

Iowa's Medical Cannabidiol Program: What Law Enforcement Needs to Know

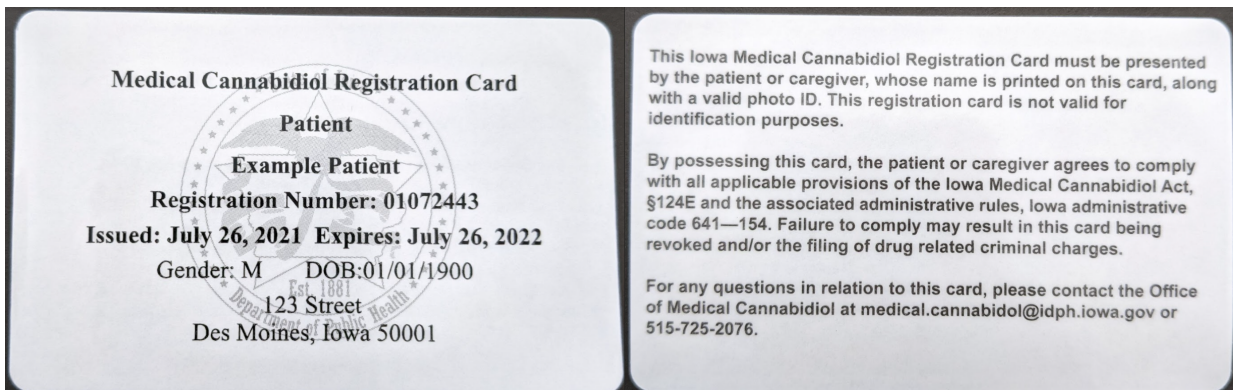
In May 2017, the Medical Cannabidiol Act was signed into law. It is codified at Iowa Code Chapter [124E](#) and [641 IAC 154](#). Iowa's licensed dispensaries began providing medical cannabidiol products to patients on December 1, 2018. Iowa's medical cannabidiol program authorizes the manufacture and sale of products that contain both CBD and THC. In other words, it is a program that allows for the legal manufacture and sale of medical cannabis products. Iowa law enforcement officers may encounter Iowa residents who are patients or caregivers in this program who are legally in possession of products derived from marijuana, containing THC. Additionally, officers may encounter residents from other states who are legally in possession of medical cannabis products manufactured and sold in another state. The Iowa Department of Public Health provides this educational document to assist law enforcement in understanding Iowa's program and the rights of program stakeholders.

What is the Iowa "Medical Cannabidiol Program?"

- Iowa's medical cannabidiol program authorizes the manufacture and sale of products that contain both CBD and THC. In other words, it is a program that allows for the legal manufacture and sale of medical cannabis products. Products may be legally purchased, and possessed by registered Iowa cardholders, and their caregivers. Medical cannabis cardholders in other states are also allowed to possess medical cannabis products in Iowa, provided that the products are in a form authorized by [641 IAC 154.14](#).

How do I identify a legally registered patient or caregiver?

- Iowa patients or caregivers are issued a "medical cannabidiol registration card" by the Iowa Department of Public Health (pictured below):



- *Law enforcement officials who need to verify registration card validity may call the Bureau of Medical Cannabidiol (BMC) **Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm at (515)-725-2076***

What products can registered patients and caregivers legally possess?

- As codified in [641 IAC 154.14](#) Iowa patients or caregivers may possess THC-containing cannabis or marijuana products in the following forms:
 - Vaporizable
 - Oral forms - tablets, capsules, liquids, tinctures and sublingual forms
 - Topical forms - gels, ointments, creams, lotions and transdermal patches
 - Nebulizable inhaled forms
 - Suppositories - rectal and vaginal
- Products in the forms listed above, are legal for possession by registered Iowa patients and Iowa caregivers, regardless of where the products were manufactured. Individuals who have a valid registration card, or its equivalent, issued under the laws of another state are also allowed to possess products in the forms listed in [641 IAC 154.14](#), however, out of state card holders are not permitted to purchase products from dispensaries located in Iowa.

What products are *illegal* for registered patients and caregivers to possess?

- No flower (loose leaf, “joints,” etc.) or THC-infused edibles (“gummies,” chocolates, etc.) are allowed.

What products can out-of-state patients with out-of-state registration cards possess?

- Persons with valid, out-of-state medical cannabis or marijuana registration cards may also possess products in the forms listed above. See [Iowa Code section 124E.18](#).

Is there a limit on the amount of product that a patient can possess?

- There is not a medical cannabidiol product quantity possession limit for registered cardholders and caregivers.

Where are the medical cannabidiol licensees?

- Iowa’s manufacturers are located at:
 - MedPharm Iowa - 1953 E. Market St., Des Moines, IA 50317
 - Iowa Cannabis Company - 2727 Scott Blvd, Iowa City, IA 52240
- Iowa currently has five operational dispensaries, located at the following addresses:
 - MedPharm Iowa – 5700 Sunnybrook Drive, Sioux City, IA 51106
 - MedPharm Iowa – 7239 Apple Valley Drive, Windsor Heights, IA 50324
 - Iowa Cannabis Company – 1955 La Porte Road, Waterloo, IA 50702
 - Iowa Cannabis Company - 3615 9th Ave, Council Bluffs, IA 51501
 - Iowa Cannabis Company - 382 Highway 1 W, Iowa City, IA 52245

For any questions, the Bureau of Medical Cannabidiol can be reached by phone at 515-725-2076, or email at medical.cannabidiol@idph.iowa.gov.

Additional information pertinent to law enforcement can be found on our website at: idph.iowa.gov/omc/For-Law-Enforcement-and-Public-Safety