

Rowe Board of Health  
Public Hearing Notice

**Tobacco Control Regulations**

The Rowe Board of Health will conduct a public hearing on **Wednesday June 5, 2024 at 6:40pm**. This hearing will be held in a hybrid method. Attendance can be in person at the Rowe Town Hall, Conference Room 1 or via Zoom. Zoom # 288 065 7034, for the purpose of discussing adoption of local Tobacco Control regulations in Rowe.

The proposed regulations can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office, 321 Zoar Rd. Rowe in Rowe during regular business hours: Tuesday 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Herb Butzke  
Rowe Board of Health Chair

Rowe Board of Health  
Public Hearing Notice

**Local Septic Regulations**

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Herb Butzke  
Rowe Board of Health Chair



# Town of Rowe

## 321 Zoar Rd. Rowe MA 01367

### Local Septic Regulations

Approved by CPHS Oversight Board on 2/22/2024

**1.) Authority:** These regulations are enacted by the Rowe Board of Health under the authority which includes but is not limited to one or more of the following: MGL Ch. 21A, section 13; Ch. 111, sections 31, 122, 187, 188; 310 CMR 11.02 (Title 1), and 310 CMR 15.000 (Title 5).

**2.) Purpose:** These Regulations of the Rowe Board of Health are enacted for the purpose of protection of the citizens of the Town of Rowe and also the protection of the environment. As a minimum code, Title 5 is incomplete and ambiguous in certain specifications and silent on other topics. Accordingly, local Board of Health regulations are necessary to assure more complete protection from sewage overflow to the ground surface, which is a source of filth and disease, and also to assure more complete protection from potential pollution of ground water, wells, surface waters, wetland complexes, and certain geologic and water-bearing deposits. Local regulations are also necessary for purposes of efficient administration and management, as well as for additional guidance in the process of construction and repair of septic systems. These regulations do not conflict with Title 5, but rather complement them, and provide additional guidance and protection.

Many rural areas in Franklin County rely upon on-site subsurface sewage disposal systems for the majority of disposal of sewage in their Town. Many residents derive 100% of their water supply from ground water, which supplies both the public water systems and individual on-site wells.

**3.) Relationship to 310 CMR 15.00, Title 5 of the Environmental Code:** These regulations must be read together with 310 CMR 15.000 (Title 5), which contains many other provisions and requirements relevant to onsite sewage disposal systems. The provisions of Title 5 shall govern, except where more stringent standards are set by these regulations. A request for a variance to any section of these regulations shall follow the process and standards of review as outlined in 310 CMR 15.400.

**4.) Effluent Filters:** A septic tank outlet filter approved by DEP shall be installed on all new septic tanks whether for new construction or upgrade of an existing system. If an existing tank is to be used in a repaired system, an effluent filter shall be installed or retro-fitted, and if tank access and construction do not allow, a separate effluent filter chamber shall be utilized in the treatment train.

**5.) Speed Levelers:** All distribution boxes receiving gravity flow shall be equipped with “speed levelers” or equivalent devices to facilitate adjustment in order to maintain equal distribution. Distribution boxes and piping shall be leveled prior to installation of speed levelers.

**6.) Septic Tanks & Pump Chambers:** All septic tanks, tight tanks, pump chambers, and grease traps constructed with field-assembled seams more than 12” below the top, shall be tested for water tightness, either by hydraulic methods or by the application of a vacuum. Additional methods may be approved by



the Rowe Board of Health upon review. Written evidence of tank certification shall be included as part of the as-built plan submission. Two-Compartment septic tanks are required for all installations, unless approved otherwise in writing by the Rowe Board of Health as a permit condition.

**7.) System Access for Inspection, Maintenance, and Repair:** Septic tanks, tight tanks, grease traps, pump chambers, or distribution boxes shall be provided with accesses to within 6 inches or less of finished grade. All soil absorption systems shall have a minimum of one (1) inspection port consisting of a vertical 4" diameter perforated pipe extending from the bottom of the system to within 3 inches of finished grade, with a screw type cap. All system components, including the inspection port, shall be marked with magnetic marking tape or a comparable means in order to locate them once buried. All access and inspection ports shall be shown on the as-built plan, with recoverable ties.

Septic Tanks and pump chambers shall be located to be accessible to septage pumping equipment. Unless otherwise approved by the Rowe Board of Health, they shall be within 100 feet horizontally and 15 feet vertically of a driveway, street, or other all-weather truck access.

**8.) Title 5 Inspections:**

**A.)** All Title 5 system inspections under 310 CMR 15.301 shall be witnessed by a member of the Rowe Board of Health or its agent. If inspection shows distribution box outlets not to be level, corrective action shall be taken immediately by installation of "speed levelers" or other measures as approved by the Rowe Board of Health witness.

**B.)** Dwellings or systems subject to inspection under 310 CMR 15.301 that are not currently occupied or have not been receiving normal flows prior to the inspection shall be identified as "Needs Further Evaluation by the Local Approving Authority" on the Inspection Certification. Such "dormant" systems shall not be certified as a "Pass" until approximately 6-months of normal flows have been passing through the system, and the system has been subjected to a re-inspection. The Board of Health shall then make a determination based upon the results of the initial inspection and the subsequent re-inspection. This requirement shall not conflict with the requirements of 15.301(1).

**C.)** The Board of Health shall not sign-off on any Building Permit application subject to the requirements of 15.301(5) until the proper system inspection report has been submitted to the Board for review. This includes any change in the type of establishment, increase in design flow (calculated or actual), or any expansion of use of the facility served for which a building permit or occupancy permit from the Rowe building inspector is required.

**D.)** All private well water quality testing shall comply with the Private Well Regulations for Rowe. Any private well not tested for water quality in accordance with the Private Well Regulations for Rowe will result in a "Conditional Pass" on the Title 5 Inspection Report until such water quality test is done and provided to the Rowe Board of Health and the Cooperative Public Health Service.

**9.) System Components:** For new construction, all system components for an on-lot treatment and disposal system shall be located on the same lot served by the system, which shall be the same lot that generates the sewage effluent.

**10.) Location of System Components:** The Rowe Board of Health shall not sign-off on a building permit that includes the creation of an additional bedroom(s) within the dwelling, any addition to the building footprint, or the excavation of the exterior yard areas adjacent to the dwelling until the Board has been satisfied that the system is properly sized for the projected flows and that all system



components have been located and field identified to preclude damage or encroachment during any construction activities.

**11.) Fees:** The Rowe Board of Health may assess fees for permits, licenses, inspections, and oversight services issued or performed by the Board or its representatives in the execution of its responsibilities. A schedule of fees shall be maintained by the Rowe Board of Health and may be amended from time to time by vote of the Board at a regularly called meeting.

**12.) Severability:** If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of these regulations shall be deemed invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining provisions of these regulations, which shall remain in full force and effect and, to this end, the provisions of these regulations are hereby declared severable.

**13.) Enforcement:** This regulation shall be enforced by the Rowe Board of Health and/or its designated agent(s). Any citizen who desires to register a complaint pursuant to the regulation may do so by contacting the Rowe Board of Health. Any person who shall fail to comply with this regulation or any order issued pursuant to the provisions of this regulation, shall upon conviction be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$1000 for each offence or violation. Each day any violation exists shall be deemed a separate offense. Each day's failure to comply with an order shall constitute a separate violation.

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If you have questions, please feel free to email or call the Cooperative Public Health Service as Agents to the Rowe Board of Health:

Health Agents  
Office:

[healthagents@frcog.org](mailto:healthagents@frcog.org)  
[CPHSoffice@frcog.org](mailto:CPHSoffice@frcog.org)

413-774-3167 x106 or x201  
x142

# Regulation of the ROWE

## Board of Health

### Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products

#### A. Statement of Purpose:

Whereas, there exists conclusive evidence that tobacco smoking causes cancer, respiratory and cardiac diseases, negative birth outcomes, irritations to the eyes, nose and throat;<sup>1</sup>

Whereas, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has concluded that nicotine is as addictive as cocaine or heroin<sup>2</sup> and the Surgeon General found that nicotine exposure during adolescence, a critical window for brain development, may have lasting adverse consequences for brain development,<sup>3</sup> and that it is addiction to nicotine that keeps youth smoking past adolescence;<sup>4</sup>

Whereas, a Federal District Court found that Phillip Morris, RJ Reynolds and other leading cigarette manufacturers “spent billions of dollars every year on their marketing activities in order to encourage young people to try and then continue purchasing their cigarette products in order to provide the replacement smokers they need to survive” and that these companies were likely to continue targeting underage smokers;<sup>5</sup>

Whereas, the majority (90%) of smokers begin smoking before the age of 25, and over 5 million youth and young adults (ages 25 and under) smoke;<sup>6</sup>

Whereas, cigars and cigarillos, can be sold in a single “dose;” and enjoy a relatively low tax as compared to cigarettes;<sup>7</sup>

Whereas, the Surgeon General found that exposure to tobacco marketing in stores and price discounting increase youth smoking;<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *Health Effects of Cigarette Smoking Fact Sheet* (2021), [https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data\\_statistics/fact\\_sheets/health\\_effects/effects\\_cig\\_smoking/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/health_effects/effects_cig_smoking/index.htm).

<sup>2</sup> CDC, *How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease: The Biology and Behavioral Basis for Smoking-Attributable Disease*, (2010), [http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data\\_statistics/sgr/2010/](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/sgr/2010/).

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Dep’t of Health and Hum. Servs., *The Health Consequences of Smoking – 50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General* at 122 (2014), <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/50-years-of-progress/full-report.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 13 (Executive Summary).

<sup>5</sup> *United States v. Phillip Morris*, 449 F.Supp.2d 1, 1605-07 (D.D.C. 2006).

<sup>6</sup> Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Key substance use and mental health indicators in the United States: Results from the 2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health* (HHS Publication No. PEP21-07-01-003, NSDUH Series H-56) (2021) (Retrieved from <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/>).

<sup>7</sup> CDC, *Youth Risk Behavior, Surveillance Summaries* (MMWR 2010: 59, 12, note 5) (2009) (Retrieved from: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss5905.pdf>).

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Dep’t of Health and Human Servs., *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General* 508, 530 (2012) ([www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/preventing-youth-tobacco-use/full-report.pdf](http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/preventing-youth-tobacco-use/full-report.pdf)).



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;<sup>9</sup>

Whereas, the U.S. Surgeon General recognized in his 2014 report that a complementary strategy to assist in eradicating tobacco-related death and disease is for local governments to ban categories of products from retail sale;<sup>10</sup>

Whereas, ever use of e-cigarettes among students in Massachusetts is 30.9% for high schoolers and 10.9% for middle schools, representing a 20.3% decrease for high schoolers, and a 4.6% decrease for middle schoolers from 2019 to 2021;<sup>11</sup>

Whereas, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has classified liquid nicotine in any amount as an “acutely hazardous waste”;<sup>12</sup>

Whereas, the New England Commission on Higher Education requires colleges and universities to maintain a safe and healthy environment for students,<sup>13</sup> which is incompatible with the sale of tobacco and nicotine products;

Whereas, research indicates that the density and proximity of tobacco retailers increase smoking behaviors, including number of cigarettes smoked per day, reduced smoking abstinence during a quit attempt, and increased smoking prevalence among youth;<sup>14</sup>

Whereas, the density of tobacco retailers near adolescents’ homes has been associated with increased youth smoking rates and initiation of non-cigarette tobacco product use;<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Food and Drug Administration, *Fact Sheet: Flavored Tobacco Products* (2011), [www.fda.gov/downloads/TobaccoProducts/ProtectingKidsfromTobacco/FlavoredTobacco/UCM183214.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/TobaccoProducts/ProtectingKidsfromTobacco/FlavoredTobacco/UCM183214.pdf); U.S. Dep’t of Health and Human Services, *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General*, 508, 539 (2012) [www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/preventing-youth-tobacco-use/full-report.pdf](http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/preventing-youth-tobacco-use/full-report.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> See fn. 3 at p. 85.

<sup>11</sup> MA YRBS 2017

<sup>12</sup> 310 CMR 30.136

<sup>13</sup> New England Commission on Higher Education, *Standards for Accreditation* at 24 (2021), <https://www.neche.org/resources/standards-for-accreditation>.

<sup>14</sup> Ying-Chih Chuang et al., *Effects of neighbourhood socioeconomic status and convenience store concentration on individual level smoking*, 59(7) J. Epidemiol Cmty Health 568 (2005) (doi: 10.1136/jech.2004.029041); Shelley D. Golden et al., *County-level associations between tobacco retailer density and smoking prevalence in the USA*, 2012, 17 (101005) Prev. Med. Rep. (Mar. 2020) (doi: 10.1016/j.pmedr.2019.101005); Eric C. Leas et al., *Place-Based Inequity in Smoking Prevalence in the Largest Cities in the United States*, 179(3) JAMA Intern Med., 442 (2019) (doi: 10.1001/jamainternmed.2018.5990); JG Lee et al., *Associations of tobacco retailer density and proximity with adult tobacco use behaviors and health outcomes: a meta-analysis*. Tobacco Control. Published Online First: 03 September 2021; LR Reitzel et al., *The effect of tobacco outlet density and proximity on smoking cessation*. American Journal of Public Health. 2011, 101(2):315-320; L Henriksen et al., *Is adolescent smoking related to the density and proximity of tobacco retailers and retail cigarette advertising near schools?* Preventive Medicine. 2008, 47(2): 210-4.

<sup>15</sup> LJ Finan et al., *Tobacco Outlet Density and Adolescents’ Cigarette Smoking: A Meta-Analysis*, 28(1) Tob Control. 27 (2019) (doi: 10.1136/tobaccocontrol-2017-054065); Abdel Magid HS et al., *Tobacco Retail Density and Initiation of Alternative Tobacco Product Use Among Teens*, 66(4) J. Adolescent Health 423 (2020) (doi: 10.1016/j.jadohealth.2019.09.004).



Whereas, tobacco retailers are more prevalent in underserved communities, especially in neighborhoods with a higher proportion of African American or Hispanic residents;<sup>16</sup>

Whereas, policies to reduce tobacco retailer density have been shown to be effective and can reduce or eliminate social and racial inequities in the location and distribution of tobacco retailers;<sup>17</sup>

Whereas, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court has held that “. . . [t]he right to engage in business must yield to the paramount right of government to protect the public health by any rational means.”<sup>18</sup>

Now, therefore it is the intention of the ROWE Board of Health to regulate the sale of tobacco products.

### **B. Authority:**

This regulation is promulgated pursuant to the authority granted to the ROWE Board of Health by G.L. c. 111, §31 which states "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 (also known as “Retail Tobacco Store” in G.L. c. 270): An establishment that is not adjoined, that has a separate entrance not used by any other retailer, that does not sell food, beverages or alcohol, that does not have a lottery license, whose only purpose is to sell or offer for retail sale tobacco products and/or tobacco product paraphernalia, in which the entry of persons under the age of 21 is prohibited at all times, and which maintains a valid permit for the retail sale of tobacco products from the ROWE Board of Health and applicable state licenses. Entrance to the establishment must be secure so that access to the establishment is restricted to employees and to those 21 years or older. The establishment shall not allow anyone under the age of 21 to work at the establishment

Blunt Wrap: Any product made wholly or in part from tobacco product, manufactured or packaged with loose and removable leaves or section of a leaf, or as a hollow tube, that may be used by the consumer to wrap or contain loose tobacco or other fillers.

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<sup>16</sup> Siahpush M. et al., *Association of availability of tobacco products with socio-economic and racial/ethnic characteristics of neighbourhoods*, 124(9) Pub. Health 525 (2010) (doi: 10.1016/j.puhe.2010.04.010); Lee JG, et al., *Inequalities in tobacco outlet density by race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status, 2012, USA: results from the ASPiRE Study*, 71(5) J. Epidemiol Cmty Health 487 (2017) (doi: 10.1136/jech-2016-208475); D.O. Fakunle et al., *Black, White, or Green? The Effects of Racial Composition and Socioeconomic Status on Neighborhood-Level Tobacco Outlet Density*, Ethn Health. 1 (2019) (doi: 10.1080/13557858.2019.1620178).

