



Changes to vaping in Australia in 2024

*Therapeutic Goods and Other Legislation
Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Act 2024*

Stakeholder information kit

1 October 2024

About this kit

This kit provides information on the changes to vaping in Australia under the *Therapeutic Goods and Other Legislation Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Act 2024* that came into effect on 1 July 2024, as well as subsequent changes on 1 October 2024.

This information is relevant for:

- People who vape and/or smoke
- Young people who vape, and their parents and carers
- Schools, teachers and those who support young people
- Health professionals
- Quit support services
- Community and health organisations.

The kit includes:

- Background on the changes
- Links to relevant websites and information
- Information for the general public:
 - People who vape
 - Parents and carers of young people who vape
- Information for health professionals:
 - Doctors and nurse practitioners
 - Pharmacists
- Resources:
 - Social media tiles and content
 - Information sheets
 - Newsletter article
- Information on smoking and vaping quit supports.

Information for First Nations people and information translated into a range of languages is available on the Department of Health and Aged Care website.

Further information

Information about vaping in Australia and the legislation can be found on the [Department of Health and Aged Care](#) and [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) websites.

Media enquiries should be directed to: news@health.gov.au

Background

The *Therapeutic Goods and Other Legislation Amendment (Vaping Reforms) Act 2024* (the law) came into effect in Australia on 1 July 2024.

The law puts in place nationally consistent rules on the importation, domestic manufacture, supply, commercial possession and advertisement of all vapes.

The law helps to address the increasing health risks of vaping, while ensuring people who legitimately need access to vapes can still purchase them as a tool to help them quit smoking or manage nicotine dependence.

Under the legislation:

- the way Australians can access vapes has changed
- vapes can only be sold in a pharmacy setting, regardless of whether they have nicotine in them or not
- non-pharmacy retailers, such as tobacconists, vape shops and convenience stores, cannot sell any type of vape or vape product
- flavours in vapes are restricted to mint, menthol and tobacco
- the advertising or promotion of vapes is generally prohibited
- anyone involved in transporting, storing or handling vapes must comply with strict requirements.

Vapes can only be sold in pharmacies

On 1 July 2024 the law changed so that all vapes and vaping products, regardless of whether they contain nicotine or not, can only be sold in a pharmacy for the purpose of helping people to quit smoking or manage nicotine dependence.

It is illegal for any other retailer—including tobacconists, vape shops and convenience stores—to sell any type of vape or vaping product.

Most vapes contain nicotine, however some zero-nicotine vapes are also available at participating pharmacies.

Purchasing nicotine vapes without a prescription

From 1 October 2024, people 18 years and over can buy vapes with a nicotine concentration of 20 mg/mL or less from participating pharmacies without a prescription, where state and territory laws allow, but they must talk with the pharmacist before purchasing.

People will need to discuss the product and dosage, other options to quit smoking and/or manage nicotine dependence, provide identification (for proof of age purposes only), and can only purchase one month's supply over the course of one month.

Purchasing nicotine vapes with a prescription

People under 18 years need a prescription from a medical or nurse practitioner to purchase vapes, subject to state and territory laws, to ensure they get appropriate medical advice and supervision.

This gives them the chance to discuss their vaping with a health professional and get the best information about health harms and quitting options.

Please check the laws in your state or territory about the prescription and supply of vapes and vaping goods to people under the age of 18 years.

People who need a vape with more than 20 mg/mL of nicotine will require a prescription, regardless of their age.

Penalties under the legislation

Changes to the vaping laws in Australia are focused on protecting people from the harms of vaping and nicotine dependence.

The law targets commercial and criminal supply of vapes. Individuals, including people under 18 years, who have a small amount of vapes/vaping products for personal use will not be targeted under the law.

Concerns regarding the illegal supply of vapes can be reported via the [Therapeutic Goods Administration \(TGA\) website](#).

