



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION  
1511 Pontiac Avenue, Bldg. 68-1  
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920

# Medical Marijuana Program Bulletin Number 2019-1

## Compassion Center Home Delivery Proposals

This Bulletin is issued by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation (“DBR”), Medical Marijuana Program (“Program”) to provide guidance regarding licensed compassion center home delivery of medical marijuana in accordance with The Edward O. Hawkins and Thomas C. Slater Medical Marijuana Act, Rhode Island General Laws § 21-28.6-1 *et seq.* (the “Act”), and the Rules and Regulations Related to the Medical Marijuana Program Administered by the Department of Business Regulation 230-RICR-80-5-1 (the “Regulations”).

Effective May 1, 2019, the Department of Business Regulation will begin accepting proposed home delivery plans. Home delivery of medical marijuana shall be deemed “permitted sales” and “permitted compassion center activity” under § 1.4(J) of the Regulations provided medical marijuana is sold and delivered in compliance with the Act and the Regulations including the following:

- The compassion center’s proposed home delivery plan has been approved by the Department of Business Regulation.
- Medical marijuana shall only be delivered to a valid qualifying patient cardholder who has been issued a valid patient card by the Rhode Island Department of Health.
- The Rhode Island patient cardholder must register in advance with the compassion center’s delivery program through a process clearly identified in the proposed delivery plan which has been approved by the Department of Business Regulation.
- Medical marijuana deliveries shall only be made to the Rhode Island patient cardholder’s home address or to the hospice, treatment, or other medical care facility where the patient cardholder is admitted, provided the facility permits the patients possession and/or use of medical marijuana on the premises.
- Medical marijuana deliveries shall only be made to or accepted by the Rhode Island patient cardholder registered with the compassion center’s delivery program. This must be verified and documented by the compassion center through a process clearly identified in the proposed delivery plan which has been approved by the Department of Business Regulation.
- Until otherwise notified by the Department, home delivery of medical marijuana shall be limited to Rhode Island patient cardholders who:

- (a) do not have a caregiver or authorized purchaser registered with the compassion center to make purchases on their behalf, or;
  - (b) are eligible for hospice care, or who are currently undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatment, or;
  - (c) patients who are homebound and unable to travel or have a valid handicap parking license or permit; and
  - (d) patients who qualify for home delivery under (b) or (c) above must submit a letter to the compassion center to that effect signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in Rhode Island when registering for home delivery.
- Compassion centers may only conduct home delivery between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
  - All home deliveries must be paid for in advance. Compassion centers may not collect cash or any other payment at the time of delivery.
  - All orders, payments, and deliveries must be tracked in the compassion center's seed to sale system and within the limits of the Act. The Department of Business Regulation must have real time, and if requested, remote access to these systems and any other logs or systems tracking home deliveries which are approved by the Department.
  - A home delivery vehicle, or personnel operating in accordance with this guidance and § 1.4(J) may not possess more than \$7,500 worth of medical marijuana products at a time.
  - A home delivery vehicle, or personnel operating in accordance with this guidance and § 1.4(J) may satisfy the requirement of having two personnel accompany the delivery vehicle by having one personnel following in a trail vehicle or by incorporating an approved surveillance system into the vehicle which films and documents delivery activity of one delivery personnel to the Department's satisfaction.
  - Compassion centers must make delivery to eligible Rhode Island patient cardholders statewide and may not refuse delivery to a patient based on the location of their home unless it is for a reason approved by the Department of Business Regulation.
  - Compassion centers must make delivery available to each of their eligible Rhode Island patients at least once every fifteen (15) days.
  - Delivery personnel may not accept tips or compensation of any kind from the Rhode Island patient to whom they are delivering or otherwise in connection with delivery.
  - Compassion centers may not charge a delivery fee in excess of \$20.00 per delivery and must implement a discounted or free delivery policy for patients who qualify under subsections (b) or (c) above.
  - Products available for delivery must follow the same pricing structure as products sold through the compassion center's retail location.

- If a patient requires a medical marijuana product that is available at the compassion center's retail location, but is not offered for delivery, the compassion center must make that product available for delivery to that patient upon their request, provided the requested product is in stock.

Any questions concerning this bulletin or home delivery requirements under the Regulations should be directed to [dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov](mailto:dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov).



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