



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION
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Warwick, RI 02886

Office of Cannabis Regulation

Plant Tag Certificate Frequently Asked Questions (“FAQ”)

Version Issued April 2022

This FAQ is issued by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation (“DBR”), Office of Cannabis Regulation (“OCR”) to provide guidance regarding the purchasing and using of medical marijuana Plant Tag Certificates. This FAQ is issued in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws § 21-28.6-12 et seq. and the Rules and Regulations Related to the Medical Marijuana Program Administered by the Department of Business Regulation 230-RICR-80-5-1, as amended (the “Regulations”).

This document should not replace a thorough reading of the rules found here:

<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/230-80-05-1>.

How do Plant Tags work?

Plant Tags are no longer actual physical Tags as they were in the past. We have moved to a Certificate system that shows how many plants you are able to grow as well as the Grow Address and Patient information.

Plant Tags are still sold in “Sets” of two (2); one (1) Plant Tag for an immature (seedling) plant and one (1) Plant Tag for a mature (budding) plant. After ordering your Plant Tags on the website you will be able to print your Certificate and display or keep it in your grow space in case you need to prove the legality of your grow.

If your Plant Tag Certificate is damaged and you need to reprint you can do so by logging back into the Viewpoint website (described below). If you need to update your name or address, please give the Office of Cannabis Regulation a call at 889-5607 and select “Plant Tags” from the phone tree or email dbr.mmpcomplince@dbr.ri.gov.

If you do not have a printer please call or email the Office to request that we print it and mail it to you. Please make note of your full name and Patient/Caregiver (MMP or MMC) number when requesting we print your certificate.

How do I get a Plant Tag Certificate?

To purchase Plant Tag Certificates please visit <https://rhodeisland.viewpointcloud.com/> and look for the “Office of Cannabis Regulation” selection under “Online Services”.

You will be prompted to log in; if this is your first time ordering a Plant Tag Certificate, or you have not ordered on the new website please create a new account. You can get guidance on creating an account and how to place an order by using our [User Guide](#).

If you have limited computer access or are unable to create an account you can call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation (401-889-5607) and select “Plant Tags” from the Phone Tree or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov for order assistance.

Do I need a Plant Tag Certificate?

If you are planning on growing Medical Marijuana plants, you must register your grow location by purchasing a Plant Tag Certificate. Any grow location that does not have a Plant Tag Certificate associated with it is considered non-compliant and may result in criminal and civil penalties including, but not limited to, forfeiture of untagged plants, loss of eligibility to obtain A Plant Tag Certificate, and/or administrative fines.

When should I get plant a Plant Tag Certificate?

A Plant Tag Certificate should be purchased only once you are sure you are going to grow medicine for yourself, and you have prepared for this plan. You cannot compliantly have plants prior to obtaining a Plant Tag Certificate.

If you are unsure when you should order your Plant Tags call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation (401-889-5607) and select “Plant Tags” from the Phone Tree or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov for order assistance.

How much does A Plant Tag Certificate cost?

Plant Tag Certificates are \$25 per Tag Set and valid for one (1) year from date of purchase. You may purchase up to twelve (12) Tag Sets per year as a Patient. Reduced Registration Patients who have been qualified as such by the Dept. of Health will have the \$25/Tag Set cost waived.

How many plants can I have?

A Patient can purchase up to twelve (12) Sets of Tags per year. They do not all have to be purchased at the same time, but you cannot exceed twelve (12) Sets in a given timeframe.

A person that is a Caregiver and a Patient can order up to twelve (12) Tag Sets for themselves and an additional twelve (12) Tag Sets for the Caregiver’s Patient(s).

If you are not growing for yourself but are a Caregiver for multiple Patients, you can order up to twenty-four (24) Tag Sets spread out among your patients.

I want to Grow for myself, can I also have a Caregiver?

Anyone growing for themselves cannot concurrently appoint a Caregiver to grow for them. If you need someone to go to a Compassion Center on your behalf, you may want to appoint an Authorized Purchaser to do so. Please contact, RIDOH to learn more about this process.

If, after growing for yourself you decide that you would like to appoint a Caregiver to grow for you, you must cease your own grow and contact RIDOH in order to go through the process of appointing a Caregiver.

I’m on Disability or Medicaid, is my Plant Tag Certificate free?

If you are considered a Reduced Registration Patient (*i.e.*, individuals with a disability status or otherwise qualified pursuant to § 1.12(F)(2) of the Regulations), there is no cost for the Plant Tags. You MUST have provided an award letter and any supplemental documentation to the Department of Health, and you MUST be in their system as a Reduced Registration patient at the time you order your Plant Tag Certificate for the Administrative cost to be waived.

If you are a Reduced Registration Caregiver, the waived fee for Plant Tag Certificates is determined by the Patient's status. If your Patient is not a Reduced Registration Patient, you will be charged full cost for the Plant Tag Certificate. You should discuss with your Patient who will cover the cost of the Plant Tags.

Where do I get plants?

Compassion Centers are only permitted to sell designated medical marijuana products. Immature plants and mature plants do not fall under this definition. Patient advocacy groups, such as RIPAC (RI Patient Advocacy Coalition) can be a great resource for those new to the program.

For more information on RIPAC call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation (401-889-5607) and select "Plant Tags" from the Phone Tree or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov

How do I renew my Plant Tag Certificate?

1-2 business days prior to your Tags expiring please log into the Tags website and place an order for your renewal tags. After the review you will be prompted via email to either pay and complete your order or, if a reduced registration patient, you will be notified your certificate is ready. Your new tags will become effective as soon as you pay for them. If you have not placed an order on the [new website](#), you will have to create a new account as it is wholly separate from the old website and your old password will not be recognized.

I'm moving my grow location. How do I update my Plant Tag Certificate?

To update your grow location please call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation (401-889-5607) and select "Plant Tags" from the Phone Tree or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov. [We will update your certificate with the new information and you will be able to see your new Certificate in your account.](#)

Requirements for Grow spaces.

Pursuant to § 1.12(D)(7)(a)-(e) of the Regulations, grow spaces must be "secure indoor structures" within 4 secure walls under a solid roof equipped with locks and appropriate security devices.

Outdoor grows, including greenhouses, are prohibited in Rhode Island.

Marijuana or growing equipment must not be visible to the public and any windows in the grow spaces must be covered.

It is required that you take efforts to minimize the smell. If there is an odor complaint, we will notify you and require you to obtain odor mitigation systems; administrative penalties such as fines or Plant Tag Certificate revocation may result from failure to abide by these minimum requirements.

If you must make upgrades to your electrical system or other building upgrades, you must obtain all required building permits as required by your city or town and or the state code. This may include checking with the local or state fire marshal.

For more information on grow location requirements call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation (401-889-5607) and select "Plant Tags" from the Phone Tree or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov

Can I grow with someone else?

Pursuant to § 1.12(E)(5) of the Regulations, all Tagholders must grow at a separate address from each other, with the exception of two household members (Ex. spouses or roommates) who may grow together if the grow location is their primary residence.

If you rent a commercial space, you must grow individually.

A household with more than one Patient/Caregiver may not exceed the maximum number of 24 Sets of Tags total (48 total plants).

Should I grow my own medicine?

We cannot advise you directly if growing your own medicine is best for you. We encourage you to research the process and find out if it's something you feel is in your best interest. Growing Medical Marijuana can be difficult for some. It takes a specific set up and can be complicated. On the other hand, it can be an ideal way to obtain a specific strain that you find works best for you and for some may be more affordable. It is recommended to talk to others in the community about their experiences to determine the best course of action.

I don't have a debit/credit card, how can I pay for my Plant Tag Certificate?

To pay by Check or money order please contact Elizabeth Beaven at Elizabeth.beaven@dbr.ri.gov or call 889-5591 for order assistance.

You can also call the General Line 889-5607 and Select "Plant Tags" on the Phone Tree or email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov for assistance. Please be aware we cannot accept cash under any circumstances.

Due to COVID we are often working from home; please give us a few days to return calls

To access OCR's Regulations, please visit rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/230-80-05-1