

Patients/Caregivers

What should I know before applying?

Registration does not mean that medical cannabis products can immediately be obtained. The industry is working to build out facilities in West Virginia. The patient card is valid only in West Virginia and offers no legal protection for products obtained outside of the West Virginia medical cannabis system.

What are the steps to obtain a Medical Cannabis card?

- You must visit one of the registered physicians and obtain a completed *Physician's Certification for Qualified Patients* form.
- Complete an application.
- Submit payment (unless financial hardship waiver is requested and approved)
- 30-60 days after your application and payment are received, your application will be reviewed and you will receive an email regarding the status of your application.
 - If your application is denied, you will be informed of the reason. If your application needs a correction, it will be rejected and sent back to you to correct and resubmit. You will not need to create and submit a new application.
 - If your application is approved, your WV Medical Cannabis card will be issued.
Note: Cards will expire after one year.

How do I find an approved physician?

The link to the physician registry is listed on our website, www.medcanwv.org. Please continue to check the website for updates to this registry.

What do I do with my copy of the *Physician's Certification for Qualified Patients* form?

You will need to upload your copy of the form into the documents section of your application. You do NOT need to mail or email this form to the Office of Medical Cannabis.

What documentation do I need to provide with my application?

- Digital photo – will be used as the picture on your patient card.
- Photo ID.
- Proof of WV residency, such as a utility bill, voter registration, etc.
- Physician's Certification for Qualified Patients form.
- If requesting a financial hardship waiver of the required fee, proof of income or eligibility for benefits at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

How do I complete an application for a medical cannabis patient card?

This link will take you to the online application: <https://wv-public.mycomply.com/#!/signin>

You will need to click *Register* in the upper right corner of the page. Complete all fields on the registration page. You must use your official name on this form. Once you complete and submit this form, you will not be able to correct it. After you submit, you will receive an e-mail from Comply. In that email, you must click *Verify*. You then go back to the website and sign in using your email address and the password you just created. You can now complete a *New Application* (found on the bottom left portion of the screen). All fields with an asterisk (*) must be completed. Note: As you complete each section of the application, be sure to click *Save and Next* to advance to the next screen. Should you need to leave the application, your information will be saved and you will be able to start again where you left off. If you leave the application before it is complete, when you return choose *Applications* from the

bottom left portion of the screen. Your incomplete form will show as *Not Applicable* (since no number has yet been assigned). Click on it and continue to complete your application. If you feel you need to start over, please delete your first attempt as you will then have multiple forms in the system. The last section of your application is *Review*. If you have any **red Xs**, you will need to go back to that section and complete/correct the required information and return to *Review*. Once everything is ok, please *submit* your application. You will receive confirmation that your application was submitted successfully and you will receive a 4-digit application number. You will need to include this number on the memo line of your payment and send to the Office of Medical Cannabis.

Please check our website for the **Patient Registration Checklist** to help guide you through the application process.

What is the address I mail my payment to?

Office of Medical Cannabis
350 Capitol Street, Room 523
Charleston, WV 25301

Note: Payment is the only item you need to send.

How long will it take to receive my patient card after I submit the application?

Applications should be reviewed no earlier than 30 days after receipt of the application and processing of the fee. You will be notified via email of the status of your application. If approved, your card will be issued. Note: Dispensaries are not currently open so medical cannabis products will not be available until later in 2021.

Will my medical cannabis card expire?

Yes. It will expire one year from date of issue.

When will medical cannabis products be available for purchase?

Medical cannabis products are not currently available as medical cannabis organizations (growers and processors) have not yet become operational. Availability is anticipated to be no earlier than late summer of 2021.

Who will be able to obtain medical cannabis?

Patients who are residents of West Virginia and have a serious medical condition as defined in the Medical Cannabis Act, certified by a physician and issued a card by the Office of Medical Cannabis will be able to obtain medical cannabis at an approved dispensary located within West Virginia.

A “caregiver” who is designated by the patient (who has been issued a medical cannabis patient card by the Office of Medical Cannabis) and approved by the Bureau will be able to obtain medical cannabis from an approved dispensary located within West Virginia in order for the caregiver to deliver medical cannabis to the patient.

Who is considered a “caregiver” under the Act?

The Act defines a “caregiver” as an individual, 21 years of age or older unless otherwise authorized by the Bureau, who is:

- Designated by a patient or, if the patient is under 18 years of age, an individual that is a parent or legal guardian of the patient, or

- An individual designated by a patient or legal guardian, or
- An appropriate individual approved by the Bureau upon sufficient showing that no parent or legal guardian is appropriate or available.

Caregivers must submit an application online for an identification card and undergo a criminal history background check.

Will patients with a serious medical condition be eligible to receive medical cannabis if they are under 18?

Yes. Patients younger than 18 with a serious medical condition may obtain medical cannabis through a caregiver. A parent or legal guardian will apply for the patient identification card on behalf of the minor patient. Once the patient identification card is issued, the parent or legal guardian, the person designated by a parent or legal guardian, or an individual approved by the Bureau in the absence or unavailability of a parent or legal guardian, will then apply as a caregiver.

Until medical cannabis is available in West Virginia, am I able to obtain medical cannabis from another state?

The Bureau may enter into reciprocity agreements with any states that have comparable requirements for the use and lawful purchase of medical cannabis in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Act to allow terminally ill cancer patients to purchase medical cannabis in another state. Currently, there are not any reciprocity agreements in place. The patient card is valid only in West Virginia and offers no legal protection for products obtained outside of the West Virginia medical cannabis system.