What You Need to Know About the Maryland Medical Marijuana Law

General Information for Providers

In order to be able to issue written certifications for medical cannabis to patients for treatment of a qualifying medical condition, you must register as a “Certifying Provider” with the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission.
Qualifying medical conditions include cachexia, anorexia, wasting syndrome, severe pain, severe nausea, seizures, severe or persistent muscle spasms, glaucoma, post-traumatic stress disorder and chronic pain.
The requirements for issuing a written certification for medical cannabis are:

• A “bona fide physician-patient relationship” with the patient
• The patient’s condition must be severe
• Other medical treatments must have proven ineffective for the patient’s condition, and
• The symptoms must reasonably be expected to be relieved by the use of medical cannabis.

Maryland law defines a “bona fide physician-patient relationship” as a treatment or counseling relationship between a Provider and patient in which the physician reviews the patient’s relevant medical records, completes an in person assessment of the patient’s medical history and current medical condition, creates and maintains medically standardized records, expects to monitor patient program and takes any medically indicated action to follow up.
Once issued, a Provider may amend or revoke a patient’s written certification on any medical grounds or if the patient no longer meets the Provider’s inclusion criteria, or the patient now meets the Provider’s exclusion criteria. Examples of exclusion criteria include suspicion on the part of the physician that the patient is abusing cannabis or diverting cannabis to others.
More information is available on the Provider’s Frequently Asked Questions page.

Who is Eligible to Register as a Provider?

Any Provider with an active, unrestricted license in good standing with the Maryland State Board of Physicians, and actively registered to prescribe controlled substances in Maryland, is eligible to register with the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission.