

**Malden Board of Health**  
**Rules & Regulations, Section 21**  
**Restricting the Sale and Use of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Systems**

A. Statement of Purpose:

Whereas there exists conclusive evidence that tobacco smoke causes cancer, respiratory and cardiac diseases, negative birth outcomes, irritations to the eyes, nose and throat; and whereas more than eighty percent of all smokers begin smoking before the age of eighteen years (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Youth Surveillance - United States 2000," 50 MMWR 1 (Nov. 2000)); and whereas nationally in 2000, sixty nine percent of middle school age children who smoke at least once a month were not asked to show proof of age when purchasing cigarettes (Id.); and whereas the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has concluded that nicotine is as addictive as cocaine or heroin; and whereas commercial Roll-Your-Own (RYO) machines located in retail stores enable retailers to sell cigarettes without paying the excise taxes that are imposed on conventionally manufactured cigarettes. High excise taxes encourage adult smokers to quit and high prices deter youth from starting. Inexpensive cigarettes, like those produced from RYO machines, promote the use of tobacco, resulting in a negative impact on public health and increased health care costs, and severely undercut the evidence-based public health benefit of imposing high excise taxes on tobacco; and whereas many non-cigarette tobacco products, such as cigars and cigarillos, can be sold in a single "dose;" enjoy a relatively low tax as compared to cigarettes; are available in fruit, candy and alcohol flavors; and are popular among youth and according to the CDC's youth risk behavior surveillance system, the percentage of high school students in Massachusetts who reported the use of cigars within the past 30 days went from 11.8% in 2003 to 14.9% in 2009; and whereas despite state laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to minors, access by minors to tobacco products is a major problem; and whereas the sale of tobacco products are incompatible with the mission of health care institutions because they are detrimental to the public health and undermine efforts to educate patients on the safe and effective use of medication; and whereas educational institutions sell tobacco products to a younger population, which is particularly at risk for becoming smokers and such sale of tobacco products are incompatible with the mission of educational institutions that educate a younger population about social, environmental and health risks and harms; and whereas the federal Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (FSPTCA), enacted in 2009, prohibited candy- and fruit-flavored cigarettes, largely because these flavored products were marketed to youth and young adults, and younger smokers were more likely to have tried these products than older smokers, neither federal nor Massachusetts laws restrict sales of flavored non-cigarette tobacco products, such as cigars, cigarillos, smokeless tobacco, hookah tobacco, and electronic devices and the nicotine solutions used in these devices; and whereas the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Surgeon General have stated that flavored tobacco products are considered to be "starter" products that help establish smoking habits that can lead to long-term addiction; now, therefore it is the intention of the Malden Board of Health to regulate the access of tobacco products.

B. Authority:

This regulation is promulgated pursuant to the authority granted to the Malden Board of

Health by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 31 that "Boards of Health may make reasonable health regulations".

C. Definitions:

For the purpose of this regulation, the following words shall have the following meanings:

**Adult-only retail tobacco store:** An establishment that is not required to possess a retail food permit whose primary purpose is to sell or offer for sale but not for resale, tobacco products and tobacco paraphernalia, in which the sale of other products is merely incidental, and in which the entry of persons under the minimum legal sales age of 21 years is prohibited at all times, and maintains a valid permit for the retail sale of tobacco products as required to be issued by the Malden Board of Health.

**Blunt Wrap:** Any tobacco product manufactured or packaged as a wrap or as a hollow tube made wholly or in part from tobacco that is designed or intended to be filled by the consumer with loose tobacco or other fillers regardless of any content.

**Business Agent:** An individual who has been designated by the owner or operator of any establishment to be the manager or otherwise in charge of said establishment.

**Characterizing flavor:** A distinguishable taste or aroma, other than the taste or aroma of tobacco, menthol, mint or wintergreen, imparted or detectable either prior to or during consumption of a tobacco product or component part thereof, including, but not limited to, tastes or aromas relating to any fruit, chocolate, vanilla, honey, candy, cocoa, dessert, alcoholic beverage, herb or spice; provided, however, that no tobacco product shall be determined to have a characterizing flavor solely because of the provision of ingredient information or the use of additives or flavorings that do not contribute to the distinguishable taste or aroma of the product.

**Cigar:** Any roll of tobacco that is wrapped in leaf tobacco or in any substance containing tobacco with or without a tip or mouthpiece not otherwise defined as a cigarette under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 64C, Section 1, Paragraph 1.

**Commercial Roll-Your-Own (RYO) machine:** A mechanical device, by whatever manufacturer made and by whatever name known, located in a business or used for sale or distribution of tobacco that is designed to roll and wrap tobacco into products. RYO machines located in a private home, used for personal consumption, are not Commercial Roll-Your-Own machines.

**Component part:** Any element of a tobacco product, including, but not limited to, the tobacco, filter and paper, but not including any constituent.

**Constituent:** Any ingredient, substance, chemical or compound, other than tobacco, water or reconstituted tobacco sheet, that is added by the manufacturer to a tobacco product during the processing, manufacturing or packaging of the tobacco product. Such term shall include a smoke constituent.

Distinguishable: Perceivable by either the sense of smell or taste.

E-Cigarette: Any electronic device, not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, composed of a mouthpiece, heating element, battery and/or electronic circuits that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine to the user, or relies on vaporization of any liquid or solid nicotine. This term shall include such devices whether they are manufactured as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, e-hookah or under any other product name. "E-Cigarette" includes any component or part of an e-cigarette, including but not limited to pods, vape juice containers and cartridges.

Educational Institution: Any public or private college, school, professional school, scientific or technical institution, university or other institution furnishing a program of higher education.

Employee: Any individual who performs services for an employer.

Employer: Any individual, partnership, association, corporation, trust or other organized group of individuals that uses the services of one (1) or more employees.

Flavored tobacco product: Any tobacco product or component part thereof that contains a constituent that has or produces a characterizing flavor. A public statement, claim or indicia made or disseminated by the manufacturer of a tobacco product, or by any person authorized or permitted by the manufacturer to make or disseminate public statements concerning such tobacco product, that such tobacco product has or produces a characterizing flavor shall constitute presumptive evidence that the tobacco product is a flavored tobacco product.

Health Care Institution: An individual, partnership, association, corporation or trust or any person or group of persons that provides health care services and employs health care providers licensed, or subject to licensing, by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health under M.G.L. c. 112 or a retail establishment that provides pharmaceutical goods and services and subject to the provisions of 247 CMR 6.00. Health care institution includes, but is not limited to, hospitals, clinics, health centers, pharmacies, drug stores, doctor offices and dentist offices.

Minor: Any individual who is under the age of twenty-one (21).

Non-Residential Roll Your Own Machine: A mechanical device made available for use (including to an individual who produces cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, or roll-your-own tobacco solely for the individual's own personal consumption or use) that is capable of making cigarettes, cigars or other tobacco products. RYO machines located in private homes used for solely personal consumption are not Non-Residential RYO machines.

Permit Holder: Any person engaged in the sale or distribution of tobacco products directly to consumers who applies for and receives a tobacco product sales permit or any person who is required to apply for a tobacco product sales permit pursuant to these regulations, or his or her business agent.

Schools: Public or private elementary or secondary schools.

**Self-Service Display:** Any display from which customers may select a tobacco product without assistance from an employee or store personnel, excluding vending machines.

**Smoke Constituent:** Any chemical or chemical compound in mainstream or sidestream tobacco smoke that either transfers from any component of the tobacco product to the smoke or that is formed by the combustion or heating of tobacco, additives or other component of the tobacco product.

**Smoking (or smoke):** the lighting of a cigar, cigarette, pipe or other tobacco product or possessing a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other tobacco or non-tobacco product designed to be combusted and inhaled.

