



## Ohio Department of Commerce Processor Rules

### 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 presented to the Medical Marijuana Advisory Committee were developed after benchmarking with other states and talking with industry experts. The draft rules include flexibility to allow the program to respond to changes in demand.

### Highlights

Highlights of the rules include:

- **License Quota:** The Department may issue up to 40 processor provisional licenses with no more than 10 in any designated territory before the effective date of the program
- **Certificate of Operation:** A provisional licensee must pass inspection and be prepared to process medical marijuana within six months of the issuance of the provisional license
- **Financial Responsibility:** Processors must demonstrate adequate capital to meet facility plans and operational needs
- **Employee ID Cards:** All entity employees are required to receive a state-issued medical marijuana employee ID card
- **Processor Operations:** Processor applicants shall propose their extraction and processing methods as approved in rule
- **Employee Training and Safety:** Processors must train employees in the safe operation of manufacturing equipment and methods on an annual basis
- **Quality Control and Security Procedures:** Quality assurance and security plans must be submitted at the time of application
- **Laboratory Testing:** Testing by a licensed laboratory is required prior to packaging and distribution
- **Inspections and Enforcement:** The Department has the authority to conduct inspections and bring enforcement actions
- **Licensing Fees:** The processor application fee is \$10,000 and the certificate of operation fee is \$90,000; a processor annual license renewal fee is \$100,000

The full text of the rules will be available on the Medical Marijuana Control Program website: [medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov/rules](http://medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov/rules).



## Next Steps

The medical marijuana processor rules will follow the standard rule development process. After receiving input from the Medical Marijuana Advisory Committee, the rules will be submitted to the Common Sense Initiative, then the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.

The public has the opportunity to comment at several points throughout the rule development process. The first opportunity is Jan. 27-Feb. 10. Visit [medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov/rules](http://medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov/rules) for instructions on how to provide comments.

For more information, visit the Medical Marijuana Control Program website: [medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov](http://medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov).