



**State of Illinois**  
Illinois Department of Public Health

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# ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act

*July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016*

*As required by PA 098-0122*

**Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act  
Annual Report to the General Assembly  
July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016**

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act (“Act”), Public Act 98-0122, allows an individual who is diagnosed with a debilitating medical condition to register with the state in order to obtain cannabis (marijuana) for medical use. The Act became effective on January 1, 2014. Illinois is one of 25 states and Washington, DC, which have legalized the use of the cannabis plant for medical purposes.

PA 98-0122 provides Illinois residents who have various debilitating conditions, as defined by the Act, access to medical cannabis and protects patients with debilitating medical conditions, as well as their physicians and providers, from criminal and civil liability. The Act defines “medical use” as the acquisition; administration; delivery; possession; transfer; transportation; or use of cannabis to treat or alleviate a registered qualifying patient’s debilitating medical condition or symptoms associated with the patient’s qualifying condition.

Three Illinois agencies oversee the process for providing and obtaining medical cannabis. The agencies are:

1. The Department of Public Health (IDPH) operates a confidential registry of qualifying patients authorized to engage in the medical use of cannabis and their caregivers and distributes educational information about health risks associated with abuse of cannabis and prescription medications.
2. The Department of Agriculture (DoA) provides registration and oversight of cultivation centers.
3. The Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (DFPR) enforces the Act’s provisions relating to registration and oversight of dispensing organizations.

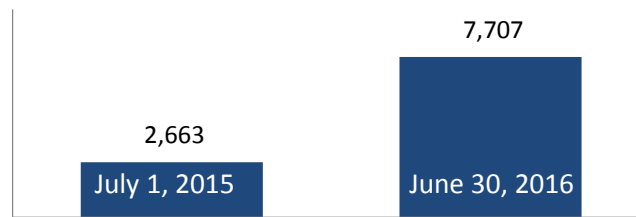
Additionally, the Office of the Secretary of State, the Illinois State Police, and the Department of Revenue each has ancillary roles for program implementation.

As of June 30, 2016, IDPH approved applications for 7,900 qualifying patients (including 61 persons under 18 years of age), since it began accepting applications for the Medical Cannabis Registry program on September 2, 2014. Beginning in October 2015, IDPH began printing medical cannabis registry identification cards for registered patients and caregivers and in November the first licensed medical cannabis dispensaries were approved by DFPR to dispense medical cannabis.

## Number of Applications Filed

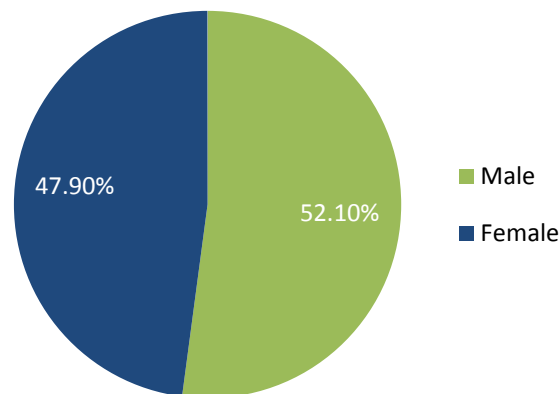
Almost 44,000 persons with debilitating conditions logged onto the Illinois Medical Cannabis Pilot Program patient registry application website maintained by IDPH between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. By June 30, 2016, approximately 10,350 people completed an application and submitted payment. During state fiscal year 2016, IDPH issued more than 5,000 registry identification cards to registered qualifying patients, including 33 to persons under age 18. A total of 356 qualifying patients were denied a medical cannabis registration identification card. These applicants were denied primarily because they did not respond to multiple attempts to correct deficiencies in their application and/or their fingerprint background check reported that the applicant had excluded criminal offenses. No medical cannabis registry identification cards were revoked.

### Number of Registered Adult Qualifying Patients



During the time period of this report, July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, most of the qualifying patient applications were submitted by persons between 51 and 60 years of age (28.74 %). Persons aged 61 to 70 years of age (20.17%) and persons between 41 and 50 years old (19.24%) comprised the next largest group of applicants. More males (52.1%) applied for a medical cannabis registration identification card than females (47.9%). Qualifying patients were provided with a series of optional questions regarding age, income, and educational level on the Application for a Registration Identification Card. Because most applicants chose not to respond to the optional questions, IDPH discontinued data collection on demographic information other than age and gender during state fiscal year 2016.

### Qualifying Patient Applications, by Gender Medical Cannabis Registry Database, June 30, 2016



The Medical Cannabis Registry Program received 6,911 applications from qualifying patients residing in Illinois during state FY2016. More applicants from Cook County (1,718) applied for the registry program than from other counties. The table below provides the number of qualifying patient applicants by county of residence for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

**Qualifying Patient Applications by County of Residence  
July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016**

| County of Residence | Number of Qualifying Patient Applications | County of Residence | Number of Qualifying Patient Applications | County of Residence | Number of Qualifying Patient Applications |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| Cook                | 1,718                                     | Knox                | 21  | Wayne               | 9   |
| Lake                | 483                                       | McDonough           | 19  | Monroe              | 9   |
| DuPage              | 363                                       | Woodford            | 16  | Jersey              | 9   |
| Will                | 260                                       | Mercer              | 15  | Massac              | 8   |
| McHenry             | 161                                       | Mason               | 15  | Morgan              | 8   |
| Kane                | 151                                       | White               | 14  | Lawrence            | 8   |
| Winnebago           | 122                                       | Macoupin            | 14  | Effingham           | 7   |
| Madison             | 116                                       | Christian           | 14  | Montgomery          | 7   |
| Fulton              | 89  | Union               | 13  | Iroquois            | 7   |
| Peoria              | 69  | Lee                 | 12  | Richland            | 7   |
| Tazewell            | 61  | Jefferson           | 12  | Marshall            | 7   |
| Sangamon            | 61  | Saline              | 12  | Wabash              | 7   |
| Rock Island         | 60  | Henry               | 12  | Hamilton            | 7   |
| St. Clair           | 59  | Alexander           | 12  | Moultrie            | 7   |
| Adams               | 58  | Coles               | 11  | Putnam              | 7   |
| LaSalle             | 55  | Livingston          | 11  | Warren              | 7   |
| McLean              | 49  | Perry               | 11  | Gallatin            | 6   |
| Williamson          | 48  | Johnson             | 10  | Bond                | 6   |
| Kankakee            | 46  | Randolph            | 10  | Stephenson          | 6   |
| DeKalb              | 43  | Logan               | 10  | Cass                | 6   |
| Franklin            | 38  | Bureau              | 10  | Vermilion           | 5   |
| Ogle                | 36  | Clinton             | 10  | Fayette             | 5   |
| Champaign           | 33  | Clark               | 10  | Carroll             | 5   |
| Jackson             | 31  | Clay                | 10  | Calhoun             | 5   |
| Kendall             | 31  | Hancock             | 10  | Jasper              | 5   |
| Boone               | 28  | Pike                | 10  | Scott               | 5   |
| Whiteside           | 28  | Shelby              | 10  | Stark               | 5   |
| Macon               | 26  | Marion              | 9   |                     |   |

Note: Data for counties with fewer than 5 applicants are not reported due to the small number of applications.

## Debilitating Conditions

Qualifying patients may be certified for a medical cannabis registry identification card under one of the following conditions, specified by the Act:

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS); Agitation of Alzheimer's disease; Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS); Arnold-Chiari malformation and Syringomyelia; Cachexia/wasting syndrome; Cancer; Causalgia; Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy; Crohn's disease; CRPS (Complex Regional Pain Syndromes Type II); Dystonia; Fibromyalgia (severe); Fibrous dysplasia; Glaucoma; Hepatitis C; Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV); Hydrocephalus; Interstitial Cystitis; Lupus; Multiple Sclerosis; Muscular dystrophy; Myasthenia Gravis; Myoclonus; Nail-patella syndrome; Neurofibromatosis; Parkinson's disease; Post-concussion syndrome; RSD (Complex Regional Pain Syndromes Type I); Residual limb pain; Rheumatoid arthritis (RA); Seizure disorders, including those characteristic of epilepsy; Sjogren's syndrome; Spinal cord disease (including but not limited to arachnoiditis); Spinal cord injury: damage to the nervous tissue of the spinal cord with objective neurological indication of intractable spasticity; Spinocerebellar Ataxia (SCA); Tourette's syndrome; and Traumatic brain injury (TBI).

