

New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission
Public In-Writing Comments
Public Meeting: January 27th, 2022

Sender	Date	Comment/Question
Bryan Nesci	1/18/2022	I want to make a comment to the Commission about the Notice of Application specifically chapter XII for Cannabis Cultivators. I think that this requirement and expectation of applicants to have experience and certification in all these areas is impossible. It works against the commissions effort to allow people enter the industry who are life long residents or people in economically disadvantaged areas. How can a resident where cannabis was not legal have experience in growing cannabis? It also needs to be considered that the the applicant would hire or be working with people who would be able to assist in certain areas. Is this something that the commission is looking to amend?
Justin Escher Alpert	1/19/2022	<p>Before expanding adult use to the MSOs, take an accounting of the cash flows that pour out of the State under the medical ATC model as i) management fees, ii) rents to REITs, iii) IP licensing, and iv) debt servicing. This way, we can have a baseline for which we can use smart policy to push down as adult use revenue goes up.</p> <p>Welcome smarter approaches.</p>
Charles A. Hughes	1/24/2022	<p>To whom it may concern, I am Charles A. Hughes</p> <p>It is my understanding that when Woodbury, the municipality where I live, passed their Cannabis Ordinance 2342-21 in August 2021, some regulations for the Cannabis Businesses were not included such as,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hours of Operation • Application Fees • Annual license fee to the town • Maximum licenses per class for the town • Taxes collected on cannabis sales <p>Can the City amend Cannabis Ordinance 2342-21 or create a new Ordinance that elaborates regulations? I ask because the Ordinance itself says that ““WHEREAS, section 31 b of the Act also stipulates, however, that any municipal regulation or prohibition must be adopted within 180 days of the effective date of the Act (i.e., by August 22, 2021);”?”</p>
Cathy Juarez	1/24/2022	When will the CRC address home grow? Every state allows it at least for medical patients. It's a critical piece of this bill and should have been part of the medical bill when it was passed. It directly effects social justice issues as offenders caught with a plant or two for personal use are being prosecuted and fined like criminals, which they absolutely are not! A clean up bill adding home grow is critically important to get done right now!
Steven De Santis	1/24/2022	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I've recently relocated to NJ from California and Nevada previously. Cannabis</p>

prices in New Jersey at medical facilities are a laughable, uncompetitive, and borderline discriminatory situation that should be addressed. While I am not, I suspect many seniors or others in fixed incomes will choose alternative acquisition (black market/home grow) at the risk of criminal embarrassment simply because the state has failed to implement a fair market.

Also, the old world, ultra conservative, local municipality based actions and practices that are inhibiting entry points for the recreational market, directly contradicting an undeniable public mandate voiced overwhelmingly by 67% of voters in the fall of 2020, needs to be immediately addressed. Cannabis is less of a threat to your community and home life than whiskey. Period. Full stop.

Third, edibles are a hugely important mental hurdle for anyone scared of them to get over. Not only do they (would they) provide larger revenues for all involved as it is a key product differentiation, but they also offer valuable alternative to those perhaps with immunocompromised lung issues.

Thank you.

William Hughes

1/25/2022

Hello,

I am in the process of filling out the application for a Cannabis Retailer license as a conditional applicant. I have the following questions.

1. The regs state that the limit of AGI is \$200k for 1 applicant and \$400k for 2 applicants. What is it for 3 applicants?
2. Would it be okay to submit our taxes for 2020, as none of us has 2021 taxes filed yet?
3. Under Documents area the application asks for Proof of Impact Zone twice. Once as POI and once on its own as "Proof of Impact Zone Status". What is the second one (Proof of Impact Zone Status) for? The business or the person?
4. Under Documents area the application asks for Proof of Residency Requirements twice. Once as POI and once on its own as "Proof of Residency Requirements". What is the second one (Proof of Residency Requirements) for? The business or the person?
5. Is the criminal history section only for those who are seeking social equity status or all applicants?

Also, for the criminal history section how much narrative do you want beyond the documents you referenced?

6. The regulations refer to a conditional applicant having to Proof of Local Support. However, I do not see that being requested in the application?

7. The regulations refer to a conditional applicant having to have Zoning Approval. However, I do not see that being requested in the application?

Thanks,

Andrew Marshall	1/26/2022	While its understood that there must be a process and work flow for getting the recreational off the ground, NJ is missing out on millions of tax dollars by continuing to delay conversion of existing ATC's. Arizona for example voted to legalize at the same time when NJ did but they started adult sales within 45 days and have seen millions of dollars come through the state government while we are still unsure when adult sales can start. It has been made clear by companies like Curaleaf, for example, they have plenty of ample supply ready for their stores. The tax money that will come in for the state will be incredible once we get going. Thank you.
Justin Escher Alpert	1/26/2022	<p>January 26, 2022</p> <p>Dear Honorable Members of the New Jersey Cannabis Control Commission:</p> <p>What is the purpose of regulating licensed corporations?</p> <p>What is the authority to regulate free citizens who already responsibly exercise the personal liberty and natural right?</p> <p>When we measure the cash flows that pour out of the State under the medical alternative treatment center model, what are the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission's plans to force down the margins as we open up the adult use market? Why do free citizens so-value healthy local commerce and culture that is both accountable to and responsible for the community served?</p> <p>Welcome smarter approaches to cannabis policy here in The Garden State. Liberty and Prosperity go hand-in-hand.</p> <p>Thankful for visionary leadership going forward.</p> <p>Justin Escher Alpert Livingston, New Jersey</p>
Maryanne Capasso	1/26/2022	The CRC wants the municipality to issue a resolution to the applicant that wishes to have a cannabis businesses in their municipality. Our municipality is allowing only one business in the B-1 zone and one business in the B-2 zone, my question is, do I only had out one resolution for each zone or do I had out a resolution to each applicant that asks for one. Thank you!
Benjamin Alcantara	1/26/2022	Hi, what would happened if an Applicant is given a conditional license for a micro-business and none of the municipalities near by have any space for such business, either because they opted out or there are no building to accommodate such business? It seems that limiting micro licenses to just near by municipality will impede may people for obtaining an annual license and entering the industry overall.
Syceria Stephens	1/27/2022	<p>Thank you CRC for your continued hard work.</p> <p>I would like to comment on the fact that some providers have come on to the public meetings to speak regarding not being happy about clients being seen one time a year via telehealth by providers and certified for medical cannabis. I myself provide telehealth cannabis certifications via a HIPPA compliant</p>

		<p>platform because like all things these days it provides convenience for myself and my clients and they are well educated about cannabis, socially distancing, and happy with my services. I am always available to my clients via phone, text and email. I go through PMP aware to check on them and always check for drug drug interactions. I have time to educate my clients unlike in primary care which I have done in the past where I only had 15 minutes to see a patient. This offsets some of the work for these primary care providers. There has been no patient harm done in provided cannabis certifications to clients via telehealth. As you have noticed the numbers for medical patients have actually declined due to lack of access, Lack of knowledge, stigma among many other things. Telehealth and technology is the new way of delivering care and it is going nowhere. I know the population that I am dealing with and they want convenience this provided access for them so they can get safe weed and not off the streets. I help a lot more people visiting them virtually. I appreciate your hard work I am applying for a microbusiness delivery service because I want to expand access for medical cannabis patients especially to my elderly patients whom can not get out the house and stand in lines for 45+ minutes (due to arthritis pain and other things as some of my clients have told me) at dispensaries. I am here to be of service so any question you may have please contact me because i know as some speakers have mentioned education at these dispensaries is lacking and that is another issue that I plan to address in the near future.</p> <p>Sending Good Vibes,</p> <p>Syceria Stephens MSN, RN, FNP-c Family Nurse Practitioner</p>
Rob	1/27/2022	<p>To the CRC. I know you have heard this many times but allowing NO sort of home grow is absolutely wrong. You have patients that cannot afford their medicine. You have patients that can't drive to a dispensary and may not have anyone in their life to pick up their medicine for them. You have patients who demand organic and pesticide free cannabis. You have patients who benefit from specific strains that are NOT available at the ATC's. You will have real patients turn to the streets to find their medicine, it's just not affordable for the most of us! Every other legal state allows some type of home grow and it is clearly not affecting any sort of revenue. Numbers don't lie. Many people grow their own fruit/vegetables and they're still buying them in the grocery store!!! Without home grow this is one of the worst states for legalization. You are stripping people of their rights just so the big guys can profit off of us. This is absolutely unacceptable if you truly do want the best for patients. We did not vote on legalization to have no grow. You are hurting patients that I know! Patients come first!!! Please take this into serious consideration and not just brush it off like every other time. Thank you for your time.</p>
Raymond Mercer	1/27/2022	<p>Had a few questions regarding some specifics . The final notice of application states: [Retailers and] Manufacturers, the microbusinesses monthly volume will not exceed 1,000 pounds of cannabis. As a manufacturer, does that mean I cannot purchase more than 1000lbs a month to process, or I cannot sell more than 1000lbs a month to retailers. Ice water hash rosin has about a 4% yield when processing fresh frozen flowers (which is also 4x as heavy as dried and cured cannabis because it's retaining all that water). If microbusiness</p>

		<p>manufacturers were limited to only being able to purchase and process 1000lbs a month, that would leave me at 40lbs of hash and an additional process would make that about 32lbs of end product (live rosin). That means at full production capacity, I'd reach my limit the first week of the month. Now if the regulations do not place a limit on how much flower I could purchase to be used for processing and only place a limit on how much cannabis is distributed, there's not a single solventless lab on this earth that is capable of producing 1000lbs of live rosin a month. With some rough estimates, that comes out to about 11,200,000 grams of flower needed per month to produce 448,000 grams or 1000lbs of live rosin. Some clarity would be much appreciated.</p>
Dan Gizzi	1/27/2022	<p>Regarding the Conditional License requirement:</p> <p>"Proof that each owner of the conditional license applicant who has decision making authority has, for the immediately preceding taxable year, an adjusted gross income of no more than \$200,000, or no more than \$400,000 if filing jointly with another individual."</p> <p>How do you define decision making authority? Does this include a financing partner who does not have decision making authority in the sense that they have no authority over day-to-day operations? My main concern is regarding social equity/microbusiness applicants who must partner with an investor to fund the business.</p>
Kristen Goedde	1/27/2022	<p>I disagree with the decision to increase batch size limit to 100lbs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The sample will not be representative. Increasing the batch limits increases the sample amounts to over 200 grams of plant material that needs to be homogenized and accurately subsampled for chemical and microbial analysis. - This increases storage and labor, and decreases billable samples for start up laboratories, who have the capacity to handle 10lb batch limits - this is coming from an operational laboratory in state. - I am greatly opposed to the CRC taking advice from ATCs on how their product should be tested for compliance. They are not motivated by consumer safety, they are motivated by their bottom lines, and that should be obvious. I have sent numerous emails and can be reached directly at any time at (908)581-6519. <p>It would have been better to allow R&D testing. It's my opinion that they will not comply with testing because they will not pass. They want larger batch size limits so they have keep increasing their revenue.</p>
Durwood Pinkett	1/27/2022	<p>Coastal Hemp and Cannabis Consultants</p> <p>Owners: Durwood C. Pinkett and Charles Rubin</p> <p>Background: We are a current applicant for NJ State Adult-Use Cannabis Cultivation (Class 1) and Manufacturing (Class 2) licenses with our facility to be located in Atlantic City. We submitted our Conditional License application to the NJ Cannabis Regulatory Commission on December 16th, 2021. Once approved, it is our desire to immediately submit an application for Conversion to an Annual License. We have already secured a Local Letter of Support from</p>

Mayor Marty and were recently gained local support in the form of a Resolution (#715 2021) from Atlantic City Council(both documents attached). We know that Atlantic City supports the establishment of state-licensed cannabis businesses in order to bring much-needed jobs and tax revenue to our city. Time is of the essence, because the state has placed a cap on the number of Cultivation Licenses it will issue for at least the first two years of the Adult-Use Cannabis program, and although we have the highest prioritization status as a Social Equity Applicant, the licenses will ultimately be awarded based upon who submits a complete Conversion Application before the other priority applicants. Any delays in establishing/amending regulations and/or securing an approved property could ruin Atlantic City applicants' chances of winning one of these competitive licenses.

