

MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM



PRESENTERS



Sean Gordy

Sean.Gordy2@dc.gov
(202) 442.4359



Nichelle Cluff

Nichelle.Cluff1@dc.gov
(202) 442.4423



Sarah Fashbaugh

Sarah.Fashbaugh@dc.gov
(202) 397.3971

AGENDA

- Agency Overview
- Program Overview
- Registration
- Stay Connected
- Q&A



ABRA OVERVIEW



- The **Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA)** is an independent agency within DC Government charged with supporting the public's health, safety and welfare through the control and regulation of the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages.
- On October 1, 2020, ABRA assumed regulatory authority for the District's medical cannabis program.



DIRECTOR AND ABC BOARD

- **Director Fred Moosally** has served as the Director since 2009. Prior to leading ABRA, Director Moosally helmed the agency's Legal Division as the General Counsel for seven years.
- ABRA operates under the authority of the **Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board**, made up of seven (7) DC residents nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by the DC Council.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ELIGIBILITY | STAKEHOLDERS | PURCHASING |
ENHANCEMENTS | RECIPROCITY



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Medical cannabis in the District, legalized by the passage of the *Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Amendment Act of 2010*, allows DC residents, including minors, to be prescribed, purchase, possess, and use cannabis to treat a diagnosed qualifying medical condition or related side effect.
- *The Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Support Act of 2020* authorized the transfer of the District's medical cannabis program from DC Health to ABRA.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Key stakeholders include:
 - **Patients** | The individual prescribed and permitted to purchase, possess, and use medical cannabis.
 - **Caregivers** | A person designated by a qualifying medical cannabis patient as the person authorized to possess, obtain from a dispensary, dispense, and assist in the administration of medical cannabis. Caregivers are not permitted to use medical cannabis.
 - **Healthcare Practitioners** | The DC-licensed medical professional authorized to recommend medical cannabis to an individual. Eligible practitioners include physicians, naturopathic physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants, and dentists.
 - **Dispensaries** | A licensed establishment that may possess and dispense medical cannabis and paraphernalia to licensed patients and caregivers.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- To be eligible to purchase medical cannabis in DC, individuals must be enrolled in the District's medical cannabis program as either a patient or caregiver.
- All enrolled patients and caregivers are issued a medical cannabis photo identification card. Registration is valid for one (1) year from the date of issuance.
- Registered patients and caregivers may purchase up to four (4) ounces of cannabis in any 30-day period and possess up to two (2) ounces at any time.
- Purchased may only be made from the DC-licensed dispensary, or dispensaries, where the patient is registered.
- Allowed formats include flowers, concentrates, edibles, transdermal products, seeds, and seedlings.

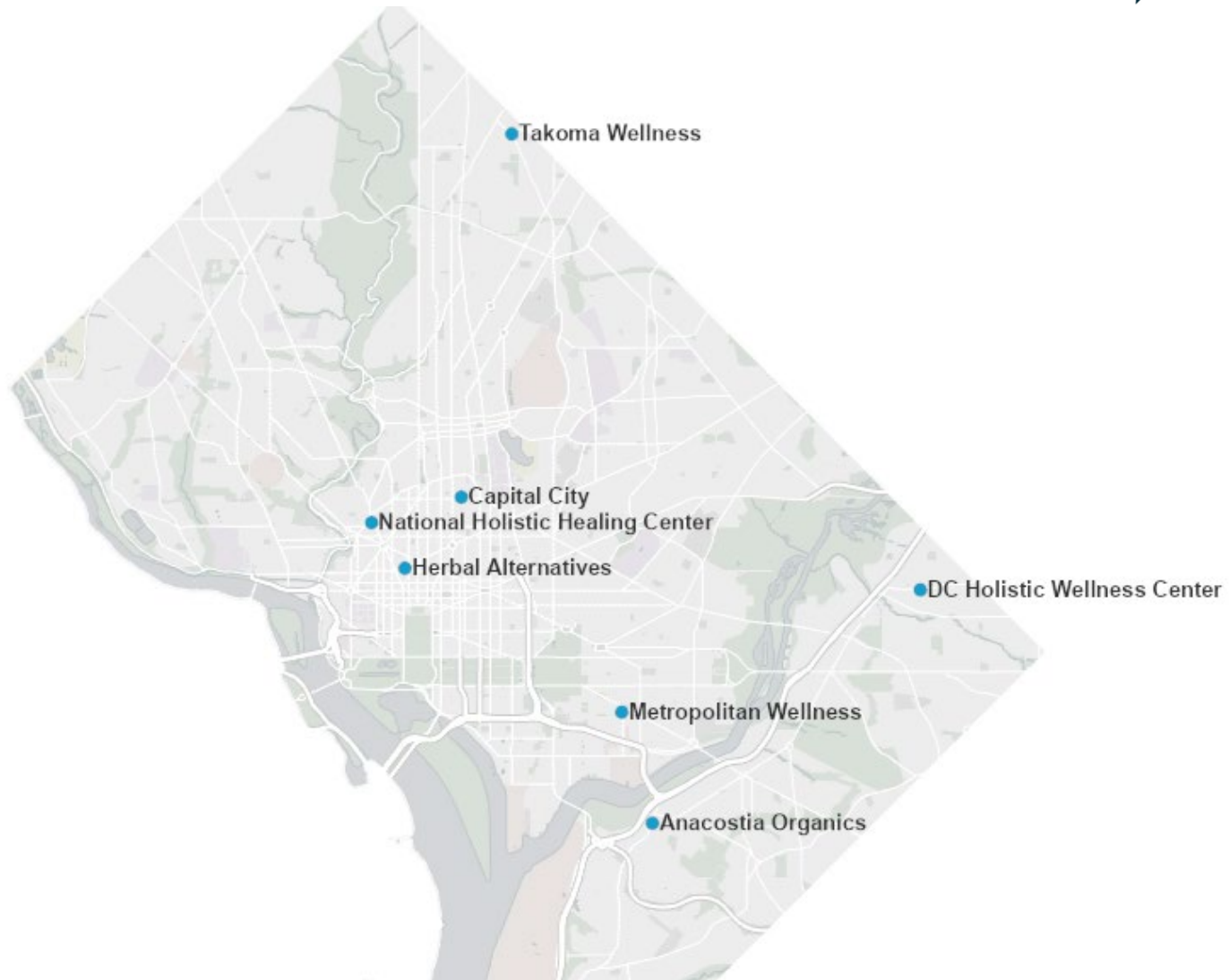
DC-LICENSED DISPENSARIES



Ward 1	Ward 2		Ward 4
Capital City 1115 U Street NW (202) 292-5071 capitalcitycare.com	Herbal Alternatives 1710 Rhode Island Avenue NW 3rd Floor (202) 618-5635 herbalalternatives.net	National Holistic Healing Center 1718 Connecticut Ave. T 300 (Basement) (202) 618-5635 nationalholistic.com	Takoma Wellness 6925 Blair Road NW (202) 465-4260 takomawellness.com

Ward 6	Ward 7	Ward 8
Metropolitan Wellness 409 8th Street SE (202) 817-3920 mwcdc.com	DC Holistic Wellness Center 4721 Sheriff Rd NE (202) 234-0780 nationalholistic.com	Anacostia Organics 2022 Martin Luther King Jr Ave. SE (202) 845-8574 anacostiaorganics.com

DC-LICENSED DISPENSARIES



PATIENT FOCUSED ENHANCEMENTS



	New—Now in Effect	Previous
Delivery Hours	9:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., daily	11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., daily
Delivery Vehicles	Up to three (3) per dispensary	Limited to one (1) vehicle per dispensary
Reciprocity	Expanded by five (5) states, including MN, MO, OK, UT, and VA, for a total of 32 states and territories.	Reciprocity was limited to 27 states and territories.
Employees	New dispensary and cultivation staff may work up to 45-days while the results of their criminal background check are pending.	Staff not permitted to start work prior to passing their criminal background check.

RECIPROCITY



- Reciprocity rules allow non-DC residents enrolled in another jurisdiction's active medical cannabis program to purchase medical cannabis at a DC-licensed dispensary.
- To purchase, the patient or caregiver must present a state or territory-issued medical card or document from a jurisdiction that has qualified for reciprocity.
- DC medical cannabis patients and caregivers are advised that reciprocity may not be extended to them by other states or territories even if those states or territory-issued medical cards or documents may be accepted in DC.

RECIPROCITY



- Qualifying state and territory-issued medical cards and documents include:
 - Alaska
 - Arizona
 - Arkansas
 - California
 - Colorado
 - Connecticut
 - Delaware
 - Florida
 - Hawaii
 - Illinois
 - Maine
 - Maryland
 - Massachusetts
 - Michigan
 - Minnesota
 - Missouri
 - Montana
 - Nevada
 - New Hampshire
 - New Jersey
 - New Mexico
 - New York
 - North Dakota
 - Ohio
 - Oklahoma
 - Oregon
 - Pennsylvania
 - Puerto Rico
 - Rhode Island
 - Vermont
 - Virginia
 - Washington

APPLICATIONS

Required Documents | Change of Information | Lost Cards | Fees



REQUIRED ITEMS | PATIENTS

Patient applicants must include the following with their application:

1. **Two (2) high-resolution face photos measuring 2x2 inches.** JPEG format if submitted online.
2. **One (1) copy of government-issued photo identification.** PDF format if submitted online.
3. **Two (2) proofs of DC residency.** PDF format if submitted online.
4. **Healthcare practitioner recommendation.** Date of issuance must be within 90-days of the application submission date. Online applications only require the recommendation number. Mailed applications must include a paper recommendation.
5. ***Caregiver Application Form*** | Optional for patients 18+; required if patient is a minor.
6. **Payment.** A payment link is emailed to online applicants within three (3) days of submitting their application. Mailed applications must included payment.



REQUIRED ITEMS | CAREGIVERS

Caregiver applicants must include the following with their application.
Caregiver applications are only accepted by mail.

- 1. Two (2) high-resolution face photos measuring 2x2 inches.**
- 2. One (1) copy of government-issued photo identification.**
- 3. Payment.**
- 4. Patient Information including:**
 - Social Security Number
 - Contact information including home address, phone number, and email
 - Designated dispensary
 - Background check
 - Healthcare practitioner name and contact information including business address, phone number, and email





CHANGE OF INFORMATION

- Patients and caregivers are required to maintain current profile information with ABRA including their first and last name, home address, designated caregiver, and recommending physician.
- A patient must file a *Change of Information Form* within 14 calendar days of any new changes.
- The form is located at the bottom of the Medical Cannabis – Patients page:

South, Washington, DC 20009
Phone: (202) 442-4423
Fax: (202) 442-9563
TTY: (746) 777-7776
Alternate Number: Complaint
Hotline: (202) 329-6347 (7pm - 3am) Media Inquiries
abra.dc.gov/page/about

Hard copies of each application are available below.

Attachment(s):


-  [Medical Cannabis - Patient Application](#) - 617.6 KB (pdf)
-  [Medical Cannabis - Patient Application \(Minor\)](#) - 215.9 KB (pdf)
-  [Medical Cannabis - Change of Information Form](#) - 194.8 KB (pdf)
-  [Medical Cannabis - Registration Card Replacement Form](#) - 200.4 KB (pdf)

- Voluntary withdrawal from the program at any time requires written notification to ABRA.





LOST OR STOLEN CARDS

- Replacement cards may be requested by completing and submitting a *Medical Cannabis Patient Card Replacement Form*. A fee applies.
- The application for a replacement card is located at the bottom of the Medical Cannabis – Patients page:

Fax: (202) 442-9553
TTY: (746) 777-7776
Alternate Number: Complaint
Hotline: (202) 329-6347 (7pm -
3am) Media Inquiries
abra.dc.gov/page/alt



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OF NOTE



- Online applications may not be started and saved to be completed later. Applicants are encouraged to gather all the required documents and info prior to starting your application.
- Patient and caregiver cards are valid for one (1) year from date of issuance. To renew, you must submit a renewal application online or by mail. ABRA does not send renewal reminders. Renewal fees apply.
 - *Per [Mayor's Order 2020-063](#) all medical cannabis registration identification cards with an expiration date after February 28, 2020 will remain valid until 45-days after the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency concludes.*
- Online and hard copy applications are available abra.dc.gov/medicalcannabis.

OF NOTE



- During the public health emergency, patient and caregiver cards will be sent to the registered email in your application.
- Voluntary withdrawal from the program at any time requires written notification to ABRA.

REGISTRATION COSTS

- Registration, renewal, and replacement of card fees for patients and caregivers are as follows:
 - Initial registration fee | \$100
 - Renewal fee | \$100
 - Replacement card fee | \$90
- Reduced fees for qualifying patients or caregivers who earn equal to or less than 200% of the federal poverty level are as follows:
 - Initial registration fee | \$25
 - Renewal fee | \$25
 - Replacement card fee | \$20
- To qualify for reduced fees, submit proof of being a current Medicaid or DC Alliance recipient; or documentation verifying your total gross income.

REMINDERS AND RESOURCES



REMINDERS



- Federal laws continue to apply, including the prohibition of transporting medical cannabis across state lines.
 - The United States Congress has determined that cannabis is a controlled substance and has placed cannabis in Schedule I of the Controlled Substance Act.
 - Growing, distributing, and possessing cannabis in any capacity, other than as a federally authorized research program, is a violation of federal laws.
 - The possession of a District of Columbia medical cannabis card will not protect registrants from any violation of the federal laws governing cannabis.
- The use of medical cannabis is not permitted in public spaces.

STAY CONNECTED

- **Staff** | ABRA's physical office remains closed to the public but staff is available to answer questions Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 - **Licensing** | medicalcannabis@dc.gov or (202) 442-4423
- **Social** |
 - **Facebook** | facebook.com/ABRADC
 - **Twitter** | @DCGov_ABRA
- **Other Resources** |
 - Program statistics are maintained monthly on ABRA's website | abra.dc.gov/node/1499231.
 - Feedback about the program – what works; what can improve | medicalcannabis@dc.gov.
- **Email Alerts** | Subscribe to receive.
 - abra.dc.gov/service/sign-abra-email-updates

QUESTIONS?

