



WASHINGTON'S MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

WHY Coalition - September 20, 2019

# Medical Marijuana Program Scope

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# Goals

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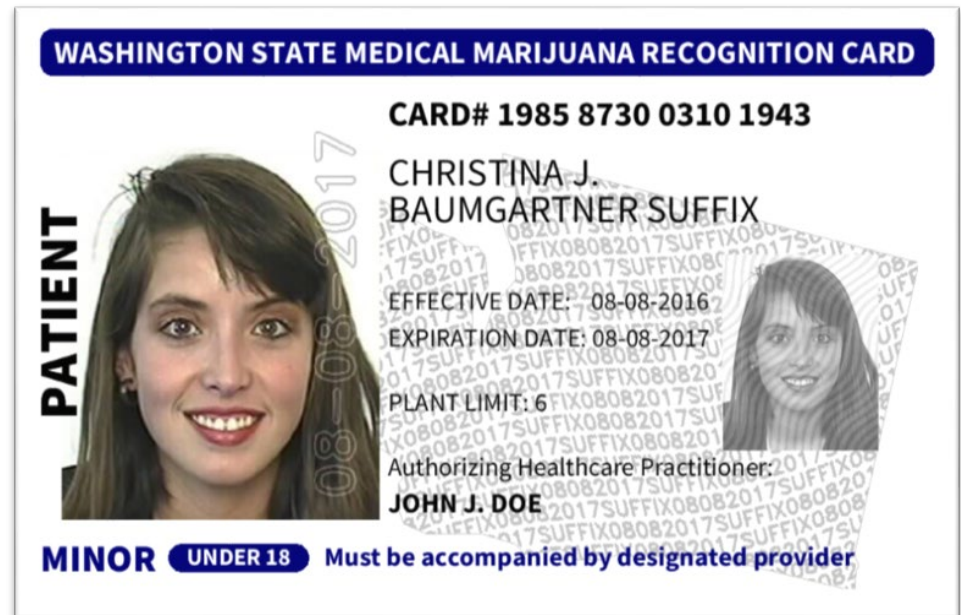
**Within the scope of the Medical Marijuana program, the goal is to:**

- Protect access for patients with qualifying conditions
- Ensure safe, quality tested and accurately labeled products for patients

# Medical Marijuana Authorization Database

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- Administered by the Department of Health
- Voluntary, with the exception of minor cannabis patients (under age 18)
- Used to create and issue recognition cards and to confirm validity of a patient card during the sale process



# Card Benefits

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- May purchase 3 times the recreational limits
- May possess 6-15 plants if authorized
- May purchase high-THC products, when available
- Purchases at endorsed stores are not subject to sales tax
- Arrest protection
- May participate in a cooperative
- May purchase immature plants, clones and seeds from a licensed producer

# Compliant Product

- Extends standards set by the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB)
- Three categories (General Use, High THC and High CBD)
- May not imply medical or therapeutic benefit
- Requires testing for prohibited pesticides and heavy metals
- Only cardholders have access to purchase High-THC products



Any marijuana product type and meets requirements of WAC 246-70



Any marijuana product, except smokeable.  
Lower THC and 5x times more CBD



Contains up to 50 mg of active THC per serving (500 mg per unit).  
Limited to capsules, tablets, tinctures, transdermal patches, and suppositories.



