

WHAT IS MEDICAL CANNABIS?

Medical cannabis is generally understood as the use of the cannabis plant and its chemical compounds to potentially help ease symptoms associated with medical conditions. Medical cannabis must be recommended by a registered physician in West Virginia.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HEMP & MEDICAL CANNABIS

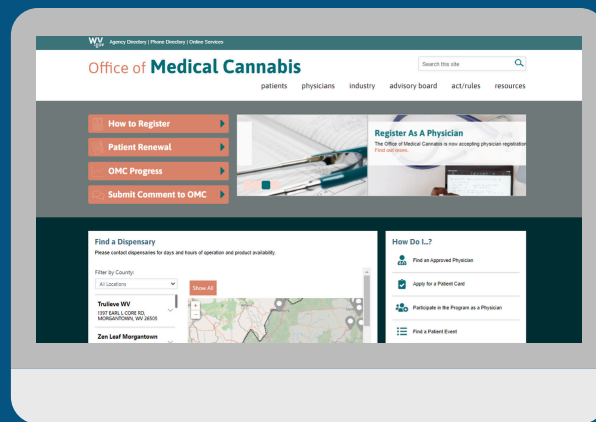
Hemp and medical cannabis are both a variety of the Cannabis sativa plant, but have significant differences. The **main difference** is in cannabinoid concentration with **hemp containing low THC, high CBD** ratios and **medical cannabis commonly containing high THC, low CBD** ratios.

Hemp is also legal at the federal level while cannabis, medical or recreational, remains illegal at the federal level. Some states have opted to legalize cannabis medically, recreationally, or both. West Virginia passed the Medical Cannabis Act in 2017.

MEDICAL CANNABIS PRODUCTS

- Pill
- Oil
- Topical (gels, creams, ointments)
- A form medically appropriate for administration by vaporization or nebulization
- Liquid
- Dermal patch
- Dry leaf or plant form

LEARN MORE: OMC.WV.GOV



STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

CONTACT US:

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1. Hilderbrand R. L. (2018). Hemp & Cannabidiol: What is a Medicine?. Missouri medicine, 115(4), 306-309.

2. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2017). Therapeutic effects of cannabis and cannabinoids. In The health effects of cannabis and cannabinoids: The current state of evidence and recommendations for research. National Academies Press (US).

MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM GUIDE



QUALIFYING CONDITIONS

- ✓ Cancer
- ✓ Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- ✓ HIV/AIDS
- ✓ Intractable seizures
- ✓ Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- ✓ Sickle cell anemia
- ✓ Parkinson's disease
- ✓ Severe chronic or intractable pain of neuropathic origin or severe chronic or intractable pain
- ✓ Multiple sclerosis (MS)
- ✓ Damage to the nervous tissue of the spinal cord with objective neurological indication of intractable spasticity
- ✓ Epilepsy
- ✓ Terminal illness (life expectancy of one year or less)
- ✓ Neuropathies
- ✓ Crohn's disease
- ✓ Huntington's disease



MEDICAL CANNABIS ADVISORY BOARD

The Medical Cannabis Advisory Board (MCAB) is an independent board focusing on evaluating and addressing various medical cannabis related issues on a quarterly basis. Subcommittees of the board also meet to discuss topics and concerns as they arise. The MCAB may make recommendations to the state legislature for changes if necessary.

You can learn more about the advisory board and meeting updates at omc.wv.gov.

HOW TO REGISTER



SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

Schedule an appointment with a registered physician. A list of approved telemedicine companies and registered physicians can be found on the Office of Medical Cannabis' (OMC) website. If the physician recommends medical cannabis to you, you will receive a digital physician certification to add to the state application.

REGISTER WITH THE OMC

Register with the OMC by submitting an application through the registration portal found on the OMC's website. Documents needed for the application include a copy of a valid form of identification, proof of West Virginia residency, and a passport style photo of yourself.

A \$50 application fee is required and may be paid via mail or ACH. A fee waiver may be granted with proof of financial hardship through an acceptable proof of income. More information can be found via the OMC's website or the application portal

OBTAIN YOUR MEDICAL CANNABIS CARD

The Office of Medical Cannabis will review your application within 30 days. After review, you will receive an update via email about the status of your application.

If you are approved, you will be notified to login and download your digital medical ID card. If your application needs a correction, it will be rejected and sent back to you for corrections. If your application is denied, you will be informed of the reason.

RENEWING?

- 1 Schedule your **ANNUAL** Physician's Certification appointment in-person or online
- 2 Log in to your **MyComplia** account to create a **renewal application**
- 3 Submit renewal application and payment

PATIENTS MUST RENEW ANNUALLY

EMPLOYMENT

§16A-15-4

(1) Employers cannot discharge, threaten, refuse to hire or otherwise discriminate or retaliate against an employee solely on the basis of such employee's status as an individual who is certified to use medical cannabis.

(2) Employers do NOT have to make accommodations to allow the use of medical cannabis on the property or premises of any place of employment.

(3) Employers may discipline employee for being under the influence of medical cannabis in the workplace.

Prohibitions can be seen in **§16A-5-10**

READ MORE OF CHAPTER 16A. MEDICAL CANNABIS ACT AT OMC.WV.GOV