<sup>17</sup> Ribisl KM, et al., *Reducing Disparities in Tobacco Retailer Density by Banning Tobacco Product Sales Near Schools*, 19(2) Nicotine Tobacco Res. 239 (2017) (doi: 10.1093/ntn/ntw185); HG, Henry et al., *Tobacco Retail Licensing and Density 3 Years After License Regulations in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2012-2019)*, 110 (4) Am J. Pub. Health 547 (2020) (doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2019.305512); A.E. Myers et al., *A comparison of three policy approaches for tobacco retailer reduction*, 74 Prev. Med. 67(2015) (doi: 10.1016/j.ypmed.2015.01.025).

<sup>18</sup> *Druzik et al v. Board of Health of Haverhill*, 324 Mass. 129 (1949).



**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, 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, menthol, mint, wintergreen, 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.

**Child-Resistant Package:** Packing intended to reduce the risk of a child ingesting nicotine and that meets the minimum standards of 16 C.F.R 1700 *et seq.*, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1471 through 1476.

**Cigar:** Any roll of tobacco that is wrapped in leaf tobacco or in any substance containing tobacco, with or without a tip or mouthpiece, that is in a readily usable state immediately when removed from its packaging without any modification, preparation or assembly required as in a kit or roll-your own package, and is not otherwise defined as a cigarette under G.L. c. 64C, §1, Paragraph 1. Tobacco leaf in kits or roll-your-own packages shall be considered “blunt wraps” for the purpose of this regulation.

**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.

**Coupon:** A card, paper, note, form, statement, ticket or other communication distributed for commercial or promotional purposes to be later surrendered by the bearer so as to receive an article, service or accommodation without charge or at a discounted price.

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

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

**Electronic Nicotine Delivery System:** An electronic device, whether for one-time use or reusable, that can be used to deliver nicotine or another substance to a person inhaling from the device including, but not limited to, electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic cigarillos, electronic pipes, vaping pens, hookah pens, and other similar devices that rely on vaporization or aerosolization; provided, however, that “electronic nicotine delivery system” shall also include any noncombustible liquid or gel that is manufactured into a finished product for use in such electronic device; provided further, that “electronic nicotine delivery system” shall also include any component, part of accessory of a device used during the operation of the device even if the part or accessory was sold separately; provided further, that “electronic nicotine delivery system” shall not include a product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the sale of or use as a tobacco cessation product or for other medical purposes and is marketed and sold or prescribed exclusively for that approved purpose.

**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 a person or group of persons who provides health care services and employs health care providers subject to licensing under this chapter; or a retail establishment that sells pharmaceutical goods and services and is subject to regulation by the board of registration in pharmacy. Health care institutions include but are not limited to hospitals, clinics, health centers, pharmacies, drug stores, doctors' offices, and dental offices. **[Exempted from state law G.L. c. 112, §61A, but may be included in local regulations:** A retail establishment that provides optician, optometric, hearing aid or audiology services but is not subject to regulation by the board of registration in pharmacy shall not be considered a health care institution].

**Liquid Nicotine Container:** A package from which nicotine or other substance in a solution or other form is accessible through normal and foreseeable use by a consumer and that is used to hold a soluble nicotine or other substance in any concentration; provided however, that "liquid nicotine container" shall not include a sealed, prefilled and disposable container of nicotine or other substance in a solution or other form in which the container is inserted directly into an electronic cigarette, electronic nicotine delivery system or other similar product if the nicotine or other substance in the container is inaccessible through customary or reasonably foreseeable handling or use, including reasonably foreseeable ingestion or other contact by children.

**Listed or Non-Discounted Price:** The higher of the price listed for a tobacco product on its package or the price listed on any related shelving, posting, advertising or display at the place where the tobacco product is sold or offered for sale plus all applicable taxes if such taxes are not included in the stated price, and before the application of any discounts or coupons.

**Manufacturer Documentation:** A written document from a manufacturer that certifies which of each of its products are not flavored, as defined under Massachusetts law and these regulations. Manufacturer Documentation shall also mean a written document from a manufacturer that certifies the nicotine content expressed as milligrams per milliliter for each of its Electronic Nicotine Delivery System products.

**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.

**Permit Holder:** Any person engaged in the sale or distribution of tobacco products 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.



Person: Any retailer, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind, including but not limited to, an owner, operator, manager, proprietor or person in charge of any establishment, business or retail store.

