

Barnes & Noble, Inc.
Vendor and Product Compliance Program FAQs

What safety testing is required by Barnes & Noble?

Barnes & Noble expects suppliers to provide products that meet all applicable and required safety laws, rules, regulations and standards. Suppliers are responsible for knowing all required safety standards for their product and ensuring their product complies with those standards. Manufacturers providing proprietary product to Barnes & Noble or any of its subsidiaries must contact the buyer for specific product safety testing requirements.

If we have submitted the previous CPSIA Certification, do we need to sign this Vendor Compliance Certification form?

Yes. The new Vendor Compliance Certification form supersedes the previous CPSIA compliance form. The new certification covers a broader range of product and compliance standards, including the Barnes & Noble Vendor Code of Conduct. In that connection, all Barnes & Noble vendors must submit a completed and signed Vendor Compliance Certification form.

We do not produce children's products. Do we still need to submit a Vendor Compliance Certification form?

Yes, you must still provide a Certification form. Under the new Vendor and Product Compliance Program, Barnes & Noble requires vendors to certify that all products they have or will provide to Barnes & Noble comply or will comply with applicable safety requirements for that product. For example, candles are not children's products but candle suppliers must certify that their products comply or will comply with the specific safety requirements applicable to candles.

I am a distributor and do not manufacture products supplied to Barnes & Noble. Do I still need to provide a Vendor Compliance Certification?

Yes. The Vendor Compliance Certification addresses product compliance but also addresses other compliance matters. In that connection, distributors must also provide a Vendor Compliance Certification form.

My products are supplied to Barnes & Noble through a distributor. Do I still need to provide a Vendor Compliance Certification?

Yes. As the manufacturer of products that we are selling, you are accountable for ensuring that your products are in compliance with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and standards, and must provide a Vendor Compliance Certification to Barnes & Noble.

What is the CPSIA?

The Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA), along with other directives and amendments, enacted new requirements related to lead paint, lead content, phthalates and tracking labels for products designed or intended primarily for children twelve years old or younger (“Children’s Products”). For your reference, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission “CPSC”) has developed an informational website for the CPSIA, which you can view at <http://www.cpsc.gov/about/cpsia/cpsia.html>.

Isn’t there a Stay of Enforcement in place? Do I still need a GCC?

While there is a Stay of Enforcement (“Stay”) by CPSIA for testing and certification of certain children’s products, retailers are still prohibited from selling products that are not in compliance with CPSIA. To that extent, Barnes & Noble requires vendors to certify compliance for all manufactured or supplied children’s products and other regulated non-children’s products.

Please click on the link below for more information on product certification requirements:

[Product Certification Requirements](#)

Certifications must be maintained by the vendor and must be made available to Barnes & Noble upon request.

If any Children’s Products supplied to or manufactured for us by you do not meet CPSIA requirements, you must still notify us immediately so that we can remove them from our stores and inventory.

We only supply/manufacture ordinary books. Do I still need a GCC form?

While the CPSC has confirmed that CMYK inks and paper are exempt from the CPSIA lead requirements, there are other book components that still must comply, such as film lamination and foil stamping, among others. In that connection, Barnes & Noble requires assurances from suppliers that products they supply to us -- even ordinary children’s books -- are in compliance with CPSIA. To that extent, a product certification must be maintained by all vendors of children’s products including ordinary children’s books and made available to Barnes & Noble upon request. Books intended for adult readers do not require certification.

I do not think my product requires a Tracking Label.

The CPSIA specifically mandates that all Children's Products contain requisite tracking labels, and if you supply any Children's Products to us, such products must meet these requirements. Suppliers are responsible for including all required information on the tracking labels for their product. Click here for more information on the CPSIA requirements on tracking labels. <http://www.cpsc.gov/about/cpsia/sect103.html>.

What are the CPSIA lead and phthalate limits?

Please click on the link below for the text of the legislation, summaries of relevant provisions and FAQs regarding Children's Products Containing Lead; Lead Paint Rule; Products Containing Certain Phthalates, Mandatory Third Party Testing for Certain Children's Products; Tracking Labels for Children's Products; etc.: <http://www.cpsc.gov/about/cpsia/legislation.html>.

How do I find an accredited third party testing lab?

A list of accredited third party testing labs can be found on the CPSC website: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cgi-bin/labapplist.aspx>

Who can I contact with questions about your product compliance requirements?

You may email compliance@bn.com .

I am unable to send a PDF of the completed and signed form? How should I send this form to you?

You may fax your signed forms to 212-727-4828. You may also mail your signed forms to: Barnes & Noble, Inc., 122 Fifth Ave., NY, NY 10011 Attn: Product Compliance Department