What is Initial Access Certification (Initial Access)?
Under the new Initial Access process, patients and caregivers can access MTCs and obtain medical-use cannabis and cannabis-infused products, for 14 days from the issuance of the patient’s certification, before the patient is issued their annual patient registration card by the Commission. The patient may authorize an individual over the age of 21 as their temporary caregiver during the interim period in which they have a valid Initial Access certification. The patient must fill out the temporary caregiver authorization form with the individual’s information and sign the form to authorize a temporary caregiver.

With an Initial Access Certification, patients or their temporary caregivers 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 patient may be certified by their medical provider that they require another amount as a 14-day supply.

Process for recording a transaction for a patient with Initial Access:
An MTC agent may locate the patient’s record in the Medical-Use of Marijuana Program Online System (Online System) using the “Dispense Marijuana for Medical Use” link in the top menu after the patient presents their Initial Access documentation. The agent will be presented the “Patient Information” screen after locating the patient’s record if the patient has a valid certification.
Next, the agent should click the “Dispense” link to access the “Dispense Marijuana for Medical Use” screen. The agent may complete the transaction as normal as the last step.

Process for recording a transaction for a temporary caregiver:
An agent may locate the patient record in the Online System using the “Dispense Marijuana for Medical Use” link in the top menu when a temporary caregiver presents documentation of Initial Access and a signed temporary caregiver authorization form. The agent will be presented with the “Patient Information” screen after locating the patient’s record if the patient has valid certification.
Next, the agent should click the “Dispense” link to access the “Dispense Marijuana for Medical Use” screen. The agent must mark the “Temporary Caregiver Purchase” checkbox and record all required information (noted with a red asterisk) from a government-issued identification to dispense to a temporary caregiver. This information must match the information on the Initial Access documentation. The agent should complete the transaction in the usual manner as the last step.