



Ohio Department of Commerce Summary of Processor Rule Revisions

Overview

As one of three state government agencies responsible for developing, implementing and overseeing the state's Medical Marijuana Control Program, the Ohio Department of Commerce is tasked with developing rules that will govern the operation of medical marijuana processors in the state of Ohio. The primary focus of the rules is to develop a program that ensures the safety of the public and access to a safe medical product. The draft rules previously presented to the Medical Marijuana Advisory Committee were developed after benchmarking with other states and consulting with industry experts, and have been revised following the initial public comment period, in which 20 comments were received and reviewed by department staff.

Highlights

Revisions include:

- **Number and location of licenses:** As was the case with medical marijuana cultivators, the designated geographic territories have been removed. The number of provisional licenses that may be issued prior to September 9, 2018 remains at 40.
- **Liquid capital:** Requirement reduced from \$500,000 to \$250,000. Further reduced to \$100,000 for processors that are commonly-owned and co-located with an existing cultivator.
- **Financial responsibility:** Bond or escrow amount reduced from \$500,000 to \$250,000.
- **Operations:** Expanded language regarding non-solvent extraction methods and the sourcing of non-marijuana ingredients used in the manufacture of medical marijuana products.
- **Plant material acquisition:** Provision added to allow expired plant material to be acquired from dispensaries and extracted for use in the manufacture of medical marijuana products.
- **Packaging & Labeling:** Language added and modified to ensure processor compliance with packaging and labeling rules promulgated by the Board of Pharmacy.

The full text of the revised rules will be available on the Medical Marijuana Control Program website: medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov/rules.

Next Steps

The medical marijuana processor rules will follow the standard rule development process. Having received input from the Medical Marijuana Advisory Committee and the public, the rules will now be submitted to the Common Sense Initiative, followed by a rules submission to the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.

The public has the opportunity to comment at several points throughout the rule development process. Visit medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov/rules for instructions on how to provide comments. For more information, visit the Medical Marijuana Control Program website: medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov.