



Medical Cannabis Registration Form Frequently Asked Questions

When does the State Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act (MMRSA) of 2015 take effect?

MMRSA became law January 1, 2016, but the implementing regulations have yet to be developed. State licenses for commercial cannabis activity are expected to be available beginning in 2018.

Didn't MMRSA make medical "commercial cannabis activity" legal in California starting now?

No. MMRSA established a regulatory framework, including 17 State authorized license types, but medical commercial cannabis activity will not be legal until the implementing regulations are adopted and state licenses are issued. Until the state issues licenses under MMRSA all cannabis activity in California must be medical as currently provided for in state law.

Is my registration form confidential?

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino intends that the information that you provide in this application shall be confidential to the greatest extent authorized by law; but, you should be aware that any information that you provide may be released as required by law, judicial order, or subpoena, and could be used in a criminal prosecution. You have the right to access records containing your personal information which are maintained by the Mendocino County Agriculture Department.

What is the purpose of submitting the registration form?

Submitting the form will guarantee priority processing for any subsequent local permit application, may assist the County in making a determination of "good standing", and will assist the County in determining the level of interest in applying for local permits for cannabis activity.

Why apply for a local permit now if state licenses won't be available until 2018?

To be eligible for a state license in 2018, a local permit must first be obtained. Applying for local permits now will assist in identifying and correcting compliance issues in order to be ready for the state license process. Once State licenses become available in 2018, except for limited exemptions for patients and caregivers, *all* cannabis activity, including that conducted by medical marijuana collectives and cooperatives, will require a local permit and a state license.

When should I fill out the registration?

The Ag Commissioner's office will be accepting the applications through June 3, 2016. A draft table of cannabis permit types and requirements posted on the County at <http://co.mendocino.ca.us/bos/mendoreg.htm>, may be helpful and allow for a more informed choice on the registration form.

Does the current Mendocino County 9.31 Cultivation Regulation apply to my current cannabis operation?

Yes, but only for cultivation. The Board of Supervisors' Marijuana Ad Hoc committee is currently working on a revised 9.31 ordinance which is expected to be adopted by the Board in 2016. Until a revised ordinance is adopted all cannabis cultivation must comply with the current 9.31 ordinance which is available at https://www.municode.com/library/ca/mendocino_county/codes/code_of_ordinances.

Can I start cultivation based on the permit type I am seeking?

No. All cultivation must follow the current 9.31 ordinance until an amended ordinance is adopted. Once a revised ordinance is adopted, you can apply with the County Department of Agriculture for the cultivation permit type you are seeking. The current 9.31 ordinance is available at https://www.municode.com/library/ca/mendocino_county/codes/code_of_ordinances.



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I am patient, caregiver or collective/cooperative cultivating 25 plants or less do I need to register or apply for a permit?

Not this year. The Board of Supervisors has accepted the Ad Hoc committee recommendation that any person or entity growing 25 or fewer plants per parcel does not need to register or apply for a permit for 2016 as long as they are in compliance with current state and local law. Local permits for 25 or fewer plants *may* be required in 2017. Except for limited exemptions for patients and caregivers, *all* cannabis activity, including that conducted by medical marijuana collectives and cooperatives, will require a local permit *and* a state license.

When will cultivation applications be available?

The Marijuana Ad Hoc committee is working on revising the 9.31 ordinance in light of MMRSA. Final adoption is anticipated summer of 2016 with applications becoming available for cultivation and nursery permits upon final adoption of the revised ordinance.

When will the County of Mendocino be issuing cultivation permits?

Once the revised 9.31 ordinance is adopted, applications will be available. Permits can be issued 30 days after final adoption. Interested parties must apply for their desired permit type and complete the application process with the County before being issued a permit. Submitting an application does not guarantee you will be entitled to the issuance of any permit.

What about other permit types?

The Board of Supervisors has given preliminary approval for the Ad Hoc committee's recommendation to adopt one or more ordinances that authorize local permits for dispensaries and the other state license types authorized by MMRSA.

What is the cost associated with each proposed permit type?

The County of Mendocino is in the process of revising the current 9.31 ordinance and fees associated with the permit types. At this time, cost of permit types are not available, but will be in place when the application process opens.

What kind of evidence will I need to provide to verify existence of operation prior to January 1, 2016?

If engaged in cultivation prior to January 1, 2016, the County requests that you identify said activity on the registration form (pg.2) and if you are able to provide documentation to verify existence of operation ***as part of a cultivation application***. Below are examples of types of documentation that could be used to verify existence of an operation. Documentation to verify existence ***is not limited to this list below***.

- Time stamped google earth views (or comparable services) and/or time stamped photos.
- Incorporation document of a collective or cooperative
 - Verification that you are growing on behalf of a collective or cooperative
- Proof of participation in the Mendocino County's previous 9.31 program
- Business License
- Sellers Permit
- Tax receipts from the Board of Equalization
- Invoice or sales documentation
- Receipt from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office for the purchase of voluntary zip ties
- For a caregiver: patient provided written designation to the caregiver to provide services, include valid medical recommendations for patients for each year the caregiver provided services.

I'm leasing a property. Can I register?

Yes, you can register, but you will need to include the name and address of the property owner on page 2 of the registration form.



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How will priority processing for local permits be established with submission of the Activity Registration Form?

Registrants submitting the Activity Registration Form on or before June 3, 2016, will be placed on a list. The entities on the Registration list will have their applications processed first.

Do I need to submit additional information with the Activity Registration Form?

No. Fill out the form and submit it to the County Department of Agriculture. Evidence to verify existence of operation prior to January 1, 2016, will need to be submitted with the application, but not with the Activity Registration Form.

Can I select more than one permit type that I'm interested in?

Yes. Please identify the permit types you are interested in and likely to apply for.

Will the State of California accept Mendocino County's determination that my operation was in good standing prior to January 1, 2016?

Submittal of the form does ***not guarantee*** that the State of California will accept any determination by the County of Mendocino that your facility or entity was in good standing with the County of Mendocino for purposes of priority processing of any State license application, nor does it guarantee issuance of any State license.

Does submitting a Registration Form guarantee a County permit or state license?

No. Submitting this form does not guarantee that you will be entitled to the issuance of any permit or license that may now or hereafter be required by the County of Mendocino or State of California. ***Submission of this form will guarantee priority processing for local permit applications once they become available.***