Retailer: A person that operates a retail establishment.

Retail Establishment: A physical place of business or a section of a physical place of business in which a tobacco product is offered for sale to consumers.

Rolling Papers: Sheets, rolls, tubes, cones, wraps, or leaves, that do not contain tobacco, which are used for rolling cigarettes either by hand or with a roll-your-own machine. [NOTES: This relates to flavor enhancers, see last sentence of Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancer definition. Adding this definition will permit banning flavored non-tobacco, non-nicotine wraps such as hemp wraps.]

Self-Service Display: Any display including an unlocked humidor regardless of size from which customers may select a tobacco product, as defined herein, without assistance from an employee or store personnel.

Schools: Public or private elementary or secondary schools.

Smoking Bar: An establishment that: (i) exclusively occupies an enclosed indoor space and is primarily engaged in the retail sale of tobacco products for consumption by customers on the premises; (ii) derives revenue from the sale of food, alcohol or other beverages that is incidental to the sale of a tobacco product and prohibits entry to a person under 21 years of age; (iii) prohibits a food or beverage not sold directly by the establishment from being consumed on the premises; (iv) maintains a valid permit for the retail sale of a tobacco product as required to be issued by the Town of ROWE; and (v) maintains a valid license issued by the department of revenue to operate as a smoking bar. "Smoking bar" shall include, but not be limited to, those establishments that are commonly known as "cigar bars", "hookah bars" and "vape bars."

Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancer: Any product designed, manufactured, produced, marketed or sold to produce a characterizing flavor when added to any tobacco product. A rolling paper with a characterizing flavor shall be considered a Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancer.

Tobacco Product: A product containing or 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, electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic pipes, electronic nicotine delivery systems or any other similar products that rely on vaporization or aerosolization regardless of nicotine content in the product; provided, however, that "tobacco product" shall also include any component, part or accessory of a tobacco product; and provided further, that "tobacco product" shall not include a product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the sale of or use as a tobacco cessation product or for other medical purposes and is marketed and sold or prescribed exclusively 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 or makes cigarettes or any other tobacco products available, as defined herein.

#### **D. No Tobacco Sales to Persons Under Twenty-One (21) Years Old**



1. No person shall sell or provide a tobacco product to a person under twenty-one (21) years old.
  - a. Required Signage: All retail establishments, **[including smoking bars and adult-only retail tobacco stores]** shall conspicuously post signage, in the form developed and made available by the Massachusetts Department of Health (DPH) and made available from the ROWE Board of Health. Such signage shall include: (i) a copy of G.L. c. 270, §§ 6 and 6A; (ii) referral information for smoking cessation resources; (iii) a statement that sale of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to someone younger than 21 years of age is prohibited; (iv) health warnings associated with using electronic nicotine delivery systems; and (v) except in the case of smoking bars, notice to consumers that the sale of flavored tobacco products are prohibited at all times. Such signage 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 feet or greater than nine feet from the floor.

- b. All smoking bars and adult-only retail tobacco stores shall post signage, in the form developed and made available by DPH, on the exterior of the door providing entrance to the tobacco retail store or smoking bar and such sign shall not be obstructed from view or placed at a height of less than four feet or greater than nine from the bottom of the door. Such signage shall state that "No person younger than 21 years old is permitted on the premises at any time."

- c. All smoking bars and those adult-only retail tobacco stores that allow for onsite consumption of tobacco products shall post signage, in the form developed and made available by DPH, on the exterior of the door providing entrance to the tobacco retail store or smoking bar and such sign shall not be obstructed from view or placed at a height of less than four feet or greater than nine from the bottom of the door. Such signage shall warn persons entering that smoking and vaping may be present on the premises and provide information concerning the health risks associated with secondhand smoke and the use of tobacco products, including electronic nicotine delivery systems.

## 2. Identification:

- a. Each person selling or distributing tobacco products shall first verify the age of **every** purchaser of tobacco products by means of a valid government-issued photographic identification containing the bearer's date of birth that the purchaser is 21 or older.

- b. Each person admitting entrance into a smoking bar or adult-only retail tobacco store shall first verify the age of **every** person entering by means of a valid government-issued photographic identification containing the bearer's date of birth that the purchaser is 21 or older.

