



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

TOBACCO 21 AND RETAIL TOBACCO & PARAPHERNALIA SALES LICENSES

When did Tobacco 21 become effective for the City of Norwood?

On September 28th, 2021, the Norwood City Council passed an ordinance that gave the Norwood City Board of Health (NCBOH) the authority to regulate tobacco and paraphernalia retailers by licensing and enforcing civil fines for Tobacco 21. The Board of Health also passed the City Health Code on September 28th, 2021.

Why was this law passed?

The health and safety of residents is our number one priority, and this law supports the Norwood City Board of Health's strategic priority to reduce chronic disease and tobacco use in our community. By raising the age to purchase tobacco, other nicotine products, and paraphernalia from 18 to 21, we can reduce approximately 90% of new smokers from even starting the dangerous and addictive habit in the first place.

What are the Tobacco 21 requirements for tobacco and paraphernalia retailers in Norwood?

The law prohibits the sale of tobacco products and/or product paraphernalia without a Retail Tobacco and Paraphernalia Sales License issued by the Norwood City Board of Health. It prohibits sales to anyone under 21, and ID checks must be performed for anyone under 30. Tobacco 21 signs provided to tobacco and paraphernalia retailers by the Norwood City Board of Health are required for points of transaction and display cases to notify customers of the law.

What is the Norwood City Board of Health's Code about electronic smoking devices, paraphernalia, and tobacco products?

The following items are included in the Tobacco 21 age restriction:

- Electronic smoking devices including, but not limited to: e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pens, and e-hookah.
- Product paraphernalia including, but not limited to: pipes and rolling papers.
- Tobacco products include, but are not limited to: any product made from or derived from tobacco and intended for human consumption or is likely to be consumed using a method such as smoking, chewing, inhaling, or ingesting.
- Tobacco products including, but not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, snus, electronic smoking devices, filters, rolling papers, pipes, and liquids, with or without nicotine, used in electronic smoking devices.

How much does a Retail Tobacco and Paraphernalia Sales License cost?

The annual license fee for each license is \$150 and is valid from March 1 to February 28 of the following year. A penalty fee of up to 25% of the applicable license fee may be charged and will be assessed by the Board of Health for license fee payments that are not received or postmarked by March 1.



How do I obtain a Retail Tobacco and Paraphernalia Sales License?

Upon request, license applications can be sent directly to the retailer and available for pick up at the Norwood City Board of Health. The application is also available on our website. Completed applications must be submitted to the Norwood City Board of Health before March 1st of a given year. A license is required for each location and is non-transferable. **

Retailers must present a current and valid Vendor's License to the Norwood City Board of Health before their applications will be processed. **Retailers that distribute, store or sell cigarettes must submit a current and valid Retail Cigarette Dealer's License** to the department before approval for licensing. **

Can I be denied a Retail Tobacco and Paraphernalia Sales License? Is it possible to have a Retail Tobacco and Paraphernalia Sales License suspended or revoked by the Norwood City Board of Health?

Licenses can be denied, suspended, or revoked for giving or selling cigarettes, tobacco products, or paraphernalia to anyone under 21. Licenses can be denied, suspended, or revoked if no proof of age is obtained by tobacco and paraphernalia retailers for customers who are under the age of 30. Additionally, licenses may be denied, suspended, or revoked for: failing to post Tobacco 21 signs; failing to post the licenses; failing to pay any outstanding fines; having the business declared a nuisance by the court; submitting a misleading, inaccurate, or false license application; and failing to comply with applicable city, state and federal codes.

How do I get Tobacco 21 signs, and where should they be posted in my business?

The Norwood City Board of Health provides Tobacco 21 signs to all licensees. Signs shall be posted at points of the transaction, including cash registers and sales counters, and on display cases of tobacco products and product paraphernalia. Signs must be visible to customers. (Obscuring signs is prohibited.)

How will Tobacco 21 be enforced in the City of Norwood?

Inspections will be conducted for all locations that hold a Retail Tobacco and Paraphernalia Sales License. The first violation of Chapter 1761 of the Norwood Codified Ordinance will result in a \$400 fine. A second violation at the same licensed premises within 36 months will result in a penalty of \$750, and the Norwood City Health Commissioner shall suspend the licensee's license for a period of not less than 30 and not more than 60 consecutive days. A third violation at the same licensed premises within 36 months will result in a penalty of \$1,000, and the Norwood City Health Commissioner shall suspend the licensee's license for a period of not less than 30 consecutive days. At their discretion, the Norwood City Health Commissioner may revoke the licensee's license. Upon the fourth violation within 36 months, the license will be revoked.

Still have questions or want more information?

Please contact the Norwood City Board of Health at (513) 458-4600

Email us: info@norwoodhealth.org

Visit our website: <https://www.norwoodohio.gov/166/Norwood-City-Board-of-Health>