

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

[View this email in your browser](#)



News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

TCN Announcements

- The [TCN Forum](#) is a private online discussion and idea-sharing community, open to all state and territorial tobacco program staff, where you can tap into the expertise of tobacco control program staff from across the country! For more information on how to use the Forum's many features, please reference [this process document](#). [Sign up](#) for the TCN Forum to read more and engage in these discussions!
 - *Tobacco Retail Environment:* Counter Tools has partnered with the Indiana Department

*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

of Health (IDOH) to host a series of four meetings to discuss community level zoning-based strategies that can support population-level health improvements. We are excited to invite you to this meeting series, which will bring together state tobacco control program staff from across the country...(Post by Miranda Spitznagle - IN)

- *Proposed Bills/Legislation:* SB 180 was signed into Florida law during the 2025 spring session and took effect on Jul. 1. The intent of the bill was to restrict local governments from passing new land use rules that might impede construction, reconstruction, or redevelopment in the wake of a hurricane...(Post by Robert Ostybye – FL)
- *What's New?:* Tennessee had a recent legislative win! During our legislative session this year, an e-cigarette registry bill was introduced by industry-backed

visit the [TCN Events](#) page!

[NCTOH Encore: A Deep Dive into Youth Prevention, Cessation, and Emerging Trends](#) — Rescue Agency Webinar
Oct. 22, 2 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Cessation Under Siege: Industry Reinvention, Federal Setbacks, and California's Lessons in Resilience](#) — UCSF Smoking Cessation Leadership Center Webinar
Oct. 29, 1-2:30 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training](#) – University of Kentucky Virtual Training
Oct. 29, 2025, Jan. 28, 2026
| *Registration Required*

[Champions for Youth Summit](#) — Virginia Foundation for Healthy

sponsors...(Post by Jacob Black – TN)

- *Southeastern Region:* I am trying to convene a Southeastern Tobacco Evaluators Round Table to share information and serve as a forum for discussing surveillance and evaluation projects and methods....(Post by Rajeev Mavath - SC)

Help Your Peers Requests

Developing Newsletter for Partners and Grantees

Deadline: October 29

We're setting up a new newsletter in our state. Our hope is that this will help fill a communication gap for our partners who had previously relied on CDC's direct and regular updates. We also look forward to using this newsletter to lift up and raise awareness of the work happening at our agency and in our communities. We'd like to know from other state programs that issue a regular newsletter(s):

Youth

Reston, VA

May 4-6, 2026

| *Registration Required*

[Intensive Behavioral Health Approaches to Tobacco Treatment](#) — Duke Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Program
Virtual Training/CE Short Course
Nov. 19, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

Job Opportunities

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

- What newsletter(s) do you issue regularly? If multiple, for each newsletter:
- What's the goal or purpose?
- Who's the intended audience?
- How do you promote the newsletter? Is it public or private/unlisted and can subscribers sign up somewhere, or do they need to be manually added?
- How frequently is it issued?
- What content, or topics, do you cover?
- Can you share past issues or examples of how your organization content?
- Do you solicit content from external partners? If so, how much lead time do you give them? And how to do collect content, via form? If so, could we see your form?
- Any tips or lessons learned

Data Platforms for Tobacco Retail Licensing

Deadline: October 31

UT is requesting information from others regarding data platforms used to collect tobacco retail data, such as:

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. 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

- Tobacco retail permits being issued
- Revoked/suspended tobacco retail permits
- Retail inspections
- Underage compliance checks
- Online tobacco sale investigations
- And any other data collection related to tobacco retail licensing

Ideally, the platform would allow DHHS to create permit applications, inspection forms, tables for suspended/revoked permits, spreadsheets, and reports. Minimum requirements would allow the user to upload spreadsheets with data and create reports. We would appreciate hearing of ANY data platform that a health department uses, whether it would be ideal, minimal, or anything in between, as long as the user feels like it is a good platform to recommend.

Partner Announcements

- The following announcements are from **CDC Foundation**:
 - CDC Foundation's Monitoring Tobacco Product Use resource, TEEN+ Data Brief Issue 2, [highlights nationally](#)

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 departments as well as Funder's Alliance organizations, and a peer group of the [Association of](#)

[representative findings from](#) a CDC

Foundation survey of nicotine pouch use by youth and young adults ages 13-27 years of age (February-June 2025).

- The [Nicotine Pouch Sales Data data brief](#), now updated through August 2025, provides estimates of nicotine pouch sales, a smokeless and spitless type of tobacco product intended for oral use, in the U.S. market overall and select U.S. states.
- CDC Foundation released an [executive summary of a rapid landscape assessment](#) conducted in September '25 to assess the state of tobacco cessation efforts, including changes since April '25, and to identify current needs. If you have any questions, please email Brenna VanFrank at bvanfrank@cdcfoundation.org.