## **E. Tobacco Product Sales Permit:**

1. No person shall sell or otherwise distribute or offer for sale tobacco products, as defined herein, within the Town of ROWE without first obtaining a Tobacco Product Sales Permit issued annually by the ROWE Board of Health. Only owners of establishments with a permanent, indoor, non-mobile location in ROWE are eligible to apply for a permit and sell tobacco products, as defined herein, at the specified location in ROWE.
2. As part of the Tobacco Product Sales Permit application process, the applicant will be provided with the ROWE 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 federal, state and local laws about the sale of tobacco and this regulation.

3. Each applicant who sells tobacco products is required to provide proof of current Tobacco Retailer Licenses issued by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, when required by state law, before a Tobacco Product Sales Permit can be issued. Applicant may be asked to provide evidence that a legitimate business transfer or business purchase has taken place.
4. A separate permit, displayed conspicuously, is required for each retail establishment selling tobacco products, as defined herein. The fee shall be determined by ROWE Board of Health annually. All required Massachusetts Department of Revenue licenses related to the sale of tobacco products, as defined herein, must also be displayed conspicuously at the retail establishment.
5. 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. Neither the permit holder nor their employees shall interfere with or obstruct an inspection.
6. 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 and/or the permit holder has not satisfied any outstanding permit suspensions.
7. A Tobacco Product Sales Permit will not be renewed if the permit holder has sold a tobacco product to a person under the age of 21 three times within the previous permit year and the time period to appeal has expired. The violator may request a hearing in accordance with subsection 6 of the Violations section.
8. Maximum Number of Tobacco Product Sales Permits
  - a. At any given time, there shall be no more than one (1) Tobacco Product Sales Permits issued in ROWE. Any permit holder who has failed to renew their permit within thirty (30) days of expiration will be treated as a first-time permit applicant.
  - b. New applicants for permits who are applying at a time when the maximum number of permits have been issued will be placed on a waiting list and will be eligible to apply for a permit on a "first-come, first-served" basis.
  - c. Applicants on the waiting list shall be responsible for ensuring up to date contact information has been provided to the ROWE Board of Health.

**F. Prohibition of Smoking Bars:**

Smoking Bars are prohibited in the Town of ROWE.

**G. Cigar Sales Regulated:**

1. No person shall sell or distribute or cause to be sold or distributed a single cigar unless such cigar is priced for retail sale at two dollars and ninety cents (\$2.90) or more.
2. No person shall sell or distribute or cause to be sold or distributed any original factorywrapped package of two or more cigars, unless such package is priced for retail sale at five dollars and eighty cents (\$5.80) or more.
3. This Section shall not apply to 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 ROWE.

4. The ROWE 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.

**H. Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products Prohibited:**

No person, as defined herein, shall possess, hold, keep, sell or distribute or cause to be possessed, held, kept, sold or distributed any flavored tobacco product, as defined herein, or any flavored tobacco product enhancer, as defined herein, (NOTE: if the municipality permits smoking bars add this phrase [except in smoking bars for on-site consumption only]).

Retailers must obtain manufacturer documentation certifying that all products possessed, held, kept, sold or distributed by the retailer do not meet the definition of a flavored tobacco product or tobacco product flavor enhancer (105 CMR 665.010(E)).

**F. Prohibition of the Sale of Blunt Wraps:**

No person or entity shall sell or distribute blunt wraps in ROWE.

**K. Free Distribution and Coupon redemption:** No person shall:

1. Distribute or cause to be distributed, any free samples of tobacco products, as defined herein;
2. Accept or redeem, offer to accept or redeem, or cause or hire any person to accept or redeem or offer to accept or redeem any coupon that provides any tobacco product, as defined herein, without charge or for less than the listed or non-discounted price; or
3. Sell a tobacco product, as defined herein, through any multi-pack discount (e.g., "buy-two-get-one-free") if the sale reduces the price of each back to less than the listed or non-discounted price.

