



10/22 Public Meeting Book - Cannabis Control Commission Public Meeting

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20261022 Public Meeting Presentation



October 20, 2026

In accordance with Sections 18-25 of Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws and Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Cannabis Control Commission. The meeting will take place as noted below.

CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

**October 22, 2026
10:00 AM**

Remote via [Microsoft Teams](#)*

PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Commissioners' Comments & Updates
- III. Commission Discussion and Votes
 - 1. Discussion and Release of Draft Testing Regulations
 - 2. Discussion of Chapter 65 Fall Regulatory Round
- IV. New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting
- V. Next Meeting Date
- VI. Adjournment

*Closed captioning available

If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact the ADA Coordinator Debra Hilton-Creek in advance of the meeting. While the Commission will do its best to accommodate you, certain accommodations may not be available if requested immediately before the meeting.





Cannabis Control Commission

Public Meeting

October 22, 2026 at 10:00 am

Remote via Microsoft Teams



Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Commissioners' Comments and Updates
3. Commission Discussion and Votes
4. New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting
5. Next Meeting Date
6. Adjournment



Commissioner Comments and Updates



Commission Discussion and Votes

Commission Discussion and Votes

1. Discussion and Release of Draft Testing Regulations
2. Discussion of Chapter 65 Fall Regulatory Round





Discussion and Release of Draft Testing Regulations

Draft Testing Regulations

1. Draft of 935 CMR 503.000 and corresponding amendments to 935 CMR 500.000 and 501.000 released for review and anticipated discussion during November 12, 2026 Public Meeting.
2. 935 CMR 503.000 will establish a comprehensive framework governing Independent Testing Laboratories, laboratory operations, and required cannabis testing. Proposed sections include draft regulations relating to:
 - Laboratory operations and quality assurance requirements;
 - Sampling, collection, storage, and retention of samples;
 - Required testing;
 - Reporting of results;
 - Testing failures; and
 - Waste management and destruction.
3. Where indicated, certain regulatory sections are "reserved" pending policy discussion and decision by Commissioners.
4. Additional areas for further regulatory development to be considered for the Spring 2027 round of regulations.





Discussion of Chapter 65 Fall Regulatory Round

Medical Regulations- 935 CMR 501

Overview of Key Regulatory Changes

- Establishes new medical license type (MMD)
- Ends mandatory vertical integration for operators
- Expands patient access, including pediatric and residency reforms
- Strengthens institutional caregiving structures
- Modernizes provider registry and supply chain rules
- Codifies overwater transport requirements
- Updates statutory references for alignment and clarity



Medical Regulations- 935 CMR 501

End of Mandatory Vertical Integration

- Existing Medical Treatment Centers automatically redesignated as **Fully Integrated MTCs (FIMTCs)**
- FIMTCs may independently elect which functions to continue (cultivation, manufacturing, dispensing)
- Establishes a **36-month conversion pathway** allowing FIMTCs to transition into MMDs
- Reduces fixed costs and regulatory complexity for operators
- Aligns the medical market with modern, modular regulatory frameworks
- Expected to diversify operator base and expand patient access in underserved areas

New MMD License (Dispensing Only)

- Creates Medical Marijuana Dispensary (MMD) license for entities that **purchase, store, dispense, and deliver** medical marijuana
- Excludes cultivation and product manufacturing, reducing operational burden
- Allows **standalone operations** or **co-location** with adult-use or FIMTC facilities
- Provides a **lower-barrier entry point** for new market participants
- Expected to diversify operator base and expand patient access in underserved areas



Medical Regulations- 935 CMR 501

Expanded Patient Access

Residency Requirement Eliminated

- Qualifying Patient registration now based solely on qualifying medical condition
- Allows participation from out-of-state residents, seasonal workers, and transient individuals
- Aligns program with patient-centric healthcare practices and equity goals

Pediatric Certification Expanded

- Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and Physician Assistants (PAs) may certify pediatric patients with **Life-limiting Illnesses**
- Maintains existing specialty requirements to ensure clinical rigor
- Mirrors adult certification authority
- Expands access in areas with shortages of pediatric specialists



Medical Regulations- 935 CMR 501

Institutional Care Access

- Establishes new **ordering authority** for Caregiving Institutions (e.g., long-term care, hospice)
- Defines on-site administration, storage, and handling standards
- Introduces **three-year renewal** for institutions and Institutional Caregivers
- Enhances clarity for organizations managing patient medication protocols

Certifying Healthcare Provider Registry

- Moves to **three-year renewal** cycle to match other professional cycles
- Automatic suspension triggered upon lapse of underlying professional license
- Optional opt-in public provider directory enhances patient navigation
- Modernizes administrative infrastructure and reduces compliance risk



Medical Regulations- 935 CMR 501

Supply Chain Integration

- Authorizes **adult-use licensees** to transfer product to Medical Marijuana Establishments, subject to regulatory controls
- Allows Marijuana Product Manufacturers to produce **above-cap quantities** solely for medical-use distribution
- Provides stability for medical supply during adult-use market fluctuations
- Helps ensure consistent availability of therapeutic products

Overwater Transport Codified

- Administrative Order No. 3 (June 2024) formally incorporated into 935 CMR 501.000
- Grants explicit regulatory authority for **maritime transport** to Dukes County and Nantucket
- Clarifies chain-of-custody, tracking, and security requirements
- Reduces operational ambiguity for island transport



Medical Regulations- 935 CMR 501

Confidentiality

- Research related to medical marijuana patients is expressly protected from public records disclosure
- Certifying Healthcare Providers may elect to appear on a public directory
- Enhances patient privacy and protects sensitive medical data

Conforming Amendments

- Updates all references from **M.G.L. c. 10, § 76** to **M.G.L. c. 6, § 223**
- Implements terminology updates across medical regulations
- Ensures consistency, reduces legal ambiguity, and aligns language with statutory changes



Regulatory Policy Questions

Medical Regulations- 935 CMR 501

1. Whether the Medical Working Group's proposal aligns with what the Commissioners would like to offer as license types?
 - FIMTC and MMD model only; no specific medical cultivator or medical product manufacturer licenses.
2. Whether to require certain activities be performed under the FIMTC license? [Ch. 65 Section 51]
 - Provided that FIMTC licensees can choose which activities they engage in (cultivation, manufacturing and/or dispensing), is there a minimum number of activities in which an FIMTC must engage?
 - Should the applicable security requirements for FIMTCs be based on what activities they are authorized to perform or should the Commission apply a uniform standard for all FIMTCs?
 - Should fees be based on what activities a licensee is authorized to perform, or should the Commission apply a uniform rate to all FIMTCs?
3. The proposed MMD definition allows for selling, dispensing and *administering* – what does it mean to *administer* at an MMD?



Regulatory Policy Questions

Agent Registration

1. Whether to adopt Commissioner Wilson's agent registration proposal or adopt a portable agent badging policy for all ME Agents?
 - Review informal public comments.
2. Whether changes in Agent Registration should carry into medical?
 - Whether to mirror ME and MME Agents requirements and keep ITL Agent requirements separate pursuant to G.L. c. 94G, § 15?



Upcoming Meetings & Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates

Next Meeting Date

November 12, 2026

Public Meeting
Hybrid via Teams
10:00 am

2026 Public Meetings*

December 10

**Public Meeting dates are tentative and subject to change*





**The Commission is in recess
until 11:45**