

## “How much does medical cannabis cost?”

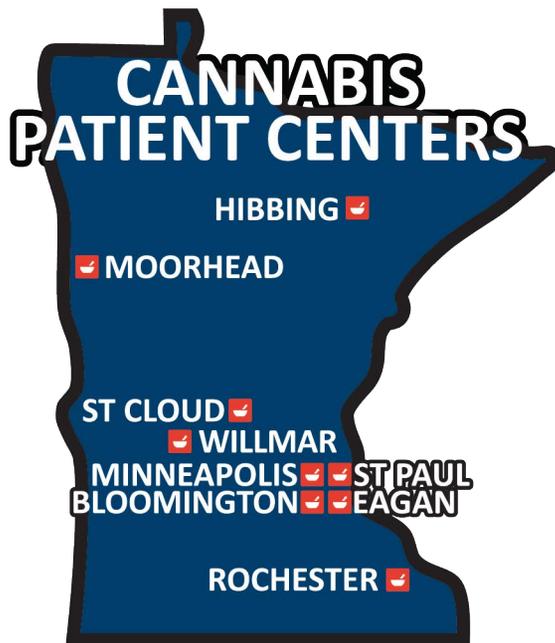
At this time, insurance companies do not cover the cost of medical cannabis. Consequently, all patients who participate in the program are responsible for these costs:

**ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE** is \$200 that will be reduced to \$50 if you receive Social Security Disability (SSD) benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Railroad disability or participate in Medicaid or MinnesotaCare.

**MEDICAL CANNABIS PRODUCT COST** is paid directly to the manufacturers that operate the Cannabis Patient Center each time you, your parent/legal guardian or registered caregiver return to purchase medical cannabis. The amount of this fee will vary based on the type and amount of medical cannabis purchased.

## “Where are the Cannabis Patient Centers located?”

Cannabis Patient Centers are located in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Eagan, Bloomington, Rochester, St. Cloud, Willmar, Moorhead, and Hibbing. Please call ahead to verify hours of operation. Visit [mn.gov/medicalcannabis](http://mn.gov/medicalcannabis) to find the Cannabis Patient Center nearest you.



## FIND OUT MORE

For your convenience, program-related resources including the latest legislative news, fact sheets, and clinical research, are available on the OMC website, [mn.gov/medicalcannabis](http://mn.gov/medicalcannabis).

If you have additional questions, please call or e-mail the Office of Medical Cannabis.

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Office of Medical Cannabis  
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## MINNESOTA MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM

# Patients' Guide 1



# Introducing the Minnesota Medical Cannabis Program

When Governor Dayton signed the Medical Cannabis Therapeutic Use Act into law in May 2014, Minnesota became the 23rd state to legalize medical cannabis.

The Minnesota Department of Health's Office of Medical Cannabis (OMC) oversees this legislation and strives to help you, your child or the patient in your care and other Minnesotans affected by these laws understand related policies and processes.

Explore this publication and learn:

- If you qualify to be a patient in the Minnesota Medical Cannabis Program
- What three steps you must take to participate **1. CERTIFY, 2. REGISTER, 3. PURCHASE**
- How to obtain medical cannabis if you are a qualified patient
- Where to find additional resources

## ***"Do I qualify for the program?"***

If you are a Minnesota resident who suffers from at least one of the following conditions that has been certified by a health care practitioner who is registered with the program, you may be eligible:

- Cancer<sup>1</sup>
- Glaucoma
- HIV/AIDS
- Tourette syndrome
- ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis)
- Inflammatory Bowel disease, including Crohn's disease
- Seizures, including those characteristic of epilepsy
- Severe and persistent muscle spasm, including those characteristic of multiple sclerosis
- Terminal illness with a probable life expectancy of less than one year<sup>1</sup>
- Intractable Pain
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Autism
- Obstructive Sleep Apnea
- Alzheimer's disease
- Chronic Pain (effective Aug. 2020)



## **1. Certify**

Before you may register for the program, a doctor, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse must first certify your condition.

- Schedule an appointment with your doctor, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse. These are the only health care practitioners authorized to certify your condition.
- Keep in mind: The OMC does not maintain a list of preferred practitioners. It is your responsibility to meet with a qualified health care practitioner.
- Go to the OMC website and print the Patient E-mail & Acknowledgement form. On the form you'll need to write in the e-mail address you'd like to use to receive private messages about your health. If you do not already have a non-employer based e-mail address, consider setting up a personal e-mail account before your appointment.
- Bring the Patient E-mail & Acknowledgement form along with you to your appointment and give it to your health care practitioner.
- During your visit, ask your practitioner for an appointment summary and a list of the medications that are currently prescribed to you. Take these documents with you when you go pick up your medical cannabis.

<sup>1</sup>To qualify for the program, your cancer, or its treatment, must be accompanied by severe/chronic pain, nausea or severe vomiting, or cachexia or severe wasting. Or you must be diagnosed with a terminal illness, with a life expectancy of less than one year, if the illness or treatment produces severe/chronic pain, nausea or severe vomiting, cachexia or severe wasting.

After your health care practitioner certifies your condition at your visit, you'll receive an e-mail from the OMC that contains:

- **Confirmation of your condition** being certified by your health care practitioner.
- **Your unique online registration link** for the Medical Cannabis Patient Registry.

## **2. Register**

- Once you receive your certification e-mail, you will be ready to register. Before you click on the registration in your email, gather your:
  - Government-issued ID: state ID, driver's license or passport
  - If applicable, your government medical assistance plan ID: Medicaid or MinnesotaCare, Railroad disability, Social Security Disability (SSD) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
  - Camera or a camera-equipped mobile phone to capture/scan images of your IDs
  - Credit/debit card or check — the program's payment processor, U.S. Bank, accepts all of the above methods of payment for the annual registration fee

**When your account has been approved, you'll be notified by e-mail. This can take up to 30 days.**

## **3. Purchase**

Congratulations! You are now officially registered with the program. To purchase medical cannabis, you will need to:

- Complete and submit a Patient Self-Evaluation form
- Visit a Cannabis Patient Center

**THE PATIENT SELF-EVALUATION FORM** can be accessed by logging in to your account on the Medical Cannabis Patient Registry if you are over 18.

## **OR**

if you have a caregiver registered with the program, that caregiver can complete the form for you. Each time you purchase medical cannabis, you must complete a new Patient Self-Evaluation form.