



Dispensary Licensee Newsletter - August 2019

Editor's Note: This month we bring you news of a document upload portal, reminders on employee discounts, and a change in the METRC support fee.

- Board of Pharmacy's MMCP Staff

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Introduction

The Board would like to introduce Mr. Christopher Logsdon, who joined the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy in June 2019. Mr. Logsdon will serve as the Manager for the Board's Medical Marijuana Department, and will oversee its day-to-day operations.

Deactivated Accounts

Recently, we updated the ["Registrants With Board Action"](#) quick reference guide to include registrants whose accounts have been deactivated. Please note: if a registrant's account has been deactivated, they **cannot** purchase medical marijuana.

Quantity Field In OARRS Reporting

When entering dispensations of non-plant material into OARRS, please make sure to enter the number of milligrams THC into the quantity field, not the number of individual units sold.

LICENSING

Document Upload Portal

The Board has developed a document upload portal to allow for filing of forms that require timely notification and response from the Board. The document upload portal is not intended to accept all forms, but only those pre-identified as needing timely response. Stay tuned for further information regarding dispensary login information, guidance on how to access and utilize the portal, and document types that will be required to upload through the portal.

Primary Contact

In the coming weeks, the Licensing Department will be asking all dispensaries to confirm their primary contact on record in eLicense. While communications regarding general operation issues will be communicated to a dispensary's designated representative, matters relating to the overall dispensary business will occasionally need to be addressed by the dispensary owners. Verifying the primary contact in eLicense for each dispensary will ensure that future communications are directed to the appropriate person.

COMPLIANCE

Employee Discounts

The Board has been informed of cultivators and processors offering discounts to employees who

are registered as patients. Dispensaries are prohibited from accepting product from cultivators or processors where the discount is specific to employees (e.g., a price of \$.01 for a package that is not a sample jar). Designated representatives are encouraged to review the following Ohio Administrative Code sections:

3796:6-3-01 Dispensary operations generally.

(E) No person at a dispensary shall provide free medical marijuana samples or engage in compounding as defined under rule [4729-16-01](#) of the Administrative Code.

3796:6-3-22 Prohibitions.

(F) No dispensary shall offer coupons except in the case of coupons intended to benefit patients registered as indigent or as a veteran.

3796:7-2-05 Patient and caregiver registry - generally.

(C) No patient or caregiver shall accept free samples of medical marijuana.

Report of Violations

As a reminder, once dispensary management becomes aware of a violation of state drug law (e.g., trafficking in drugs, possession of drugs), the Board must be notified immediately. The purpose of this is to ensure the agents can conduct an investigation if necessary, and provide direction and guidance to dispensary management on how to proceed.

DISPENSARY OPERATIONS

METRC Support and Training Fee Updates

The MMCP and METRC are providing an update on the upcoming transition of METRC's monthly support fee of \$40 that will apply to MMCP licensees that are credentialed in METRC with a certificate of operation. Beginning on Oct. 1st, 2019, licensees will now see a new action window notifying users about the METRC support fee. Once paid, the action window will be removed from METRC and only populate when the monthly fee is overdue.

The support fee is for the usage of METRC Support and Training. There is no limitation for active licensees and their employees to utilize METRC Support or attend METRC Trainings.

To sign up for training, select the "Schedule Training Now" button at www.metrc.com/ohio as well as the "Signup for Training" button under the Support tab on the navigation bar when logged into the system.

Please feel free to contact support at support@metrc.com or 877-566-6506 with any questions.

Portable Sign Update

What constitutes a portable sign? What are prohibited and permitted items?

Licensees are permitted to use table covers, tents, and pull-up banners that are utilized for conventions. The content of the signage will require approval, but images of marijuana leaves and buds continue to be prohibited. Prohibited versions of portable signs include yard signs, bumper stickers, sign-flippers, wraps on cars, general posters, and mobile billboards. All signage is prohibited from being distributed to the public and patients.

Sponsorship Update

Sponsorship of events or fundraisers is considered a form of advertising. Please submit sponsorship requests to MMCP@pharmacy.ohio.gov with the following information:

- Event name
- Date of the event
- Detailed description of the event
- Benefits to the dispensary out of the sponsorship (E.G – Logo on event website). Please note, dispensary logos will not be permitted on an event t-shirt per OAC 3796:6-3-24(H) (3) & (I).

Please note, concert sponsorship is prohibited.

Vaporizing Device Submission Guidance Document

The MMCP has [developed a guidance document](#) to assist individuals employed by or acting on behalf of dispensaries, processors, cultivators, or any person that is seeking to have their vaporizing device reviewed by the MMCP. The document covers the submission process, minimum submission requirements, and basic non-compliance issues.



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