

Further Frequently Asked Questions

How much medical cannabis (dried flower) can a qualifying patient pass at one time?

No more than 120 grams-- or approximately four ounces, unless a physician makes a special determination that a patient needs more.

Is there a maximum amount of THC in an extract that a patient can get in a month?

Yes, 36 grams of THC.

Will cannabis oil be considered a type of medical cannabis?

Yes, if a Maryland-Licensed processor produces the cannabis oil.

How will patient confidentiality be assured?

Federal law (HIPAA) requires that we -- along with physicians and dispensaries -- protect patient privacy and confidentiality. Our database will meet HIPAA standards and protect patient confidentiality.

Where can I legally travel with medical cannabis?

A legal patient may travel to any location in the state of Maryland. Maryland cannot authorize you to travel to other states or countries. Possession of cannabis is against federal law. Most states do not recognize legal medical cannabis. Many medical cannabis states will not recognize the validity of out-of-state medical cannabis authorizations.

Can veterans get medical cannabis?

Veterans can obtain medical cannabis in the same way as other patients, but not from the Veterans Affairs health system. Veterans need to make sure that using medical cannabis will not disqualify them from Veterans Affairs health system procedures they might need.

What if a qualifying patient changes their mailing address?

The patient who changes their address should notify the Commission within 3 days. It can be done easily by visiting the Commission's website.

What if I want to obtain medical cannabis from a different dispensary?

A patient may obtain medical cannabis from a dispensary of their choice. The patient's written certification will be recorded in the Commission's database and can be confirmed by any licensed dispensary.

What happens if I am stopped by law enforcement?

Patients do not have to disclose that they are in possession of medical cannabis and do not have to consent to a search. However, if a search is conducted and medical cannabis is found, the patient should present their patient ID card or direct law enforcement to our database.

I don't want to smoke cannabis. Will edible medical cannabis products be available in Maryland?

Medical cannabis will be available in forms that can be vaporized which is not smoking, or as extracts, lotions, ointments, tinctures, etc. Some extracts can be added to foods at home. Edible cannabis products will not be available from dispensaries in Maryland.

Will health insures cover the cost of medical cannabis?

Health insurers are not required to cover the cost of medical cannabis. Private health insurers are free under Maryland law to develop policies that will cover medical cannabis.

Further Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a residency requirement to participate in the medical cannabis program?

Any person who lives in Maryland can participate in the program. A person from out-of-state who is in the state for the purpose of receiving medical care can be issued a written certification and obtain medical cannabis.

Will Maryland dispensaries recognize other state medical cannabis ID cards?

Not at this time.

Are there drugs that are known to interact with medical cannabis for which my physician would exclude my qualification in the program?

This is a question for your physician.

Are the Physician registry and Patient registry linked?

Yes, the MMCC database system does link the physician and patient registries through the written certifications. Each patient may only have one written certification and one certifying physician at a time. After 30 days, a patient may seek renewal of the written certification; the renewal certification supersedes the previous written certification. A certifying physician may terminate a written certification. Physicians, patients and caregivers registered with MMCC may view information on the written certifications pertaining to them on the MMCC database system. Agents of dispensaries licensed by MMCC can also view information on written certifications. The information on the MMCC database system will contain unique 25-digit IDs for qualifying patients and written certifications to prevent unauthorized access to the data.

How much medical cannabis and medical cannabis-infused product can a patient obtain in 30 days?

The General Assembly directed the Commission to determine the amount of medical cannabis that would constitute a 30-day supply. Medical cannabis and medical cannabis-infused products will vary in their cannabinoid profile and potencies. The Commission wanted to ensure that patients would be able to obtain sufficient medical cannabis each month to provide relief of their symptoms, and established 120 grams of usable cannabis (primarily dried flower) as a 30-day supply.

The Commission also recognized that medical cannabis -infused products could not be measured in the same way as usable cannabis, and set a limit of 36 grams of THC as a 30-day supply. Each batch of usable cannabis will state the THC quantity (expressed as a percentage). The dispensary will calculate the weight of the THC in each transaction of usable cannabis, and will not dispense medical cannabis-infused products in a 30-day period that exceeds the 36-gram limit.