How to Obtain a Medical Marijuana Card in Mississippi: A Step-by-Step Guide

In Mississippi, obtaining a medical marijuana card involves a clear process governed by the Mississippi State Department of Health. If you're considering medical cannabis for managing a qualifying health condition, follow this comprehensive guide to navigate the steps effectively.

Step 1: Check Qualifying Conditions

To be eligible for a medical marijuana card in Mississippi, you must have a qualifying medical condition. The state recognizes several conditions, including:

- cancer
- Parkinson's disease
- Huntington's disease
- muscular dystrophy
- glaucoma
- spastic quadriplegia
- positive status for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
- acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)
- hepatitis
- amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- Crohn's disease
- ulcerative colitis
- sickle-cell anemia
- Alzheimer's disease
- agitation of dementia
- post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- autism
- pain refractory to appropriate opioid management
- diabetic/peripheral neuropathy
- spinal cord disease or severe injury

Also qualifying is a chronic terminal or debilitating disease or medical condition or its treatment that produces one or more of the following:

- cachexia or wasting syndrome
- chronic pain
- severe or intractable nausea
- seizures
- severe and persistent muscle spasms including, but not limited to, those characteristic of multiple sclerosis

Review the complete list on the Mississippi State Department of Health website to ensure your condition qualifies.

Step 2: Schedule an Appointment with a Qualified Physician

Once you confirm that you have a qualifying condition, the next step is to consult with a healthcare provider. Mississippi law requires that the physician be licensed in the state and registered with the Mississippi Medical Marijuana Program. See a list of Providers here insert

- Prepare for Your Visit: Bring relevant medical records and be ready to discuss your symptoms and treatment history.
- Obtain a Recommendation: If the physician determines that medical marijuana could benefit your condition, they will issue a recommendation, which is necessary for your application. Your medical cannabis practitioner will go into his/her MSDH practitioner portal and put in your electronic certification there. MAKE SURE THAT YOUR NAME, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, AND DATE OF BIRTH ARE ACCURATE. This is how your MSDH application will be matched to your certification.

Step 3: Apply

To apply for your medical marijuana card, you'll need to compile several documents:

Apply and submit a completed application with the MSDH MMCP via their online patient portal or ask your practitioner to help you fill out the application. REMEMBER your email address and password and make sure all information is correct. It is very difficult to correct information once submitted.

Step 4: Submit Your Application and Await Application Approval

After submission, your application will be processed by the Mississippi State Department of Health. The processing time may vary, but you can check the status of your application through the online portal.

Follow Up: If you haven't received any communication after a reasonable period, consider following up with the Department of Health for updates.

Step 6: Receive Your Medical Marijuana Card

Registry ID cards will come from the Mississippi Department of Health (MSDH) https://www.mmcp.ms.gov/. Once you receive a certification from a certified medical cannabis practitioner, you will apply for your Registry ID Card with the MSDH https://ms-doh-public.nls.egov.com/login. However, this card will only be accessible via the MSDH MMCP Patient Portal which can be printed or used digitally. You will receive an email from MSDH MMCP letting you know that you have been approved or if there is an issue with your application.

Step 7: Visit a Licensed Dispensary

With your medical marijuana card in hand, you can visit a licensed dispensary. Here's what to keep in mind:

- Bring Required Documentation: Always carry your medical marijuana card and a valid ID when visiting a dispensary.
- Consult with Staff: Dispensary staff can provide guidance on product selection tailored to your specific medical needs.
- Understand Purchase Limits: A resident cardholder shall not obtain more than a total of six
 (6) MMCEUs of allowable medical cannabis in a week from a dispensary or a combination of
 dispensaries. A resident cardholder shall not obtain more than a total of twenty-four (24)
 MMCEUs of allowable medical cannabis in thirty (30) days from a dispensary or a
 combination of dispensaries. "MMCEU" means Mississippi Medical Cannabis Equivalency
 Unit. One unit of MMCEU shall be considered equal to:
 - 1. Three and one-half (3.5) grams of medical cannabis flower;
 - 2. One (1) gram of medical cannabis concentrate; or
 - 3. One hundred (100) milligrams of THC in an infused product.

More information can be found here https://www.mmcp.ms.gov/faq

Conclusion

Obtaining a medical marijuana card in Mississippi involves several straightforward steps, from verifying your condition to consulting a physician and submitting your application. Staying informed and organized throughout the process will help ensure a smooth experience. For additional resources and information, visit the Mississippi State Department of Health's official website www.mmcp.ms.gov or explore our site for more insights on medical marijuana.

If you have any further questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out.