For us (and AC) to be successful winning these competitive licenses, local applicants like us will need to quickly secure a property within city limits on which a cannabis business will be allowed to operate, and submit proof of purchase or lease along with site/floor plans to the state as part of the Conversion Application. We would like to present locations that we are considering for this purpose along with some important questions that will affect how we search and apply for local approval.

Questions/Concerns:

1. The established "Green Zones" in Atlantic City are extremely limited and do not contain viable properties for our cannabis business.

a. Will we be able to secure and license properties with other zoning classifications that are outside of these limited Green Zones?

b. If so, what is the expected process and timeline for getting these approved?

2. Most of the viable properties we have identified through extensive research are located in the CRDA Jurisdiction. a. Will the Atlantic City Cannabis Ordinance and regulations apply to businesses operating in these areas? b. If not, what is the process and potential timeline for approving businesses within CRDA zones?

3. In the AC Cannabis Ordinance, Section 3. A. 2. (specific to a non-microbusiness licenses), it states: "No cultivation shall be allowed within thirty (30) feet of any property line" (There is no 30ft setback requirement listed for microbusiness cultivation licenses.)

a. What is the intended purpose of this regulation, and why does it only apply to non-microbusinesses? b. We assume, since no outdoor cultivation is permitted, that this rule was written for the purpose of mitigating odor nuisances to surrounding businesses and residences. Because these cannabis facilities are indoors, the best way to control for odor is to install a carbon-filtered and ozone-treated, facility exhaust system, and, similar to other regulated industries where odor is a concern, place the exhaust stack on the roof of the building as far from the property line as possible. A 30ft setback for the central exhaust stack of the facility makes perfect sense, but a 30ft setback for any exterior wall of the facility does not.

c. A 30ft setback from the property boundary will not allow us enough space to place an adequately sized building to fit all of our operational requirements. (Please see attached mock-ups.)

d. How confident are you that this rule can be amended quickly, so that we can ensure available properties will be adequately sized for our indoor cultivation and manufacturing facility?

Lincoln Gratton

1/28/2022

I thank you for giving me the chance to speak. I have missed the last few meetings due to illness. I always thank you all for what an incredible job/undertaking you all are doing to drive the New Jersey cannabis market forward. A quick background story I grew up in a town of about 25000, 95% of that population is white about 0.6% of the population are of African American descent and there is a differential of about 1 and a 1/2 percent. Most people of my ethnicity stuck out like a sore thumb especially if you were a cannabis user. Now that town is embroidered in hazing allegations and other misconduct. This number S 2012 1013 Has been following me for a very long time from the same town. I was wondering why I never got a call back from compassionate care foundation when I applied the 1st and 2nd time when I became a patient in 2019. Fast forward to today these last few days have been eye opening and disheartening. I tried to get my certificate of expungement and was ultimately told by the clerk that I could not obtain one. Then I happened to be on reddit 2 days ago and read an article about fellow New Jerseyan Scotty Risley dealing with the same issues. I continued on to also read he is a social equity applicant same as me. He states even if you want a micro business license you will need \$300000 of liquid assets, a lawyer and possibly a PhD in business just to get through the application process. My question I ask all of you is what/whom are these social equity programs set up for. Also how were automatic expungements granted. How can I use any of these programs to my advantage only making \$37000 last year. At this time it seems the prospect of ever becoming a business owner in any capacity is impossible. Thank you again for setting up this incredibly sensitive industry.