More information about measures in place to address illicit tobacco, including guidance on how to report the sale of illicit tobacco in the community is available on the [Australian Taxation Office website](#) by searching 'illicit tobacco'.

Websites and online information

Below is a summary of some of the key websites and information available online.

Further information can be found on the [Department of Health and Aged Care](#) and [Therapeutic Goods Administration](#) websites.

Information for people who vape

- Therapeutic Goods Administration
 - [Vaping hub](#) – information about how vapes are regulated in Australia.
 - [Vapes: Information for patients](#) – information about how patients can access vapes under the law.
- Department of Health and Aged Care
 - [About vaping and e-cigarettes](#) – information about what e-cigarettes are, health risks, vaping laws, what we're doing to protect people from the harms of vaping, and information and support to quit vaping.
 - [‘Give Up For Good’](#) public health campaign.

Information for parents, carers and those who support young people who vape

- Therapeutic Goods Administration
 - [Vaping hub](#) – information about how vapes are regulated in Australia.
 - [Vapes: Information for patients](#) – information about how patients can access vapes under the law.
- Department of Health and Aged Care
 - [About vaping and e-cigarettes](#) – information about what e-cigarettes are, health risks, vaping laws, what we're doing to protect people from the harms of vaping, and information and support to quit vaping.
 - [Young people and vaping](#) – information about health impacts and resources and support to help young people quit vaping.
 - ‘Give Up For Good’ public health campaign:
 - [Youth vaping campaign](#) information
 - [Resources and information for parents and carers.](#)

Information for health professionals

- Therapeutic Goods Administration
 - [Vaping hub](#)
 - [Vapes: Information for prescribers](#)

- [Vapes: Information for pharmacists](#)
 - [List of notified vapes](#)
- Visit the [Quit Centre](#) for the latest information on vaping and smoking cessation for health professionals.










Help to quit vaping and smoking

- Quitline 13 7848
- [My QuitBuddy app](#)
- [Quit.org.au](#)
- '[Give Up For Good](#)' public health campaign
- Healthdirect [Service Finder](#) – a national directory of health professionals and services.

Resources

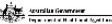
You can download and use these resources to share information about the changes.

Resources for First Nations people and resources translated into a range of languages are available on the Department of Health and Aged Care website.

Resource title	Target audience	Preview
Social media tiles	All	 
Social media tiles	Young people	 
Social media tiles	Health professionals	 
Social media tiles	All	 
Information sheet	People who vape	

Information sheet

Parents, carers and those who support young people who vape

 **Changes to vaping in Australia from 1 October 2024**

Information for parents, carers and those who support people under 18 years who vape

The laws on vaping in Australia have changed to protect our community, and particularly young people, from the harm of e-cigarettes. The changes are:

- **Age of sale:** E-cigarettes can only be sold to people aged 18 and over. This means that parents, carers and those who support young people must ensure they do not buy or use e-cigarettes for them.
- **Flavour bans:** E-cigarettes with flavours that appeal to young people, such as fruit, candy and menthol, are banned. This means that parents, carers and those who support young people must ensure they do not buy or use e-cigarettes with these flavours.
- **Online sales:** E-cigarettes can only be sold online to people aged 18 and over. This means that parents, carers and those who support young people must ensure they do not buy or use e-cigarettes from online retailers.

Supporting young people who vape

Parents, carers and those who support young people who vape should talk to their doctor about the risks of vaping and the importance of quitting. They should also ensure they do not buy or use e-cigarettes for them.

Purchasing e-cigarettes

E-cigarettes can only be purchased from licensed retailers. This means that parents, carers and those who support young people must ensure they do not buy or use e-cigarettes from unlicensed retailers.

Penalties

It is an offence to sell or supply e-cigarettes to people under 18 years of age. This means that parents, carers and those who support young people must ensure they do not buy or use e-cigarettes for them.

Information sheet

Prescribers

 **Changes to vaping in Australia from 1 October 2024**

Information for prescribers

The laws on vaping in Australia have changed to protect our community, and particularly young people, from the harm of e-cigarettes. The changes are:

- **Age of sale:** E-cigarettes can only be sold to people aged 18 and over. This means that prescribers must ensure they do not supply e-cigarettes to people under 18 years of age.
- **Flavour bans:** E-cigarettes with flavours that appeal to young people, such as fruit, candy and menthol, are banned. This means that prescribers must ensure they do not supply e-cigarettes with these flavours.
- **Online sales:** E-cigarettes can only be sold online to people aged 18 and over. This means that prescribers must ensure they do not supply e-cigarettes from online retailers.

Supporting young people who vape

Prescribers should talk to their doctor about the risks of vaping and the importance of quitting. They should also ensure they do not supply e-cigarettes for them.

Purchasing e-cigarettes



E-cigarettes can only be purchased from licensed retailers. This means that prescribers must ensure they do not buy or use e-cigarettes from unlicensed retailers.

Penalties

It is an offence to sell or supply e-cigarettes to people under 18 years of age. This means that prescribers must ensure they do not buy or use e-cigarettes for them.

Social media content


You can use this content on your social channels to share information about the changes.

Social channel	Target audience	Content
Facebook & Instagram	All	<p>From 1 October 2024, people 18 years and older can buy vapes with a nicotine concentration of 20 mg/mL or less from participating pharmacies without a prescription, where state and territory laws allow. But they must talk with the pharmacist first.</p> <p>People will need to discuss the product and dosage, other options to quit smoking and/or manage nicotine dependence, provide identification (for proof of age purposes only), and can only purchase one month's supply over the course of one month.</p> <p>People under 18 years need a prescription to buy vapes, where state and territory laws allow. This ensures they get the right medical advice and supervision.</p> <p>There is support available to help you quit vaping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ talk to your health professional ✓ call Quitline on 13 7848 ✓ download the My QuitBuddy app ✓ visit quit.org.au <p>Learn more at  https://www.tga.gov.au/products/unapproved-therapeutic-goods/vaping-hub/vapes-information-patients</p>
X (formerly Twitter)	All	<p>From 1 October 2024, people 18 years and older can buy vapes with up to 20 mg/mL of nicotine from a participating pharmacy without a prescription, where state and territory laws allow.</p> <p>Learn more at  https://www.tga.gov.au/products/unapproved-therapeutic-goods/vaping-hub/vapes-information-patients</p>
LinkedIn	Health professionals	<p>In Australia, vapes and vaping products can only be sold in pharmacies to help people quit smoking or manage nicotine dependence.</p> <p>Patients 18 years and over can now buy vapes with a nicotine concentration of 20 mg/mL or less from participating</p>


pharmacies without a prescription, where state and territory laws allow, but they must talk with the pharmacist before purchasing.

People under 18 years still need a prescription to purchase vapes, where state and territory laws allow, to ensure they get appropriate medical advice and supervision.

Patients who require vapes with a concentration of nicotine higher than 20 mg/mL will need a prescription, regardless of their age.

More information for prescribers, visit 

<https://www.tga.gov.au/resources/resource/guidance/vapes-information-prescribers>

More information for pharmacists, visit 

<https://www.tga.gov.au/resources/resource/guidance/vapes-information-pharmacists>

Newsletter and web article

You can use this content in your channels to share information about the changes.

Changes to accessing vapes in Australia from 1 October 2024

Earlier this year the laws on vaping changed in Australia to protect the community from the harms of vaping and nicotine dependence.

In Australia, vapes and vaping products can only be sold in participating pharmacies to help people quit smoking or manage their nicotine dependence. No other retailers – such as tobacconists, vape shops and convenience stores – can sell any type of vape.

From 1 October 2024, people 18 years and older can purchase vapes with up to 20 mg/mL of nicotine from a pharmacy without a prescription, where state and territory laws allow, but they must talk with the pharmacist before purchasing. This includes discussing the product and dosage, other options to quit smoking and/or manage nicotine dependence, and providing identification (for proof of age purposes only). Only one month's supply can be purchased over the course of one month.

