3 Steps to Legally Obtain Medical Marijuana

To obtain medical marijuana through the MMCP, a person must complete the following three steps:

1. Receive a recommendation from a certified physician confirming that a person has a qualifying medical condition.
2. Register with the State Board of Pharmacy, including paying the required fee, and
3. Purchase medical marijuana from a dispensary licensed by the State Board of Pharmacy.

As of June 2021, doctors had recommended medical marijuana for 333,052 people. 215,874 patients and 23,472 caregivers had completed registration with the Patient and Caregiver Registry. Of registered patients, 173,228, or 80.2%, had made at least one purchase from a licensed dispensary. Compared to June 2020, recommendations have increased by 112.6%, registered patients and caregivers by 84.6%, and licensed dispensaries by 260.3%.

Registration Fee Revenue

The annual cost of a medical marijuana registration is $50 for patients and $25 for caregivers. Patients who qualify for indigent or veteran status may be eligible for fee reductions. Proceeds from patient and caregiver registration fees are deposited to the Medical Marijuana Caregiver Registration Fund established by Controlling Board in August 2018.

In FY 2021, revenues from patient and caregiver registration fees totaled $7.0 million, an increase of $3.0 million, or 76.3%, from FY 2020 revenues of $4.0 million. In FY 2019, and a 260.3% increase compared to FY 2019.

Registered Patients by Qualifying Medical Condition

(207,105 registered patients some with multiple conditions as reported through May 2021)

- Pain: 98.8% (204,543)
- PTSD: 29.5% (61,479)
- Fibromyalgia: 11.4% (33,597)
- Cancer: 8.3% (17,260)
- Spinal Cord: 4.1% (8,406)

Other Qualifying Medical Conditions (Registered Patients; Percentage of Patients)

- Epilepsy/Seizure Disorder: 7,955 (3.8%)
- Hepatitis C: 6,050 (2.9%)
- Multiple Sclerosis: 5,102 (2.5%)
- Crohn’s Disease: 4,859 (2.6%)
- Traumatic Brain Injury: 2,743 (1.3%)
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease: 2,337 (1.2%)
- Ulcerative Colitis: 2,172 (1.1%)
- HIV: 1,904 (0.9%)
- Parkinson’s Disease: 1,724 (0.8%)
- Tourette’s Syndrome: 1,008 (0.5%)
- Alzheimer’s Disease: 983 (0.5%)
- Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy: 339 (0.2%)
- Sickle Cell Anemia: 267 (0.1%)
- AIDS: 257 (0.1%)
- Cachexia: 233 (0.1%)
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: 215 (0.1%)

Sources: State Board of Pharmacy and Medical Marijuana Control Program