

2024 Legislative Changes for Medical Cannabis

Transition to the Office of Cannabis Management

Effective July 1, 2024, the Office of Medical Cannabis (and the Minnesota Medical Cannabis Program) will move from the Department of Health to the new Office of Cannabis Management. This transition was previously slated for March 1, 2025.

Patients and Caregivers

Effective July 1, 2024, the following changes will occur:

- Patients will be required to be recertified for their qualifying medical condition and complete an online enrollment application every three years, instead of every year.
- The definition of qualifying medical condition will change to include any condition recommended, approved, or authorized by a person's health care practitioner.
- Veterans will be able to use a separate application to enroll in Minnesota's Medical Cannabis Program and will not need certification from a registered health care provider.
- A background check will no longer be required for registered designated caregivers.
- Registered designated caregivers may cultivate up to eight cannabis plants on behalf of one patient household for personal use.

Dispensing and Consultation Requirements

Effective July 1, 2024, medical cannabis dispensaries may distribute more than a 90-day supply of the dosage determined for a patient, and a pharmacist consultation is only required:

- if the patient is purchasing a product not previously purchased,
- if the patient purchases a product with a different method of administration,
- if the patient purchases a product with a cannabinoid concentration of at least double the prior dosage, and
- upon request of the patient.

Petitions to Add New Conditions and Delivery Methods

Effective July 1, 2024, petitions will no longer be accepted for qualifying medical conditions. Members of the public may continue to petition the Office of Cannabis Management to add an approved medical cannabis delivery method or approved form of medical cannabis.

Enhanced Patient Protections

Effective May 25, 2024, possession limits for the personal adult use of cannabis do not apply to people enrolled in the medical cannabis patient registry program. Additionally, existing patient protections related to school enrollment; property rental; employment; custody, visitation, and parenting time; and action for damages will be expanded to all people enrolled in the registry.

Other Changes

The legislature made a variety of editorial revisions to the current and future laws that govern the medical cannabis program (Minnesota Statutes, sections 152.22 to 152.37, and chapter 342). These revisions ensure policy alignment between the two sections of statute and provide clarity for the earlier transition of the Office of Medical Cannabis from the Department of Health to the Office of Cannabis Management.

Minnesota Department of Health

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