[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-

- The following announcements are from **Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids (CTFK)**:
 - TFK shares the [health effects of nicotine](#) beyond addiction.
 - TFK highlights the [increased popularity of nicotine pouches](#) and the concerns and risks it poses for young individuals.
- **North American Quitline Consortium** released the guide, [Social Marketing for the Digital Age: An Overview for Quitline Programs](#), which offers practical, evidence-based strategies for using digital media strategies to encourage commercial tobacco cessation, including step-by-step advice from planning to campaign measurement.
- The **Office of the Surgeon General** released its [Youth Vaping Resource Guide](#) to combat the ongoing youth vaping epidemic. Despite recent declines in use, e-cigarettes remain the most commonly used tobacco product among middle and high school

based public health practice.



[Forward to Friend](#)

students, with more than 1.6 million youth reporting current use in 2024.

- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
 - Truth Initiative [acknowledges the challenges that Hispanic and Latino Americans face](#) today, including high levels of tobacco marketing exposure.
 - From the first “cig-a-like” e-cigarettes to high-tech vapes with screens and speakers, the [e-cigarette market is constantly evolving](#) and adapting to keep existing customers and attract new users.
- New Wave 7 [Biomarker Restricted-Use Files](#) from the [Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health \(PATH\) Study](#) are now available from **FDA’s Center for Tobacco Products** and **NIH’s National Institute on Drug Abuse**. Researchers are encouraged to [submit a request](#) to obtain access.

- Become a credentialed Tobacco Treatment Specialist through **The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center's [Tobacco Treatment Training Program](#)**. The program is a five-day virtual course focused on the skills needed to effectively deliver tobacco cessation treatment in both a clinic and community setting. Registration is open for our next session which will be held on Dec. 8-12, 2025. Please [register](#) by Nov. 14. If you have any questions related to the program, please visit their [website](#) or email ctts@mdanderson.org.

State News

- The following news is from **California**:
 - The Los Angeles City Attorney [settled a lawsuit against the owners of a tobacco retail chain and an e-commerce site](#) accused of selling flavored tobacco products and selling tobacco to minors in violation of state and city law.

- Governor Newsom signed into law a bill which [gives the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration sustainable funding](#) to continue and expand its flavored tobacco product seizure and enforcement operations.
- The City Attorney's Office in **San Diego** [reached a settlement in its civil enforcement action](#) under the Unfair Competition Law against Vapor Authority Inc. for unlawfully selling flavored tobacco products.
- The following news is from **North Carolina**:
 - A [recent video](#) by the North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services shows how leadership in Onslow County, NC works together to combat vaping/e-cigarette use by teens in their community.
 - Riley, a person who previously used tobacco products and vapes, [shares](#)

[their struggle with commercial tobacco use](#) and how they were able to quit.

- The **South Carolina** Department of Public Health launched the “[Healthy People Podcast](#),” a new series aimed at educating the people of South Carolina about topics of public health interest through conversational, informative discussions with DPH subject matter experts.

News

- A commentary published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* argues that cuts to NIH have [impacted research on the use of tobacco and nicotine products](#), and will have a dramatically negative impact on efforts to combat the use of those products in the United States.

Research

- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis which assessed the impact of excluding Hispanics

from racial categories on national estimates of youth tobacco use in the United States found that systematically removing Hispanics from classification within each racial category results in an [underestimation of tobacco use among Asian and Black youth](#), an overestimation of tobacco use among White youth, and unstable estimates among AI/AN and NHOPI youth.

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of Wave 5 of the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health Study Youth Panel found that both intermittent (6-19 days) and frequent (20+ days) users of e-cigarettes had [higher urine lead levels](#) than occasional users (1-5 days).
- A *Tobacco Control* study where adolescents were [randomized to view six images and videos featuring influencers promoting e-cigarettes](#) concluded that participants who never used e-cigarettes and who viewed posts with a ‘tobacco-free nicotine’ warning label pictured on an e-cigarette (compared with an FDA

warning label at the top of a post)
were more likely to report
susceptibility to e-cigarette use.

Feel free to [forward this communication](#) or encourage others to [subscribe directly](#).

This message was intended for <<Email Address>>. If you believe this has been sent to you in error, please [unsubscribe](#) or [update your subscription preferences](#).

Our address:

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, 2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 450, Arlington, VA 22202

TCN@astho.org



