regulations on tobacco product manufacturing, distribution, and marketing.

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.

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 of tobacco program managers and staff from state and territorial health

partnership with the **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** and **University of California, San Francisco** [launched the Juul Labs Document Repository](#), a public archive of nearly 5 million internal company records.

- **CADCA** shared [takeaways from the National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#), including a common theme which emerged: building community capacity and strengthening coalitions are key to advancing tobacco prevention and continuing to implement environmental strategies.

State News

- The Capitola City Council in **California** [passed an ordinance prohibiting the sale of filtered tobacco products within city limits](#), making it the third jurisdiction in the country to do so.
- **New York** Governor Hochul [announced criminal charges against businesses for illegally shipping vaping products](#) in violation

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

of state law.

- **Washington, D.C.** Attorney General Brian Schwalb [announced a \\$1.2 million settlement with 7-Eleven for selling vapes and e-cigarettes](#) within a quarter mile of middle and high schools in the city.
- Leadership in Onslow County, **North Carolina** [work together to combat vaping/e-cigarette use](#) by teens in their community. A brief video shows how public health, law enforcement, counselors, parents and students have become aware of the health hazards of nicotine and THC vaping, and how to educate students, parents and other community members.

excellence in state-based public health practice.



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News

- According to a recent *Bloomberg Law* article, a federal judge [struck down the FDA's rules requiring new graphic warnings on cigarette packages and advertisements](#), the latest setback for a long-running government effort to force the tobacco industry to more clearly

communicate the health risks of smoking.

Research

- A recent *Tobacco Control* analysis found that only one out of 15 young adult ever-users of flavored tobacco living in Massachusetts [believed that it would be hard for them to acquire flavored tobacco products](#) with Massachusetts' policy in place.
- A study among teens and young adults ages 14-25 years published in *Pediatrics* [found that 20.1% of participants were aware of nicotine analogs](#), while 8.4% reported ever-using products made with nicotine analogs. Study participants who reported current use of any tobacco product had higher odds of nicotine analog awareness and ever use compared with participants who had never used tobacco products
- According to a *JAMA Network Open* analysis, [nicotine pouch use among teens increased 1.8 to 2.1 fold across lifetime](#), past-12-month, and past-30-day users while e-cigarette use decreased, resulting in no net change in overall non-tobacco

nicotine use but an increase in dual use of both products. Those who use nicotine pouches more likely to be male, non-Hispanic White, rural, and not college bound.

- Educators continue to grapple with nicotine use in schools, [reporting that vaping is “a daily issue” that disrupts learning](#) and poses risks to academic performance, according to a new study from *Truth Initiative*.

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