

Patient Application FAQs

1. Before I start an application, what should I do?

A potential applicant should:

1. Review the application instructions
2. Have a valid email address. If you do not have an email address, you will need to create one.
3. Use this link to create an account: <https://mmregistration.health.nd.gov/>
 - a. Create an account by entering your email address and a password. The password must contain at least 8 characters with at least 1 character being capitalized, 1 character being lower case, and 1 character being a number.
 - b. Once the account has been created, the system will send a confirmation email to your email address. You must click on the link in that email to validate (activate) your account. You won't be able to login to the registration system until your account is activated.

2. I created an account and never received a verification/validation email.

What should I do?

The verification email is system-generated and may end up in your spam/junk folder. Be sure to check that folder in your email account. If, after checking your spam/junk folder, you are unable to find the email, you can email medmarijuana@nd.gov or call 701.328.1311 for additional help.

3. How do I complete an application?

Log into the registration system. Under the 'applications' tab, choose the appropriate application to complete. If you have not completed the entire application, you can save what has been entered and come back to it later to finish.

An application will not be reviewed until the application is complete and the application payment has been made (if applicable).

4. I am unable to access the online application or need help in completing the application. What can I do?

If you are unable to do the application on your own, you are encouraged to ask a trusted friend, family member, or neighbor for help. Because the application is online, the individual helping you could even be in another city or state.

5. I submitted my application and realized that something needs to be changed. How can I make a change to a submitted application?

Once an application has been submitted, you will need to contact the Medical Marijuana Program by email at medmarijuana@nd.gov or phone at 701.328.1311. Depending on what needs to be changed, staff can either make that change for you or move your application back to a status where you can access it and make the change yourself.

- 6. Can I submit an application without my health care provider's name or email address?** No. You must enter your health care provider's name and email address. Your application will not be complete without it.

Exceptions to this include the alternative veteran application process, the alternative process for patients enrolled in a hospice program and nonresident applications.

- 7. I am a veteran and receive my health care through a federal VA facility. What do I do?** On the patient application, you will be asked to answer two questions about veteran status. Based on your answers, you may qualify for an alternative written certification process. Once your application is submitted, Medical Marijuana Program staff will email you additional information.
- 8. I am submitting an application for a patient enrolled in a hospice (end of life) care program. What does this involve?** The patient application will include a question regarding hospice care. If answered yes, the patient may qualify for an alternative written certification process. This requires that the applicant upload a document verifying enrollment in a hospice program (hospice consent form, hospice election of benefits form, or current medical records indicating admission to the hospice program). This document must contain the patient's full name and date of birth, the name of the health care provider, and the date the health care provider signed the form or medical record.

Hospice patients will need a designated caregiver (they can have up to five), who will be responsible for purchasing, possessing, and administering products for the patient. All designated caregivers must complete and pass a background check. However, when a terminal illness is the qualifying medical condition (this is automatic for hospice-enrolled patients), designated caregivers may be allowed a 60-day grace period to complete the background check. Medical Marijuana Program staff will reach out to the designated caregiver for further information.

There is no application fee for Hospice Care Program patients.

- 9. I submitted an application and am wondering what the status of my application is. How can I find this?** You can log into your account at any time to review the status of your application. For a guide to the different statuses, click [here](#).

10. Why do I have to upload a photo of myself in my application?

The photo uploaded on your application is what will go on the Medical Marijuana Program ID card should your application be approved. It is important to submit a high-quality photo and follow the guidelines provided. Failure to submit a high-quality photo will result in delays in the review process.

Photo guidelines are as follows:

- Entire face must be visible.
- Do not tilt the camera.
- Do not use a filter (snapchat or other).
- Eyes must be visible with the applicant looking directly at the camera.
- A plain background is best.
- Use good lighting (not too light or too dark).
- Use a colored photo (not black and white).
- No sunglasses or other headgear (hats or bandanas).
- Remove eyeglasses to avoid a glare.
- Do not include other people in the photo.
- Do not obstruct face with hands or other objects.

11. My current health care provider has informed me they will not complete a written certification. Now what should I do?

Health care providers have the right to determine whether or not they want to participate in the Medical Marijuana Program by completing written certifications for patients. Any physician or physician assistant licensed through the ND Board of Medicine or APRN licensed through the ND Board of Nursing are authorized under NDCC Chapter 19-24.1 to certify patients.

Patients are encouraged to discuss with their primary care provider or any specialty provider they see their desire to be in the Medical Marijuana Program. State laws for the Medical Marijuana Program do not prohibit a qualifying patient from establishing care with a different health care provider. However, it is important to keep in mind that a bona fide provider-patient relationship must be in place.

12. What exactly does a bona fide provider-patient relationship mean?

There are a few different parts to a bona fide provider-patient relationship. To read the full definition, see NDCC Section 19-24.1-01. To summarize, a bona fide relationship includes the following:

- The provider has reviewed past medical records and created and maintained their own medical records for the patient.
- The patient is under the provider's continued care for the debilitating medical condition(s) that qualified the patient for the program.
- The patient will have follow-up care and will be monitored while in the program.

- The patient is not seeing the provider for the sole purpose of having a written certification completed. Instead, the patient has established care with the provider for care of their debilitating medical condition(s).

13. Is there a mandated amount of time I need to be seeing my health care provider before the health care provider would be eligible to complete a written certification?

No. However, the requirements for a bona fide provider-patient relationship must be met.

14. My current health care provider is willing to complete a written certification but does not want to give me their email address. What can I do?

The health care provider is welcome to contact the Medical Marijuana Program via email at medmarijuana@nd.gov or via phone at 701.328.1311 with questions regarding providing an email address or to discuss additional options to consider.

15. Is the health care provider name and email address going to be provided to others?

No. The health care provider's name and email address are confidential under state law.

16. I have a medical marijuana card from another state. Is this card valid in North Dakota?

No. North Dakota does not recognize other states' medical marijuana cards. Whether or not other states recognize the North Dakota medical marijuana card is the determination of those other states.

Non-residents can complete a "Non-Resident" application. This would require that their Non-Resident Medical Marijuana Card and their State Issued ID or Driver's License are valid for the 60-day duration of a non-resident card.

Without a valid North Dakota medical marijuana card, an individual in possession of marijuana has no protections under the North Dakota medical marijuana laws. A valid medical marijuana cardholder in North Dakota may only purchase and possess products dispensed from one of the registered dispensaries in our state. Marijuana products should not be transported across state lines.