People under 18 years need a prescription to access vapes, where state and territory laws allow, to ensure they get appropriate medical advice and supervision.

People who need a vape with more than 20 mg/mL of nicotine also need a prescription, regardless of their age.

For more information on the changes, visit the [Therapeutic Goods Administration website](#).

For help to stop smoking and vaping:

- talk to a health professional
- call Quitline on 13 7848
- download the [My QuitBuddy app](#)
- visit quit.org.au.

There are also resources and information for parents, carers and those who support young people who vape. Visit our website for:

- [Conversation guides](#)
- [Fact sheets and FAQs](#)

Quit tools and support

Quit support services are proven to help people quit – both smoking and vaping – no matter how long you've been doing it.

Join the thousands of Australians who are giving up for good by talking to your doctor or accessing the range of quit support services available.

Quitline

You can call the Quitline on 13 QUIT (13 7848), to talk to a counsellor or request a callback.

The Quitline offers an online chat service in some states and territories and has resources for health professionals.

My QuitBuddy app

My QuitBuddy is an app that helps people get, and stay, smoke-free and vape-free. It provides tips to overcome cravings, tracking systems to chart your progress, and gives people the facts they need to understand the impacts smoking and vaping have on their health.

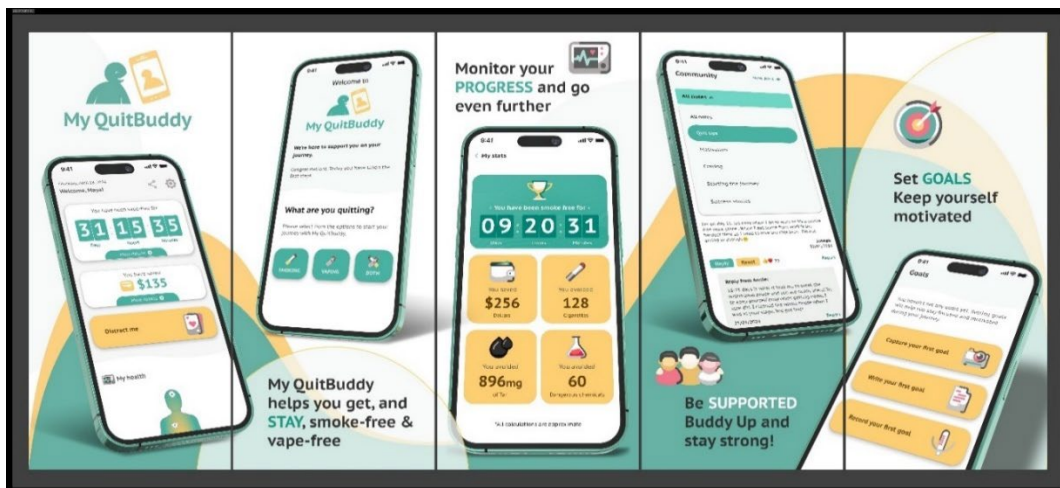
My QuitBuddy has been updated to include vaping cessation support. New features that are now live include:

- up-to-date evidence-based information about nicotine withdrawal
- new quit tips
- links to resources on the new national online cessation hub at quit.org.au
- additional distractions from cravings, including a game
- updates to the existing community forum feature to make it more user-friendly.

Ongoing improvements and updates to functionality will continue to be rolled out from mid-2024.

Age restrictions may apply for the My QuitBuddy app. Check your app store for details.

[Download the My QuitBuddy app here.](#)



National online cessation platform

An improved national online cessation platform is now live at: quit.org.au

Leveraging off the already well known quit.org.au website, the platform provides a comprehensive range of evidence-based smoking and vaping cessation support, information, and resources.

It will be updated on an ongoing basis with enhanced content.

