

Where can I learn more?

Visit the NYSDOH website for more information on the Medical Marijuana Program in New York State.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Medical Marijuana Program at the NYSDOH:

Medical Marijuana Program
1-866-811-7957, Option 1

Email:
mmp@health.ny.gov

Website:
www.health.ny.gov/regulations/medical_marijuana/



Department
of Health

The New York State Medical Marijuana Program :

Physician Information



The Medical Marijuana Program in New York State ensures that medical marijuana is available for certified patients with serious conditions.

The program also ensures that approved medical marijuana products are manufactured and dispensed in a manner that protects public health and safety.

Do you have patients who may benefit from medical marijuana?

This brochure provides information on how health care providers qualify for the program, how to register with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and how to certify your patients.

Which health care providers are qualified to participate?

Health care providers interested in participating in the Medical Marijuana Program must meet the following criteria:

- Be a physician licensed by, and in good standing with, New York State.
- Be qualified by training or expertise to treat patients with one or more of the following severe, debilitating diseases: cancer, HIV/AIDS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury with spasticity, epilepsy, inflammatory bowel disease, neuropathy and Huntington's disease.

Is participation required?

No, participation in the Medical Marijuana Program is voluntary. However, in order to certify patients for the medical use of marijuana, practitioners must first follow the steps as outlined in the next section.

What steps do I need to take before I can certify patients?

If you meet the qualifications and are interested in participating, you must take these steps:

1. Complete the four-hour NYSDOH-approved online course –

The course is provided by TheAnswerPage, an established online medical education site.

- The following topics are covered in the course: the pharmacology of marijuana, contraindications, side effects, adverse reactions, risks and benefits, warnings and precautions, and abuse and dependence.
- The cost to take the course is \$249.
- Successful completion of the course will provide 4.5 hours of CME credits. The course is available at the following link: <http://www.theanswerpage.com/new-york-state-practitioner-education-medical-use-marijuana>

2. Register with the NYSDOH Medical Marijuana Program –

- Email the course completion certificate (in PDF format) to NYSDOH at mmp@health.ny.gov, along with your state license number and Health Commerce System (HCS) User ID.
- NYSDOH will verify this information and send you an email confirmation and instructions on how to register.

Once registered, how do I certify patients?

Once you are registered, you can begin certifying patients. For each patient you certify, you must first:

- **Be qualified to treat the patient's serious condition;**
 - Determine whether the patient meets the requirements for certification (see www.health.ny.gov/regulations/medical_marijuana/practitioner/);
 - Have the patient under your continued care for their serious condition(s);
 - Upon review of past treatments, determine that the patient is likely to receive therapeutic or palliative benefit from medical marijuana; and
 - Consult the Prescription Monitoring Program Registry.
- **Access the Medical Marijuana Data Management System** electronically on the NYSDOH Health Commerce System (HCS) to certify patients. You will need to enter the following information:
 - Patient's demographic information;
 - At least one of the eligible severe debilitating or life-threatening condition(s), **AND** an accompanying condition or symptom; and
 - Dosing recommendations for the patient.
- **Print out the certification, sign it and provide it to the patient.** A copy of the certification must be placed in the patient's medical record.