
Medical Marijuana Program Implementation Status Update

Background/Program Implementation:

In April 2017, the Governor signed the legislative bill for the establishment of the Medical Marijuana Program. The North Dakota Department of Health became responsible for developing administrative rules for the implementation and administration of North Dakota Century Code, Chapter 19-24.1.

A Medical Marijuana Division Director was named in February 2017 to help jumpstart the program and be a point of contact for all questions related to NDCC, Chapter 19-24.1 and implementation of the Medical Marijuana Program. In June 2017, two additional full-time employees were hired: the Program Administrator and the Administrative Assistant. With three full-time employees in place, the Division of Medical Marijuana focused their efforts on creating administrative rules for the program.

After researching other states, reviewing guidance in the 2013 Cole Memo, and attempting to establish a program that would protect the public's health and safety as well as the safety of qualifying patients, the proposed administrative rules were drafted and filed with Legislative Council on November 3, 2017. Once filed with the Legislative Council, the open written comment period for the public also began. In addition, six hearings to receive oral comments from the public were scheduled.

Public Hearing Schedule:

The Division will provide an overview of administrative rule information at the beginning of each public hearing.

Date	Time	City	Location/Address
December 11, 2017	9:00 a.m.	Belcourt	Turtle Mountain Community College 10145 BIA Road 7
December 11, 2017	2:00 p.m.	Williston	Williston Area Recreation Center 822 18 th Street East
December 13, 2017	9:00 a.m.	Minot	First District Health Unit (Door B) 801 11 th Avenue Southwest
December 13, 2017	2:00 p.m.	Bismarck	Fort Totten Room, State Capitol

			600 East Boulevard Ave
December 14, 2017	9:00 a.m.	Fargo	Fargo Cass Public Health 1240 25 th Street South
December 14, 2017	2:00 p.m.	Grand Forks	Grand Forks County Building Memorial Conference Rooms, 6 th Floor 151 South 4 th Street

State law has specific guidelines for the administrative rules process, including how public hearings are to be planned and conducted. To read the full law pertaining to the administrative rules process (NDCC Chapter 28-32) click [here](#).

Public Hearing Details:

- Attendees will be asked to sign in.
- Attendees will be asked to refrain from cheering, booing, applauding and talking in the audience in order to ensure that all comments are heard and recorded properly.
- Comments submitted should be related to the proposed administrative rules.
- Attendees submitting oral comments will be asked to state their name, address and the organization they represent, if applicable.
- Attendees providing oral comments are asked to speak clearly into the microphone.
- All comments will be audio recorded and subsequently transcribed by Division staff.
- Division staff will review, consider and form a response to each oral comment received at the public hearings.
- Oral comments do not need to be repeated if they have already been submitted as a written comment. Both oral and written comments will be equally considered.
- Division staff will not be answering questions or commenting on oral comments during the public hearings.
- Depending on the number of attendees at the public hearing wishing to submit an oral comment, there may be a specific time limit to allow for all those in attendance to have the opportunity to submit their comment(s). Once everyone has had an opportunity to provide comments, additional time will be provided to those attendees who were not able to complete submission of their comments.

Written Comments:

- Can be submitted now through December 26.
- Written comments can be submitted without attending a public hearing.
- To submit an electronic written comment, email the Division at medmarijuana@nd.gov. Please include “Written Comment to Proposed Rules” in the subject line.

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 301, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0200
Phone: 701.328.1311 | E-mail: medmarijuana@nd.gov

Visit the Division of Medical Marijuana website at www.ndhealth.gov/MM/

- To submit a mailed written comment, use the following address:

North Dakota Department of Health
Division of Medical Marijuana
600 East Blvd Ave, Dept 301
Bismarck, ND 58505-0200

- Division staff will review, consider and form a response to each written comment received.

The Division of Medical Marijuana encourages members of the public to partake in the open comment period for the Medical Marijuana Program proposed administrative rules. A written record of all comments and the Division's response will be provided to the Office of Attorney General and the legislative Administrative Rules Committee.

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