Quick Reference Guide: How to Obtain Medical Marijuana

Updated 11/18/2021

STEP 1: VISIT A PHYSICIAN WITH A CERTIFICATE TO RECOMMEND

The first step to become a medical marijuana patient is to establish and maintain a physician-patient relationship with a physician holding an active certificate to recommend (CTR) issued by the State Medical Board of Ohio.

- To locate a CTR physician, click here.
- An in-person visit with a certified physician is required at least once per year.
- On March 18, 2020, the State Medical Board of Ohio met and voted to suspend enforcement of telemedicine regulations for licensees during the COVID-19 pandemic. This will allow physicians with a CTR to use telemedicine in place of in-person visits to make recommendations and renewals for medical marijuana.
- The physician holding a CTR must confirm you have a qualifying condition to recommend the use of medical marijuana. By law, patients with one of the following medical conditions may currently participate in Ohio’s medical marijuana program:
  - AIDS
  - Alzheimer’s disease
  - Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
  - Cancer
  - Cachexia
  - Chronic traumatic encephalopathy
  - Crohn’s disease
  - Epilepsy or another seizure disorder
  - Fibromyalgia
  - Glaucoma
  - Hepatitis C
  - Huntington’s Disease
  - Inflammatory bowel disease
  - Multiple sclerosis
  - Pain that is either chronic and severe or intractable
  - Parkinson’s disease
  - Positive status for HIV
  - Post-traumatic stress disorder
  - Sickle cell anemia
  - Spasticity
  - Spinal cord disease or injury
  - Tourette syndrome
  - Traumatic brain injury
  - Terminal illness
  - Ulcerative colitis
- Certified physicians have access to the Patient Registry and will submit their recommendations for a patient to receive medical marijuana directly to the Patient Registry.
• The physician will need the patient’s valid Ohio driver's license, a valid Ohio identification card issued by the Ohio bureau of motor vehicles (BMV), or a valid United States passport.

• A registered caregiver may possess and administer medical marijuana to patients with whom the caregiver's registration is associated. The certified physician will need similar identification from a caregiver to establish their profile in the Patient Registry.

• A certified physician can recommend up to a 90-day supply of medical marijuana with three refills (totaling up to 360-day supply if appropriate for the patient). For more information on how a 90-day supply is calculated, click here.

2. GET REGISTERED

• Once a recommending physician has entered a patient or caregiver into the registry, the patient/caregiver will receive an email prompting them to login to their profile in the Patient Registry. In the registry, complete your application and pay the fee.

• The annual cost of a medical marijuana registration is $50 for patients and $25 for caregivers.
  o Patients who qualify for indigent or veteran status may be eligible for fee reductions. For more information, click here.

3. FIND A DISPENSARY

• After receiving your Patient & Caregiver Registry card, you may purchase medical marijuana from an Ohio dispensary that has received a certificate of operation by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy.

• The following links provide information on dispensaries who have received a certificate of operation:
  o List of Ohio Medical Marijuana Dispensaries with Certificates of Operation
  o Map of Ohio Medical Marijuana Dispensaries with Certificates of Operation

• Dispensary staff will counsel you on the appropriate type and dose of product for your condition.

• Only patients with an active registry card, an active recommendation, and their associated government-issued ID can purchase medical marijuana.