**L. Out of Package Sales:**

1. The sale or distribution of tobacco products, as defined herein, in any form other than an original factory-wrapped package is prohibited, including the repackaging or dispensing of any tobacco product, as defined herein, for retail sale. No person, as defined herein, shall possess, hold, keep, sell or distribute or cause to be possessed, held, kept, sold or distributed any cigarette package that contains fewer than twenty (20) cigarettes, including single cigarettes.
2. Permit holders who sell Liquid Nicotine Containers must comply with the provisions of 310 CMR 30.000, Massachusetts Hazardous Waste Regulations.
3. All permit holders must comply with 940 CMR 21.05 which reads: "It shall be an unfair or deceptive act or practice for any person to sell or distribute nicotine in a liquid or gel substance in Massachusetts after March 15, 2016 unless the liquid or gel product is contained in a child-resistant package that, at a minimum, meets the standard for special packaging as set forth in 15 U.S.C. §§1471 through 1476 and 16 CFR §1700 et seq."
4. No permit holder shall refill a cartridge that is prefilled with nicotine in a liquid or gel substance and sealed by the manufacturer and not intended to be opened by the consumer or retailer.



**M. Self-Service Displays:**

All self-service displays of tobacco products, as defined herein, are prohibited. All humidors including, but not limited to, walk-in humidors must be locked. person or entity shall sell or distribute blunt wraps in ROWE.

Adult-Only Retail Tobacco Stores are exempt from this section.

**N. Vending Machines:**

All vending machines containing tobacco products, as defined herein, are prohibited.

**O. Non-Residential Roll-Your Own Machines:**

All Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own machines are prohibited.

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

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

**Q. Prohibition of the Sale of Tobacco Products by Educational Institutions:**

No educational institution located in ROWE shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco products, as defined herein, including by any person or retailer on the property of an educational institution.

**R. Incorporation of State Laws and State Regulations:**

1. The sale or distribution of tobacco products, as defined herein, must comply with state statutes including but not limited to those provisions found at G.L. c. 270, §§6, 6A, 7, 28, 29 and G.L. c. 112, §61A.
2. The sale or distribution of tobacco products, as defined herein, must comply with state regulations including but not limited to those provisions found at 940 CMR 21.00, Sale and Distribution of Cigarettes, Smokeless Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices in Massachusetts, 940 CMR 22.00 Sale and Distribution of Cigars in Massachusetts; and 105 CMR 665.00, Minimum Standards for Retail Sale of Tobacco and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems.

**S. Violations:**

1. It shall be the responsibility of the establishment, permit holder and/or his or her business agent, and not their employees, to ensure compliance with all sections of this regulation. For violations of the sections of this regulation the violator shall receive:
  - a. In the case of a first violation, a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) shall be issued.
  - b. In the case of a second violation within thirty-six (36) months of the date of the current violation, a fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) shall be issued and the Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall be suspended for four (4) consecutive business days.



c. In the case of three or more violations within a thirty-six (36)-month period, a fine of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) shall be issued and the Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall be suspended for seven (7) consecutive business days.

2. In the case of four violations or repeated, egregious violations of any section of this regulation, as determined by the Board of Health within a thirty-six (36)-month period, the Board of Health shall hold a hearing in accordance with this regulation and, after such hearing may permanently revoke a Tobacco Sales Permit.

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

4. In addition to the monetary fines set above, any permit holder who engages in the sale or distribution of tobacco products while their permit is suspended shall be subject to the suspension of all Board of Health issued permits for thirty (30) consecutive business days. Multiple suspensions of a Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall not be served concurrently.

5. The ROWE 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 therefor in writing. After a hearing, the ROWE Board of Health shall suspend or revoke the Tobacco Product Sales Permit if the Board of Health finds that a violation of this regulation occurred. All tobacco products, as defined herein, shall be removed from the retail establishment upon suspension or revocation of the Tobacco Product Sales Permit. Failure to remove all tobacco products, as defined herein, shall constitute a separate violation of this regulation.

6. For purposes of such fines, the Board of Health shall make the determination notwithstanding any separate criminal or non-criminal proceedings brought in court hereunder the Massachusetts General Laws for the same offense.

**T. Separate Violations:**

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

**U. Enforcement:**

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

The Board of Health may enforce these regulations or enjoin violations thereof through any lawful process, and the election of one remedy by the Board of Health shall not preclude enforcement through any other lawful means.

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



**V. Severability:**

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

**W. Effective Date:**

This regulation shall take effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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