An individual diagnosed with one or more of those conditions may qualify to apply for a medical cannabis registry identification card. The qualifying patient must obtain a written certification from a physician indicating medical cannabis would provide a therapeutic or palliative benefit for the individual.

A qualifying patient may identify a caregiver to assist with the use of medical cannabis. Designated caregivers may enter a licensed medical cannabis dispensary and purchase medical cannabis on behalf of a registered qualifying patient. A designated caregiver must be 21 years of age or older and can only assist one patient with the use of medical cannabis. Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016, almost 800 applications for designated caregivers were approved.

A reduced application fee is available to:

- Veterans who served in one of the five active-duty Armed Services or their respective Guard or Reserve units and who were discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable.
- qualifying patients enrolled in Social Security Disability Income, or Supplemental Security Income programs.

During state fiscal year 2016, more than 400 veterans and almost 1,450 qualifying patients received a reduced application fee.

Thirty-three patients under age 18 were registered to participate in the medical cannabis program. Each registered patient under age 18 is required to have a designated caregiver.

Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016, qualifying patients who applied for a medical cannabis registration identification card were certified for the following debilitating conditions in Illinois.

**Qualifying Patient Applications by Debilitating Condition  
July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016**

| Qualifying Debilitating Condition                                    | Qualifying Patient Applications |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Severe fibromyalgia  | 1,194                           |
| Cancer   | 1,182                           |
| Spinal cord disease/Arachnoiditis                                    | 586                             |
| Multiple Sclerosis   | 545                             |
| Rheumatoid arthritis   | 452                             |
| Spinal cord injury   | 400                             |
| Traumatic Brain Injury/Post-concussion Syndrome                      | 388                             |
| Seizure Disorders (including those characteristic of Epilepsy)       | 358                             |
| Crohn’s disease  | 278                             |
| Glaucoma   | 246                             |
| CRPS (Complex Regional Pain Syndromes Type II)                       | 209                             |
| HIV/AIDS   | 204                             |
| Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Type I) | 156                             |
| Hepatitis C  | 155                             |
| Residual limb pain   | 145                             |
| Cachexia/wasting syndrome  | 144                             |
| Lupus  | 128                             |
| Interstitial cystitis  | 78                              |
| Parkinson’s disease  | 70                              |
| Causalgia  | 68                              |
| Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy                    | 65                              |
| Dystonia   | 55                              |
| Tourette’s syndrome  | 40                              |
| Arnold-Chiari malformation and Syringomyelia                         | 34                              |
| Amyotrophic Lateral sclerosis (ALS)                                  | 27                              |
| Agitation of Alzheimer’s disease                                     | 26                              |
| Myoclonus  | 24                              |
| Myasthenia Gravis  | 19                              |
| Muscular Dystrophy   | 19                              |
| Spinocerebellar Ataxia (SCA)   | 16                              |
| Syringomyelia  | 13                              |
| Tarlov cysts   | 12                              |
| Myasthenia Gravis  | 12                              |
| Neurofibromatosis  | 8                               |
| Hydrocephalus  | 6                               |
| Fibrous dysplasia  | 4                               |
| Nail-patella syndrome  | 1                               |

\* Some qualifying patients may have more than one debilitating condition

## **Physician Certification**

The Illinois Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program requires a physician to provide a written certification for qualifying patients seeking to apply for a medical cannabis registry identification card. A physician may be a doctor of medicine or osteopathy licensed under the Medical Practice Act of 1987 to practice medicine and must have a current controlled substances license under Article II of the Illinois Controlled Substances Act. No other licensed professional (including dentists) may recommend a qualifying patient for medical cannabis use.

Qualifying patients are encouraged to consult with their physician about whether the use of medical cannabis would have a therapeutic or palliative benefit on the patient's debilitating condition. The physician may then complete the Physician Certification document attesting the patient has a confirmed diagnosis of one or more of the debilitating medical conditions defined in the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act. Additionally, the physician must certify they have:

- Established a bona-fide physician-patient relationship with the qualifying patient applicant;
- Conducted an in-person physical examination of the qualifying patient within the last 90 calendar days;
- Completed an assessment of the qualifying patient's medical history, including the review of medical records from other treating physicians within the previous 12 months; and
- Explained the potential risks and benefits of the medical use of cannabis to the qualifying patient.

