

**NH Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health Services
Therapeutic Cannabis Program**

Program Information for Designated Caregivers

Program Website: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/tcp>

Applications and Forms: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/tcp-forms>

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Things to Know Before You Apply

Minimum Requirements to Become a Designated Caregiver

- You must be at least 21 years old.
- You must never have been convicted of a felony.
- You must be designated as a caregiver on your patient's application, and that patient must be approved for the Program.
- You must apply for and be issued a valid Registry ID Card by the Program.

Number of Qualifying Patients Allowed

You may be the Designated Caregiver for up to five patients.

An exception to this limit is if both you and any patient over and above five live more than a 50-mile drive from the nearest Alternative Treatment Center (ATC) dispensary, in which case you may be the caregiver for up to nine Patients. For example, if you want to have a sixth patient, both you and at least one of the six patients must live more than a 50-mile drive from the nearest ATC.

Compensation

You may receive compensation from your patient for actual costs, such as gas, tolls, and the costs of any cannabis products purchased, but not for any time or labor associated with assisting your patient with their therapeutic use of cannabis.

Confidentiality

The Program will maintain the confidentiality of all personal information about applicants, patients, caregivers, and certifying medical providers submitted to the Program. Local and state law enforcement officers, however, are allowed to receive limited information from the Program if a person has been arrested or detained, or when there is probable cause to believe cannabis is possessed either at a specific address or by a specific individual.

Things to Know After You Get Your Registry ID Card

Renewals/Extensions

- A caregiver's Registry ID Card is effective for up to 3 years, and the expiration date will be based on the duration of your patient's Registry ID Card.
- Use the same Caregiver Application to renew your card.
- Please submit your renewal application at least 30 days prior to your card's expiration to prevent a lapse in your registration.
- Your patient must re-designate you as their caregiver on their renewal application.
- If your patient's card is extended by using the "Written Certification Extension" form, your card will be automatically extended to match the duration of your patient's card.
- The maximum duration of a caregiver's Registry ID Card is 3 years, regardless of how many patients the caregiver has.

Changes of Information

You are required to notify the Program in writing of changes to the following:

- **Name or Address.** You must report a change to your name or address within 10 days of the change. Use the “Change of Information/Lost Card” form to provide the new information. There is no fee associated with this change. A new Registry ID Card will be mailed to you within 20 days.
- **Qualifying Patient.** Use the “Caregiver Designation/Removal” form to end your designation as your patient’s caregiver.

Notification of Felony Conviction

You must notify the Program immediately upon being convicted of a felony in this or any other state.

Lost Registry Identification Card

If you lose your Registry ID Card, whether due to loss, theft, or destruction, you must notify the Program in writing within 10 days of discovering the loss. Submit the “Change of Information/Lost Card” form along with a check or money order made payable to “Treasurer, State of New Hampshire” in the amount of \$10. Within 5 days of receiving the form and the fee, the Program will re-issue a replacement card. You will not be able to purchase cannabis at an ATC without a valid Registry ID Card.

Death of a Qualifying Patient

You must notify the Program within 5 days of the death of a patient, and you must dispose of any remaining cannabis in your possession.

Loss of All Qualifying Patients

Your Registry ID Card will become void after all the patients for whom you were acting as caregiver have either lost their status as qualifying patients or ended their designation of you as their caregiver. You must dispose of any remaining cannabis in your possession.

Disposal of Cannabis

If you are no longer a caregiver (due to your Registry ID Card expiring, or it being voided or revoked), you must dispose of any cannabis in your possession within 10 days, as follows:

- You may transfer the cannabis to your patient (if you still have one), or to your patient’s new caregiver (if the patient has one); OR
- You may return it to the ATC where it was purchased; OR
- You may notify local law enforcement and request their assistance with disposing of the cannabis; OR
- You may render it unusable by mixing it with other ingredients, like soil, and then dispose of it.

Registry Identification Card Required

You must have your Registry ID Card with you at all times when possessing cannabis, especially outside your home. If you are found to be in possession of cannabis outside of your home and you do not have your Registry ID Card with you, you could be fined up to \$100 by law enforcement, and you may be subject to arrest and seizure of your cannabis.

Permitted Quantities of Cannabis

- You are permitted to *purchase*, from any ATC, 2 ounces of cannabis per patient during any 10-day period.
- You are not permitted to *possess* more than 2 ounces of cannabis per patient at any one time.
- You and your patient(s), combined, cannot possess more than 2 ounces of cannabis (per patient) at any one time.
- If you purchase cannabis from more than one ATC, it is your responsibility to track all your purchases and not go over the 10-day limit (per patient).

Cultivation of Cannabis Prohibited

You, and your patient, are prohibited from cultivating cannabis in any location.

Designated Caregiver List of Qualifying Patients

The Program will provide you with a current list of patients for whom you serve as caregiver. The Program strongly advises that you carry this document with you when transporting or possessing cannabis. The information contained in the document is confidential; however, it may be shared with law enforcement officers in order to verify the number of patients you have, and the total amount of cannabis you are allowed to possess.

Transportation

When transporting cannabis, the Program strongly advises you to:

- Keep cannabis in a locked container or in the trunk or cargo portion of your vehicle;
- Keep cannabis in its original labeled packaging from the ATC;
- Have your Registry ID Card with you; and
- Have your current list of patient(s), which was provided to you by the Program.

Diversification of Cannabis

Diversification of cannabis to anyone who is not allowed to possess cannabis pursuant to RSA 126-X is prohibited, and shall result in the revocation of your Registry ID Card. The sale of cannabis to anyone who is not a qualifying patient or a designated caregiver is punishable as a class B felony with a sentence of a maximum term of imprisonment of not more than 7 years, and a fine of not more than \$300,000, or both, in addition to other penalties for the illegal sale of cannabis.

Revocation

Your Registry ID Card may be revoked by the Program for any violation of law or rule. If the Program revokes your card, you have the right to appeal the action to the Department's Administrative Appeals Unit. A future application for a Registry ID Card may be denied if you have a prior revocation. Depending on the nature of the violation which caused your Registry ID Card to be revoked, you may be subject to other penalties established in law, including criminal penalties.