



Information needed to apply for the MCPP

Once you have obtained your physician certification from your doctor, you are ready to apply for a medical cannabis registry card. You will need to gather the following documents:

- Government-issued ID: current Illinois driver's license or state ID
- Visit a passport photo service for a 2" x 2" color passport photo
- If applying for a reduced fee – copy of your Social Security Benefit Verification statement; Veterans will need a copy of their DD-214
- Application fee – credit or debit cards are accepted for online applications only
- Identification of a caregiver to assist with medical cannabis use, if appropriate
- Completed online application <https://medicalcannabispatients.illinois.gov>

Where Can I Learn More?

About Us

The IDPH Office of Health Promotion, Medical Cannabis Registry Program implements and oversees the patient registry program which provides qualifying patients access to cannabis for medical use. Program-related materials including applications and physician education resources is available at <http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/medical-cannabis>.

Contact Us

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State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health



Illinois Medical Cannabis Registry Program

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ILLINOIS MEDICAL CANNABIS
REGISTRY PROGRAM:
**GUIDE FOR
QUALIFYING
PATIENTS**

Illinois Medical Cannabis Registry Program



On August 1, 2013, Illinois enacted the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act (“Act”), Public Act 98-0122. The Medical Cannabis Patient Program (MCP) allows persons who are diagnosed with a qualifying debilitating medical condition to register with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) in order to obtain access to cannabis (marijuana) for medical use.

An individual diagnosed with one or more qualifying debilitating conditions is eligible to apply for a medical cannabis registry identification card. The qualifying patient must obtain a written certification from a physician specifying their debilitating condition, unless they are a veteran receiving health services at a VA facility. Veterans must submit one year of medical records from the VA facility where they receive services.

The Act is effective until July 1, 2020.

Do I qualify for a Medical Cannabis Registry Card?

If you are an Illinois resident who has been diagnosed with at least one of 41 qualifying debilitating conditions and obtain a certification from your physician, you may be eligible. The list of qualifying conditions is available at www.dph.illinois.gov.

People with a CDL-driver’s license or a school bus driver permit cannot apply.

People who have been diagnosed with six months or less to live by a licensed physician, qualify for a free Terminal Illness Registry Card.

“I am thankful for the Medical Cannabis Registry Program. I’m battling cancer and using medical cannabis helps me deal with chemotherapy and still be a mom to my children.” -- Amanda

How much does medical cannabis cost?

At this time, health insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare do not cover medical cannabis costs. All registered qualifying patients are responsible for the application fee(s) and the cost of purchasing medical cannabis.



Applying for a Medical Cannabis Registry Card

Before you apply for a registry card, a doctor licensed in Illinois must certify your debilitating condition.

- Schedule an appointment with your primary care doctor or the doctor who is treating you for your debilitating condition.
- MCP does not maintain a list of preferred physicians. Speak to all of the physicians who provide your medical care about medical cannabis.
- Print the physician certification from the MCP website and take it with you to your medical appointment and ask your doctor to complete the form, sign it, and return it to you.
- Veterans receiving care at a federal VA facility, may provide 12 months of VA medical records instead of a physician certification.