

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

Program Information for Minor Patients

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

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

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The information on this sheet is additional information related to qualifying patients who are minors. General information contained on other information sheets also applies.

Minimum Requirements to Become a Qualifying Patient

Minors (under age 18) are permitted by state law to engage in the therapeutic use of cannabis, and medical providers are permitted to issue Written Certifications to minors, under the following conditions:

- The Program must receive two Written Certifications for the minor patient, from two different medical providers. One of the Written Certifications must be issued by a pediatrician.
- The minor's custodial parent or legal guardian who is responsible for the healthcare decisions of the minor must be approved as the minor's designated caregiver.
- A minor may have two designated caregivers, both of whom must be the custodial parent or legal guardian of the minor patient.

Application Requirements

The minor's custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the "Minor Patient Application" on the minor's behalf.

If parents share legal custody (joint decision-making responsibility) of a minor patient, the parent submitting the application shall provide the other parent with copies of the completed application and the completed Written Certifications prior to submitting the application materials to the Program.

In cases where a minor's legal guardian is not a custodial parent, the legal guardian must submit proof of legal guardianship with the minor's application. Submit a copy of the entire order that shows the powers granted to the guardian, which must include powers related to healthcare decisions.

Medical Provider Information

Both medical providers completing the required Written Certifications (one of whom must be a pediatrician) must have a provider-patient relationship with the minor.

The certifying medical provider must explain to the minor's custodial parent or legal guardian the potential health effects of the therapeutic use of cannabis, including the potential risks and benefits of the therapeutic use of cannabis, and the specific risks of cannabis use during adolescence.

Responsibilities of the Designated Caregiver (parent or legal guardian)

The designated caregiver must control the possession of the cannabis and the frequency of the use of cannabis by the minor.

An Alternative Treatment Center (ATC) dispensary shall not dispense cannabis to a minor patient. Instead, cannabis intended for a minor patient shall only be dispensed to the minor's designated caregiver.