

# Marijuana Establishment Information for Initial Access Certification

## What is Initial Access Certification (Initial Access)?

Commencing July 1, 2019, qualifying patients and personal caregivers may obtain Initial Access, a temporary patient registration, from a certifying clinician\* to access a Medical Marijuana Treatment Center (MTC), commonly referred to as a Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD) and obtain medical-use cannabis and cannabis-infused products prior to being issued an annual registration card from the Cannabis Control Commission (Commission).

(\*Clinicians include physicians, certified nurse practitioners, and physician assistants that are registered in the medical program.)

## How do I process sales under Initial Access?

Please review the document [Initial Access Certification Instructions for MTC Agents](#) for detailed instructions.

The patient must present their Initial Access documentation (which will note “**TEMPORARY PATIENT REGISTRATION**”) and government-issued identification verifying their information to access MTCs and obtain medical-use cannabis and cannabis-infused products. A caregiver will be able to do the same on behalf of a patient with a valid Initial Access document. A caregiver must present the patient’s Initial Access documentation, the completed and signed temporary caregiver authorization form, and a government-issued identification document verifying the caregiver’s information to do so.

MTCs are obligated to ensure that patients and caregivers present proper documentation before accessing the MTCs and purchasing cannabis or cannabis-infused products. When a patient or caregiver presents their certification at the MTC, the MTC must verify that the Initial Access is valid and record specific information about the transaction.

MTCs should note that patients with a Initial Access may be dispensed only a 14-day supply of medical-use cannabis. The Commission has determined that a 14-day supply is 2.5 ounces of cannabis, however, a clinician may determine and certify that the qualifying patient requires another amount as a 14-day supply. It is the obligation of the MTC to track and dispense only the amount prescribed by the clinician.

**MTCs must verify that a patient has not been dispensed more than a 14-day supply of marijuana during the 14-day period.**

## Questions?

If you have questions, please contact [MedicalMarijuana@State.MA.US](mailto:MedicalMarijuana@State.MA.US) or (833) 869-6820.

