Facts and Stats

“A” average for June

According to Idaho Code 39-5701, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare must inspect each business that sells tobacco to ensure that it does not sell tobacco to minors.

In June 2018:

• 35 Vendors were inspected. *
• 1 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
• The compliance rate for the month was 97.14%

*Non-minor Exempt Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

Know your identification cards?

By Cheryl Reed

Seven tips for identifying a false ID

We've all seen those experts on TV who make a living creating false identifications, right? The fact is, false identifications are not just on fictional TV—it happens in our own neighborhoods.

Have you ever spotted a fake ID in your store? Do you know what to look for? Because of new technology, manufacturers of fake identification cards are becoming more expert at their craft and fake cards are harder to identify. These seven tips can help you spot a fake ID card in just a few seconds.

1. Check the rigidity of the card. A fake ID often has a different weight or thickness. You can practice by handling your own ID card to familiarize yourself with the weight and flexibility of a true card.
2. Check the edges of the card. Most ID cards have rounded edges. If the edges of the card you’re checking are square and sharp, it could be false.
3. Run your fingers over the front and back of the card. If there are bumps, ridges, or irregularities in the feel of the card, it could be fake.
4. Check the fonts, colors, and patterns and look for some of the security features that are present on a valid identification. If you don’t know what these security features are, go to preventthesale.com/Idaho/ids.htm to look at Idaho drivers’ license designs.
5. Check the back of the card carefully because manufacturers usually don’t take as much time replicating the back of the card.
6. Become really familiar with what Idaho driver’s licenses look like, and you’ll become an expert at identifying a fake one.
7. Note that identification cards can also be altered with fingernail polish and super glue. Look for shiny spots on the ID over the date of birth or “under until” dates. The color of the fonts also might be slightly different with an altered ID.
The most common form of ID fraud

While fake ID cards sometimes show up at your counter, it’s more likely that you’ll find a youth who has borrowed someone else’s card. Minors can easily borrow an ID from an older sibling or friend, so you should follow these steps if you suspect an impersonator:

1. Compare the photograph on the ID with the person in front of you.
2. Look at the height and weight on the card and compare it to the person in front of you.
3. Look at the expiration date and a “DUPL” stamp on the card.
4. Look for signs of deceit from the cardholder, like nervousness and avoiding eye contact.

If you suspect that the ID is borrowed, ask the cardholder to verify some of the information on the card. You can also ask for a signature and see if it matches the signature on the card. Mispronounce the name and see if the person corrects you.

If you suspect that an identification card is borrowed or altered, it is your responsibility to refuse the sale. Good luck!

Do you need practice?

Practicing and role-playing are some of the best ways to prepare yourself to say no to a minor attempting to purchase tobacco. Our online resources for retailers are a great place for you to familiarize yourself with identification cards, Idaho laws, and play some games that can bolster your confidence.

Have you played the training game yet at preventthesale.com/Idaho/game.htm#? The game walks you through a number of different scenarios that help you practice your identification card detective skills.