



MEDICAL CANNABIS STAKEHOLDER Q1 MEETING | MARCH 30, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

1. ABC Board Attendance
 - Several ABC Board members including Chairperson Donovan Anderson were in attendance as observers to learn more about the industry and its priorities.
2. Change of Location Application
 - New form is available at <https://abra.dc.gov/node/1531306>. A centralized web resource is being created to house all medical cannabis forms and applications.
3. Medical Cannabis Amendment Act of 2021
 - ABRA will host an Information Session on the legislation on April 6 at 10:00 a.m.; advance registration is required.
 - Proposed provisions include eliminating plant count on a permanent basis and allowing patients/caregivers to purchase medical cannabis from any dispensary on a permanent basis and creating new endorsements.
4. Medical Cannabis Notice of Emergency and Proposed Rulemaking
 - Emergency rulemaking is currently in effect. A public hearing on the proposed rulemaking is scheduled for April 28 at 1:30 p.m.
5. Letter of Intent Period
 - Letters of Intent may be submitted between March 22—April 21 at 12P ET. Applicants who meet the minimum criteria threshold will be invited to submit a formal application in mid-to-late May
 - Available registrations include two (2) testing labs, one (1) dispensary for either Wards 3 or 5, and two (2) cultivation centers. Ward 5 is not eligible for a testing laboratory or cultivation center due to statutory caps.
 - Recording of information session is available at abra.dc.gov/page/medical-cannabis-facility-letter-intent-open-period-information-session.
6. Reciprocity
 - Reciprocity is expected to be extended to West Virginia once the first dispensary opens. Facilities will be notified accordingly.
7. 2021 Q1 program statistics
 - Will be published in early-to-mid April at abra.dc.gov/node/1518641.
8. Medical cannabis cards
 - Patients with medical cannabis registration cards that expire between March 1, 2020 to May 20, 2021 may be accepted for 45-days after the end of the PHE declaration
 - Patients and caregivers presenting cards with an expiration date before March 1, 2020 are not valid and should not be sold medical cannabis.
 - Facilities will be notified if there is any change in guidance.

9. Biannual reports

- All facilities must submit their midyear report on or before July 30.

10. Reminders:

- Oversells—The maximum amount is 4-ounces over a rolling 30-day period, any amount over is a violation and subject to a fine
- Reciprocity—Extended to non-resident patients 18 years or older, not to caregivers; list of states extended reciprocity is available online
- Delivery manifests—Must be emailed weekly to mcfacilities@dc.gov; include “Delivery Manifest | [Facility Name]” in subject line
- Staff, Director, etc. changes—must be submitted to ABRA within 10-days of change; associated credential collected and returned to ABRA
- Vehicle registrations—all delivery vehicles must be registered with ABRA prior to their use for deliveries.

11. Communications

- ABRA will direct operational communications to owners only; it’s incumbent upon owners to forward appropriate communications to relevant staff members.
- Individuals can subscribe to general cannabis focused communications online
- Email customer service inquiries to mcfacilities@dc.gov

12. Metrc

- Ongoing training opportunities available to staff; all new hires are encouraged to participate
franwell.quickbase.com/db/bnjhkydqs?a=dbpage&pageID=2
youtube.com/channel/UCcasu4orlpyqqEmQWWOkW0w

13. Website content

- Facilities are encouraged to review information on their individual sites to ensure that references to DC Health have been removed.

14. Enforcement

- Multi-agency coordination; facilities are encouraged to ensure they are in compliance with all regulations including those administered by agencies other than ABRA.

15. Questions and Comments

- Agency preparedness for renewing expired patient card.
 - i. ABRA has hired one (1) additional medical cannabis licensing specialist, bringing the total to three FTEs. A job announcement for a fourth licensing specialist closes April 1.
 - ii. ABRA has been processing renewals throughout the public health emergency. Qualifying patients with expired or soon-to-expire cards are encouraged to submit renewal materials at this time.
 - iii. More guidance will be provided to facilities in coming weeks.
- Medical Cannabis Amendment Act of 2021 feedback
 - i. Concern expressed regarding increasing the number of dispensary registration from eight (8) to 16.
 - ii. Request to reduce sales tax on medical cannabis to zero.
 - iii. Increase allotment that may be purchased within a 30-day rolling period from 4-ounces to 6-ounces, if not 8-ounces.
 - iv. Increase registration period for patients and caregivers from one (1) to two (2) years.

- v. Allow dispensaries to provide samples as part of demonstrations.
- Enforcement action against illegal pop-ups
 - i. Request greater action against proprietors of illegal pop-ups.
 - ii. Identify designate for tips to be sent to.
 - 1. Director Moosally identified Chief John Suero. Tips should be emailed to abra.enforcement@dc.gov and cc john.suero@dc.gov.
- Virtual classes
 - i. Request clarification on if virtual classes and demonstrations may be held currently.
 - 1. Director Moosally confirmed that virtual trainings are currently permitted. Notification will be sent to facility registrants.
- Alcohol and Tobacco-Based Products
 - i. Request clarification on whether alcohol and tobacco-based medical cannabis products may be developed and sold.

16. Adjournment

- The next stakeholder meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 13 at 2:00 p.m. Previously the meeting date was scheduled for Wednesday, July 7. An updated meeting invitation will be sent out.