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- # Medical Marijuana Authorization Form
- This authorization does not provide protection from arrest unless the qualifying patient or designated provider is also entered in the medical marijuana authorization database and holds a recognition card.
- Patient Information and Attestation**
- I hereby attest that I have been diagnosed by a healthcare practitioner with one or more of the following conditions:  
Chronic pain  
Cancer  
Epilepsy or other seizure disorder  
HIV  
Posttraumatic stress disorder  
A disease that results in nausea, vomiting, wasting, appetite loss, and spasticity  
I further attest that I have performed an in-person examination of the above named patient and assessed his or her medical history and medical condition. I have advised this patient about the potential risks and benefits of the medical use of marijuana. It is my professional opinion that this patient may benefit from the medical use of marijuana.
- Healthcare Practitioner Information**
- Name of Healthcare Practitioner: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: WA Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Additional Patient Authorization (Optional)**
- This provision is valid only if the person is entered into the authorization database and possesses a recognition card. A second signature is required if authorizing additional plants. Authorization must not exceed 15 plants.  
Number of plants allowed by law of 4 plants with just an authorization form or 6 plants if entered in the database. I recommend this patient or their designated provider be allowed to grow in his or her domicile up to \_\_\_\_\_ plants for the patient's personal use.
- Healthcare Practitioner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Second signature only required if recommending additional plants.
- Medical Marijuana Program | www.doh.wa.gov/medicalmarijuana
- DON 630-123 July 2017

# Regulations

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## **Authorizing Practitioners**

- Physicians
- Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners
- Physician Assistants
- Osteopathic Physicians
- Osteopathic Physician Assistants
- Naturopaths



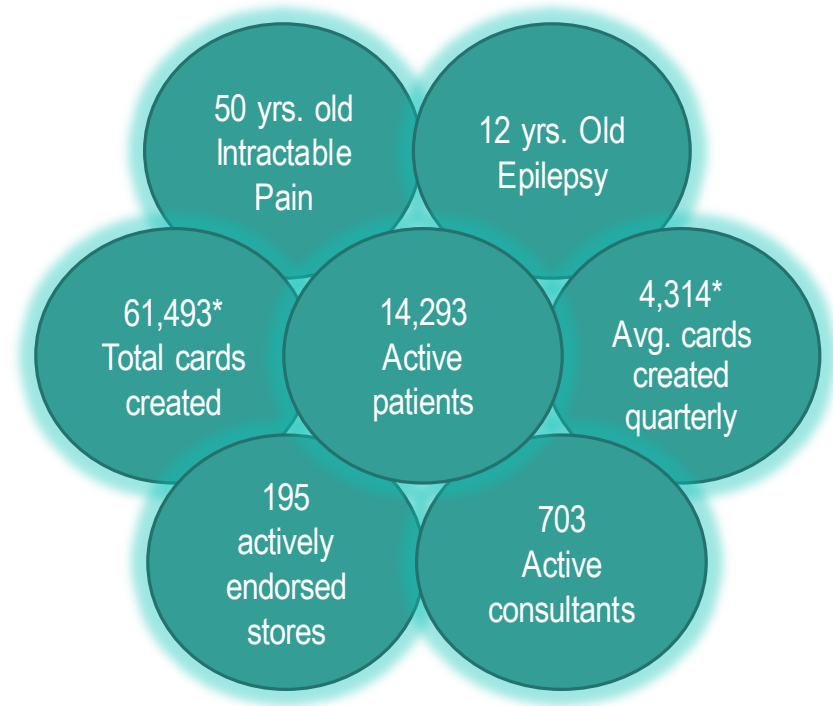
## **Patient Requirements**

- Must be a Washington Resident
- Minors (under 18) and their designated providers require registration
- Voluntary registration for adults (age 18 and older)



# Patient Statistics

- Over 18 – Average age is 50 years old with the most common authorization being intractable pain
- Under 18 – Average age is 12 with the most common authorization being epilepsy
- 14,293 active patients



\*Total cards created are not representative of total ACTIVE cardholding patients. The numbers listed represent initial cards and cards that were replaced, renewed, corrected or revoked.

# What are we working on?

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- Implementing House Bill 1094-  
Compassionate Care Renewals
  - Modify authorization database
  - Modify authorization form
  - Provide training
  - WAC 246-71 – amendments align with new law
- Cannabis Science Task Force –  
implementation is in 2024
- WAC 246-72 – Certified Consultant rules
- WAC 246-70 – Compliant Products rules –  
early 2020



# Department of Health Medical Marijuana Program Contacts

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