

NH THERAPEUTIC CANNABIS PROGRAM

Cannabis Registry Verification for Local and State Law Enforcement Personnel

NH State Law¹ allows local and state law enforcement personnel to request and receive verification of an individual's status as a Qualifying Patient or a Designated Caregiver registered with the NH Therapeutic Cannabis Program, or as an Alternative Treatment Center Agent.

Local and state law enforcement personnel may request verification of an individual's status as a Qualifying Patient, Designated Caregiver, or Alternative Treatment Center Agent under the following circumstances:

- The individual is currently under arrest or being detained by local or state law enforcement personnel, or had been arrested or detained and was subsequently released.

AND

- The individual claims to be engaged in the therapeutic use of cannabis. For example:
 - The individual produces a NH Cannabis Registry ID Card, OR cannot produce the Registry ID Card but claims to be a registered Qualifying Patient or Designated Caregiver
 - The individual produces an Alternative Treatment Center Agent badge, OR cannot produce an agent badge but claims to be an Alternative Treatment Center Agent

STEPS TO BE TAKEN BY LOCAL AND STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL

If a law enforcement officer has detained or arrested an individual who claims to be a Qualifying Patient or Designated Caregiver, and either the individual has not produced their Registry ID Card or the officer wants to verify the validity of the Registry ID Card produced, the officer may:

- Call the Therapeutic Cannabis Program main number: **(603) 271-9333**
- This phone number is staffed from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm on regular business days
- Officers may leave a message outside regular business hours, and all messages will be returned by the next business day

The law enforcement officer will be asked to provide the following information:

- The name of the detaining/arresting officer;
- The police department of the detaining/arresting officer;
- Verification that the individual in question has been detained or arrested;
- The full name and date of birth of the detained/arrested individual;
- Whether the individual claims to be a Qualifying Patient, Designated Caregiver, or Alternative Treatment Center Agent; and
- Whether the individual produced their Registry ID Card, and if so, the ID number on the card, or produced their Alternative Treatment Center Agent Badge, and if so, the ID number on the badge.

¹ [RSA 126-X:4, XI\(b\)\(1\)](#)

XI. (b)(1) Except as specifically provided in this chapter, no person shall have access to any information about qualifying patients or designated caregivers in the department's confidential registry, or any information otherwise maintained by the department about providers and alternative treatment centers, except for authorized employees of the department in the course of their official duties and local and state law enforcement personnel who have detained or arrested an individual who claims to be engaged in the therapeutic use of cannabis.

STEPS TO BE TAKEN BY DHHS

Upon receiving a call, the TCP employee handling the call will:

- Collect the information listed above from the officer and log the information received;
- Search the Therapeutic Cannabis Program Registry Database or Alternative Treatment Center Agent Log; and
- Inform the officer whether or not the detained/arrested individual was found in the Registry Database as an active Qualifying Patient or Designated Caregiver, or in the Agent Log as an active Alternative Treatment Center Agent.

OTHER INFORMATION

Registry ID Card Samples

An information sheet which shows a sample of the NH Cannabis Registry ID Card, including a description of security features, is available to law enforcement officers and departments upon request.

Please call (603) 271-9333 or email tcp@dhhs.nh.gov.

Sworn Affidavit Process

NH State Law² also allows local and state law enforcement officers to request and receive the following information:

1. Confirmation that a location is associated with a Qualifying Patient or Designated Caregiver who is registered with the NH Therapeutic Cannabis Program or is an Alternative Treatment Center cultivation location.
2. Confirmation that an individual is a Qualifying Patient or a Designated Caregiver registered with the NH Therapeutic Cannabis Program (without having detained or arrested the individual).

The Department will release the above information upon receipt of a sworn affidavit that affirms that the local or state law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe that either:

1. Cannabis is possessed at a specific address (must provide specific address); or
2. A specific individual possesses cannabis (must provide the individual's name and address or name and date of birth).

Send affidavit to:

NH Department of Health and Human Services
Therapeutic Cannabis Program
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

² [RSA 126-X:4, XI\(b\)\(2\)-\(3\)](#)

XI. (b)(2) If a local or state law enforcement officer submits a sworn affidavit to the department affirming that he or she has probable cause to believe cannabis is possessed at a specific address, an authorized employee for the department may disclose whether the location is associated with a qualifying patient, designated caregiver, or cultivation location of an alternative treatment center.

(3) If a local or state law enforcement officer submits a sworn affidavit to the department affirming that he or she has probable cause to believe a specific individual possesses cannabis, an authorized employee for the department may disclose whether the person is a qualifying patient or a designated caregiver, provided that the law enforcement officer provides the person's name and address or name and date of birth.