**Smoking bar:** an establishment that primarily is engaged in the retail sale of tobacco products for consumption by customers on the premises and is required by Massachusetts General Law Ch. 270, §22 to maintain a valid permit to operate a smoking bar issued by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. "Smoking bar" shall include, but not be limited to, those establishments that are commonly known as "cigar bars", "waterpipe bars" and "hookah bars".

**Tobacco Product:** Any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff; or electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic pipes, electronic hookah, liquid nicotine, "e-liquids" or other similar products, regardless of nicotine content, that rely on vaporization or aerosolization. "Tobacco product" includes any component or part of a tobacco product. "Tobacco product" does not include any product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration either as a tobacco use cessation product or for other medical purposes and which is being marketed and sold or prescribed solely for the approved purpose.

**Vending Machine:** Any automated or mechanical self-service device, which upon insertion of money, tokens or any other form of payment, dispenses cigarettes, any other tobacco product.

#### D. Tobacco Product Sales to Minors Prohibited:

1. No person shall sell tobacco products or permit tobacco products to be sold to a minor; or not being the minor's parent or legal guardian, give tobacco products to a minor.

#### 2. Required Signage

- a. In conformance with and in addition to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 270, Section 7, a copy of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 270, Section 6, shall be posted conspicuously by the owner or other person in charge thereof in the shop or other place used to sell tobacco products at retail. The notice shall be provided by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and made available from the Malden Board of Health. The notice shall be at least 48 square inches and shall be posted conspicuously by the permit

holder in the retail establishment or other place in such a manner so that it may be readily seen by a person standing at or approaching the cash register. The notice shall directly face the purchaser and shall not be obstructed from view or placed at a height of less than four (4) feet or greater than nine (9) feet from the floor. The owner or other person in charge of a shop or other place used to sell tobacco products at retail shall conspicuously post any additional signs required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

- b. The owner or other person in charge of a shop or other place used to sell tobacco products at retail shall conspicuously post signage provided by the Malden Board of Health that discloses current referral information about smoking cessation.
- c. The owner or other person in charge of a shop or other place used to sell tobacco products that rely on vaporization or aerosolization, as defined herein as “tobacco products”, at retail shall conspicuously post a sign stating that “The sale of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to someone under the minimum legal sales age of 21 years is prohibited.” The notice shall be no smaller than 8.5 inches by 11 inches and shall be posted conspicuously in the retail establishment or other place in such a manner so that it may be readily seen by a person standing at or approaching the cash register. The notice shall directly face the purchaser and shall not be obstructed from view or placed at a height of less than four (4) feet or greater than nine (9) feet from the floor.

3. Identification: Each person selling or distributing tobacco products shall verify the age of the purchaser by means of valid government-issued photographic identification containing the bearer's date of birth that the purchaser is 21 years old or older. Verification is required for any person under the age of 27.

4. All retail sales of tobacco products must be face to face between the seller and the buyer and occur at the permitted location.

E. Tobacco Product Sales Permit:

1. No person shall sell or otherwise distribute tobacco products at retail within Malden without first obtaining a Tobacco Product Sales Permit issued annually by the Malden Board of Health. Only owners of establishments with a permanent, non-mobile location in Malden are eligible to apply for a permit and sell tobacco products at the specified location in Malden.

2. As part of the Tobacco Product Sales Permit application process, the applicant will be provided with the Malden Board of Health regulation. Each applicant is required to sign a statement declaring that the applicant has read said regulation and that the applicant is responsible for instructing any and all employees who will be responsible for tobacco product sales regarding both state laws regarding the sale of tobacco and this regulation.

3. Each applicant who sells tobacco is required to provide proof of a current tobacco sales license issued by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue before a Tobacco Product Sales Permit can be issued.

4. The fee for a Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall be determined by the Malden Board of Health annually. All such permits shall be renewed annually by April 30.
5. A separate permit is required for each retail establishment selling tobacco products.
6. Each Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall be displayed at the retail establishment in a conspicuous place.
7. No Tobacco Product Sales Permit holder shall allow any employee to sell tobacco products until such employee reads this regulation and state laws regarding the sale of tobacco and signs a statement, a copy of which will be placed on file in the office of the employer, that he/she has read the regulation and applicable state laws.
8. A Tobacco Product Sales Permit is non-transferable. A new owner of an establishment that sells tobacco products must apply for a new permit. No new permit will be issued unless and until all outstanding penalties incurred by the previous permit holder are satisfied in full.
9. Issuance of a Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall be conditioned on an applicant's consent to unannounced, periodic inspections of his/her retail establishment to ensure compliance with this regulation.
10. A Tobacco Product Sales Permit will not be renewed if the permit holder has failed to pay all fines issued and the time period to appeal the fines has expired.
11. Maximum Number of Tobacco Product Sales Permits.
  - a. At any given time, there shall be no more than **56** Tobacco Product Sales Permits issued in Malden, reduced by the number of permits not renewed pursuant to subsection (b) below. No permit renewal will be denied based on the requirements of this subsection except any permit holder who has failed to renew his or her permit within thirty (30) days of expiration will be treated as a first-time permit applicant.
  - b. As of the effective date found in Section U of this regulation, any permit not renewed either because a retailer no longer sells tobacco products, as defined herein, or because a retailer closes the retail business, shall be returned to the Malden Board of Health and shall be permanently retired by the Board of Health and the total allowable number of Tobacco Product Sales Permits under paragraph 11(a) shall be reduced by the number of retired permits.
  - c. A Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall not be issued to any new applicant for a retail location within 500 feet of a public or private elementary or secondary school as measured by a straight line from the nearest point of the property line of the school to the nearest point of the property line of the site of the applicant's business premises.
  - d. Applicants who purchase an existing business that holds a valid Tobacco Product Sales Permit at the time of the sale of said business must apply within sixty (60) days of such

sale for the permit held by the Seller if the Buyer intends to sell tobacco products, as defined herein.

F. Cigar Sales Regulated:

1. No person shall sell or distribute or cause to be sold or distributed a single cigar.
2. No person shall sell or distribute or cause to be sold or distributed any original factory-wrapped package of two or more cigars, unless such package is priced for retail sale at five dollars (\$5.00) or more.
3. This Section shall not apply to:
  - a. The sale or distribution of any single cigar having a retail price of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) or more.
  - b. A person or entity engaged in the business of selling or distributing cigars for commercial purposes to another person or entity engaged in the business of selling or distributing cigars for commercial purposes with the intent to sell or distribute outside the boundaries of Malden.
4. The Malden Board of Health may adjust from time to time the amounts specified in this Section to reflect changes in the applicable Consumer Price Index by amendment of this regulation.

G. Free Distribution:

No person shall distribute, or cause to be distributed, any free samples of tobacco products.

H. Out-of-Package Sales:

No person may sell or cause to be sold or distribute or cause to be distributed, any cigarette package that contains fewer than twenty (20) cigarettes, including single cigarettes.

I. Self-Service Displays:

All self-service displays of tobacco products are prohibited. All humidors including, but not limited to, walk-in humidors must be locked. The only exception is self-service displays that are located in facilities where the retailer ensures that no person younger than twenty-one (21) years of age is present, or permitted to enter, at any time.

J. Vending Machines:

All tobacco product vending machines are prohibited.

K. Prohibition of the Sale of Tobacco Products by Health Care Institutions:

No health care institution located in Malden shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco products. No retail establishment that operates or has a health care institution within it, such as a pharmacy or drug store, shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco products.

L. Prohibition of the Sale of Tobacco Products by Educational Institutions:

No educational institution located in Malden shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco products. This includes all educational institutions as well as any retail establishments that operate on the property of an educational institution.

M. Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own Machines:

Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own (RYO) Machine: A mechanical device made available for use (including to an individual who produces cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, or roll-your-own tobacco solely for the individual's own personal consumption or use) that is capable of making cigarettes, cigars or other tobacco products. RYO machines located in private homes used for solely personal consumption are not Non-Residential RYO machines.

N. "Smoking Bars":

Pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 270, §22(j), smoking is also hereby prohibited in Smoking Bars.

O. Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products Prohibited:

No person shall sell or distribute or cause to be sold or distributed any flavored tobacco product, except in smoking bars and adult-only retail tobacco stores.

P. Sale of Blunt Wraps:

No retail establishment shall sell blunt wraps, provided that only an establishment designated by the Board of Health as an adult-only retail tobacco store shall be permitted to sell blunt wraps.

Q. Sale of E-Cigarettes Restricted:

No person shall sell or distribute or cause to be sold or distributed any E-Cigarette, as defined herein, except in Adult Only Retail Tobacco Stores.

R. Violations:

1. It shall be the responsibility of the establishment, permit holder and/or his or her business agent to ensure compliance with all sections of this regulation pertaining to his or her distribution of tobacco products. The violator shall receive:

- a. In the case of a first violation, a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).



- b. In the case of a second violation within 36 months of the date of the current violation, a fine of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) shall be assessed and the Tobacco Product Sales Permit may be suspended for up to seven (7) consecutive business days.
- c. In the case of three or more violations within a 36-month period, a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) shall be assessed and the Tobacco Product Sales Permit may be suspended for up to thirty (30) consecutive business days.
- d. The Board shall publicize any violations of Section D.1 after the time period to appeal any penalties has expired.

2. Refusal to cooperate with inspections pursuant to this regulation shall result in the suspension of the Tobacco Product Sales Permit for thirty (30) consecutive business days.

3. In addition to the monetary fines set above, any permit holder who engages in the sale or distribution of tobacco products directly to a consumer while his or her permit is suspended shall be subject to the suspension of all board of health issued permits for thirty (30) consecutive business days.

4. The Malden Board of Health shall provide notice of the intent to suspend or revoke a Tobacco Product Sales Permit, which notice shall contain the reasons therefor and establish a time and date for a hearing which date shall be no earlier than seven (7) days after the date of said notice. The permit holder or its business agent shall have an opportunity to be heard at such hearing and shall be notified of the Board of Health's decision and the reasons therefore in writing. After a hearing, the Malden Board of Health may suspend or revoke the Tobacco Product Sales Permit if the Board finds that any violations have occurred. For purposes of such suspensions or revocations, the Board shall make the determination notwithstanding any separate criminal or non-criminal proceedings brought in court hereunder or under the Massachusetts General Laws for the same offense.

All tobacco products shall be removed from the retail establishment upon suspension or revocation of the Tobacco Product Sales Permit. Failure to remove all tobacco products shall constitute a separate violation of this regulation.

S. Non-Criminal Disposition:

Whoever violates any provision of this regulation may be penalized by the non-criminal method of disposition as provided in General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21 D or by filing a criminal complaint at the appropriate venue.

Each day any violation exists shall be deemed to be a separate offense.

T. Enforcement:

Enforcement of this regulation shall be by the Malden Board of Health or its designated agent(s).

Any citizen who desires to register a complaint pursuant to the regulation may do so by contacting the Malden Board of Health or its designated agent(s) and the Board shall investigate.

U. Severability:

If any provision of these regulations is declared invalid or unenforceable, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby but shall continue in full force and effect.

V. Effective Date:

This regulation was Amended April 9, 2019 and is in full force and effect except for Section Q, Sale of E-Cigarettes Restricted, which will go into effect on August 1, 2019

Last Amended 04/09/19 to changes the definition of E-Cigarette and Section Q to allow the sale of e-cigarettes in Adult Only Retail Stores. The effective date of Section Q is 01/08/19. All other amendments as of this date are in full force and effect.