

## Approved Forms of Medicine

Pill, liquid, oil, topical, tincture, powder, dried flower (for patients ages 21+) and lozenge.



# MINNESOTA'S MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM

## Minnesota's Medical Cannabis Program

Since 2015, Minnesota's Medical Cannabis Program has provided a treatment option for patients who are facing debilitating medical conditions, helping to improve their quality of life. This guide can help you learn more about how to participate in the program.

### Qualifying Medical Conditions

### Medical Cannabis Dispensary Locations

### Caregiver Guide

### Learn How to Become a Caregiver

To be eligible, Minnesota residents must have **at least one of the following conditions** certified by a participating health care practitioner:

- Alzheimer's disease
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- Autism spectrum disorder (must meet DSM-5)
- Cancer\*
- Chronic motor or vocal tic disorder
- Chronic pain
- Glaucoma
- HIV/AIDS
- Inflammatory bowel disease, including Crohn's disease
- Intractable pain
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- Obstructive sleep apnea
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Seizures, including those characteristic of epilepsy
- Severe and persistent muscle spasms, including those characteristic of multiple sclerosis (MS)
- Sickle cell disease
- Terminal illness, with a probable life expectancy of less than one year\*
- Tourette syndrome

### Other Program Details

**MEDICAL CANNABIS PRODUCT COST** is paid directly to the manufacturers that operate the Medical Cannabis Dispensary each time a patient, their parent/legal guardian/spouse or registered caregiver purchases medical cannabis. Medical insurance does not cover product cost.

**NOTE:** The annual enrollment fee has been eliminated.

### Office of Medical Cannabis

Our Call Center staff are available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday to answer any of your questions about becoming a caregiver.

651-201-5598 | 1-844-879-3381 (toll-free)  
[health.cannabis@state.mn.us](mailto:health.cannabis@state.mn.us) | [mn.gov/medicalcannabis](http://mn.gov/medicalcannabis)

ID# 80086 (July 2023)



Here are the basic steps you need to follow to become a registered caregiver. Look inside for more details about each step.



#### HOW TO QUALIFY



#### HOW TO REGISTER



#### COMPLETING A BACKGROUND CHECK



#### PICKING UP YOUR PATIENT'S MEDICAL CANNABIS

\*If the illness or its treatment produces one or more of the following: severe or chronic pain; nausea or severe vomiting; or cachexia or severe wasting.

## 1 HOW TO QUALIFY



Sometimes patients need help administering their medical cannabis or picking up their medicine from a Medical Cannabis Dispensary. To qualify as a designated caregiver, you must register with Minnesota's Medical Cannabis Program and complete a background check. Caregivers must be at least 18 years old.

## 2 HOW TO REGISTER



After your patient has registered and submitted your information, you will receive an email from the Office of Medical Cannabis that contains instructions on how to register.

**To complete the registration process, you will need your:**

- Government-issued photo ID, driver's license or passport.
- Digital camera or mobile phone to capture an image of your ID.

## 3

## COMPLETING A BACKGROUND CHECK

As part of the process to become a caregiver, you are required to complete a background check. Caregivers must update their background check every two years.

Download the Designated Caregiver Background Check Informed Consent form from the Office of Medical Cannabis website. Once you complete it, mail the form to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, along with a \$15 check or money order and a stamped envelope addressed to the Office of Medical Cannabis.

- **Make your check or money order out to:**  
MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
- **Mail your background check form to:**  
Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension  
CHA Unit  
1430 Maryland Avenue E  
St. Paul, MN 55106
- **Address your inserted envelope to:**  
Office of Medical Cannabis  
PO Box 64975  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975

Your patient must add you to their Medical Cannabis Registry profile. This will generate an email to you with instructions on completing your registration. Once approved, you and your patient will be notified by email that you can pick up your patient's medical cannabis.

*NOTE: Background checks can take up to 30 days.*



## 4 PICKING UP YOUR PATIENT'S MEDICAL CANNABIS



**Before you go to your Medical Cannabis Dispensary:**

- Make sure your patient scheduled an appointment.
- Complete the Patient Self-Evaluation (available on your patient's Medical Cannabis Registry Account) with your patient before your visit.

*NOTE: A new Patient Self-Evaluation must be completed every time you pick up medical cannabis for your patient.*

**What to bring:**

- Your government-issued photo ID.
- List of prescribed medications (for initial appointment or if medications change).
- Visit summary from your patient's health care practitioner (for initial appointment).
- Payment for the medicine.

*NOTE: If a patient does not get their qualifying medical condition recertified and their re-enrollment application approved by the Office of Medical Cannabis before their annual re-enrollment deadline, their registered designated caregiver will no longer be allowed to pick up medical cannabis from a Medical Cannabis Dispensary.*

### Important Details for Spouses, Parents and Legal Guardians

Minnesota's Medical Cannabis Program allows a patient's spouse, parent or legal guardian to act as a caregiver without having to go through a background check.

Patients can add contact information for their spouse, parent and legal guardian after they get an email from the Office of Medical Cannabis that confirms certification of their medical condition and a link to register for the program.

People who are registering as a spouse will be required to upload proof of marriage. People who are registering as a parent will be asked to upload a copy of the patient's birth or adoption certificate; legal guardians must upload a copy of their legal guardianship papers.

### FOR PATIENTS UNDER 18:

Patients under 18 will not be allowed to complete their registration unless their parent/legal guardian's information is added and a government-issued photo ID is uploaded.