Between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016, almost 1,800 physicians, licensed in Illinois, submitted written certifications for qualifying patients seeking to participate in the medical cannabis program. The majority of physicians (1,723) certified fewer than 25 qualifying patients each.

## **Cultivation Centers and Medical Cannabis Dispensaries**

The departments of Agriculture and Financial and Professional Regulation oversee the licensing of cultivation centers and medical cannabis dispensaries. As of June 30, 2016, there were 20 licensed cultivation centers and 39 licensed medical cannabis dispensaries in Illinois. The first licensed medical cannabis dispensaries opened to the public in November 2015.

The Act requires registered qualifying medical cannabis patients to select a medical cannabis dispensary to purchase medical cannabis. An updated list of registered dispensaries is available at <http://www.idfpr.com/Forms/MC/ListofLicensedDispensaries.pdf>. Registered patients may change their medical cannabis dispensary by notifying IDPH of their selection. The table on the following page provides an overview of how many registered patients selected the medical cannabis dispensaries listed between July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Because registered patients may change dispensaries, these numbers do not reflect the total number of registered patients currently active.

**Number of Registered Medical Cannabis Patients Selecting Licensed Dispensaries  
July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016**

| Dispensary Name                                | Registered Patients | Dispensary Name                                | Registered Patients |
|--|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| Dispensary 33 (Dist. 44)                       | 930                 | PDI Medical (Dist. 27)                         | 207                 |
| The Clinic Mundelein (Dist. 27)                | 838                 | Nature's Treatment of Illinois (Dist.7)        | 206                 |
| Harbory (Dist. 13)                             | 587                 | PharmaCannis Health & Wellness (Dist. 17)      | 183                 |
| EarthMed (Dist. 24)                            | 570                 | New Age Care (Dist. 32)                        | 180                 |
| HCI Alternatives (Dist. 11)                    | 518                 | Herbal Remedies Dispensary (Dist.20)           | 166                 |
| Salveo Health & Wellness Dispensary (Dist. 14) | 412                 | Nature's Care Company (Dist. 30)               | 152                 |
| 3C Compassionate Care Center (Dist. 29)        | 403                 | Windy City Cannabis (Dist. 37)                 | 143                 |
| MOCA/Modern Cannabis (Dist. 48)                | 373                 | Elevele (Dist. 27)                             | 136                 |
| 3C Compassionate Care Center (Dist. 24)        | 369                 | Healthway Services of West Illinois (Dist. 26) | 126                 |
| PharmaCannis Health & Wellness (Dist. 31)      | 363                 | Mapleglen Care Center (Dist. 16)               | 109                 |
| Trinity Compassionate Care Centers (Dist. 8)   | 354                 | Midway Dispensary (Dist. 43)                   | 99                  |
| MedMar Rockford, LLC (Dist.16)                 | 329                 | The Dispensary (Dist.1)                        | 99                  |
| Greenhouse Group, LLC (Dist. 33)               | 312                 | Midwest Compassionate Center (Dist. 29)        | 96                  |
| PharmaCannis Health & Wellness (Dist. 26)      | 290                 | FloraMedex (Dist. 35)                          | 96                  |
| Greenhouse Group, LLC (Dist. 29)               | 283                 | Thrive Harrisburg (Dist. 19)                   | 87                  |
| HCI Alternatives (Dist. 9)                     | 269                 | Windy City Cannabis (Dist. 39)                 | 82                  |
| PharmaCannis Health & Wellness (Dist. 34)      | 257                 | Greenhouse Group (Dist. 25)                    | 72                  |
| Windy City Cannabis (Dist. 40)                 | 247                 | Thrive Anna (Dist. 22)                         | 71                  |
| Phoenix Botanical (Dist. 10)                   | 221                 | Mindful Dispensary (Dist. 24)                  | 63                  |
| Windy City Cannabis (Dist. 38)                 | 211                 |  |                     |

Note: Registered patients may change dispensaries as desired. These data do not reflect the total number of patients currently registered rather they reflect the number of patients who have selected a particular licensed medical cannabis dispensary during the fiscal year.