





The meeting will begin momentarily

We will take public comments at this meeting. Written comments for the record may also be submitted to the Cannabis Regulatory Commission before, during, and after the meeting at nj.gov/cannabis.



February 15, 2024



Agenda

- Roll Call
- Executive Session (Anticipated 1 hour)
- Approval of prior meeting minutes
- Chair's report
- Executive Director's report
- Committee reports
 - Permitting & Licensing Committee
- Consideration of Provisional Badging
- Consideration of application for permit or license change
 - Name change
- Consideration of ownership change application



Agenda

- Consideration of adult-use cannabis business applications
 - Conditional licenses
 - Conditional-to-annual conversions
 - Annual licenses
 - Annual license renewals
 - Expanded ATC certifications
 - License Application Denials
- Public Comment
- Adjournment



Roll Call



Executive Session (Approximately 1 hour)



Approval of prior meeting minutes



Chair's Report



Chair's Report: Application Timelines

Steps from application submission to approval:

1. Verification of priority status
 2. Completeness review
 3. Application scoring
 4. Review of qualification for licensure
 5. Application review by Board of Commissioners
 6. Decision at public NJ-CRC Board meeting
- 14-17 weeks
- 3-4 weeks



Chair's Report: 2024 Board Priorities

- Monitor activities and enforcement of rules to prevent illegal activity and protect public health.
- Maintain momentum on public engagement.
- Update Agency rules for medical and adult-use cannabis businesses.
- Conduct industry assessments to evaluate the impacts of rules.
- Advocate for needed operational resources.



Chair's Report: 2024 Committee Priorities

- Adopt statutorily required annual reports.
- Monitor customer complaints to identify any safety concerns.
- Commission a review of the agency as required by law.
- Solicit industry feedback to improve licensing/permitting processes.
- Increase health care provider participation in the medical cannabis program.
- Convene an ad hoc committee to recommend updates to bylaws.



Executive Director's Report



How Far We've Come

- Medical Marijuana Program under Department of Health
- Birth of the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission in 2021
- Our efforts over 2 ½ years:
 - Staff onboarding and training, from 6 to 73 and growing
 - System requirements
 - Process development and implementation
 - Procurement



How Far We've Come

- 2023 recreational cannabis sales hit \$673,907,755
- 2023 medicinal cannabis sales reached \$99,588,104 (for the first three quarters of 2023)
- More than 2,500 applications submitted
- More than 100 licensed dispensaries



Licensing Update – Total Licenses Submitted

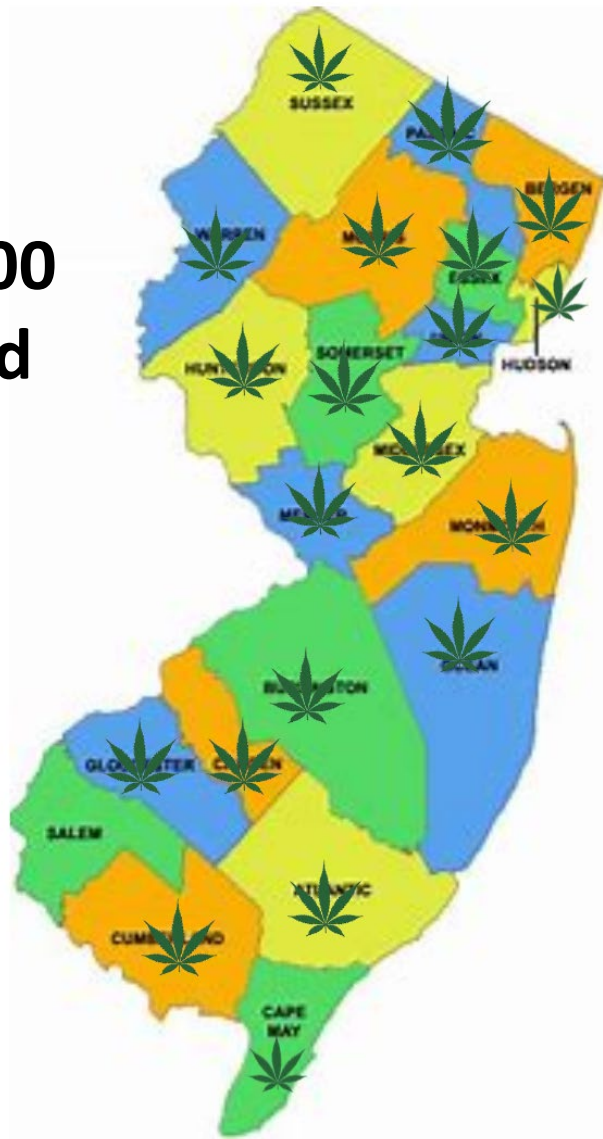
- as of February 12, 2024

- **Total 2,537 applications submitted**
- 1,765 applications have been approved
- 113 applications are under review in the Office of Licensing
- 301 applications are pending resubmission following cure
- 194 applications under review in the Office of Compliance & Investigations



Updates on Dispensary Openings

More than 100 medicinal and recreational dispensaries open in 20 counties.



New Recreational-only Dispensaries

- Dank Poet Dispensary, Washington
- Fire & Oak, Mount Holly
- Jersey Roots, West Milford
- Kind Kush, Rockaway
- The Leaf Joint, Jersey City
- Lemon 22, Scotch Plains
- Mass Grown, Mount Holly

New Medicinal-only Dispensary

- Theo A. Cannabis, Franklin Park
- Roots Dispensary, Willingboro





Creating an Inclusive Market: Ownership Data

Reconciled Majority Owner Race/Ethnicity Table (DORES/Self-Report)		
<u>Race</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
White	140	37%
Asian	71	19%
Black or African American	67	18%
Hispanic or Latino	35	9%
No POI Majority or Certification	30	8%
Other or Not Listed	29	8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	1%
Grand Total	374	100%

Note: Includes all Annual/Conversion to Annual Awardees



Diversely-Owned Certification Data

DOB Certification Type	New AU Licenses		Expansions	Percent of Licenses Awarded	
	Annual	Conversion	Annual	New AU	Total Awarded
DVOB	3	2	0	1.3%	1.1%
MBE	33	41	0	20%	17%
MBE/DVOB	0	1	0	0%	0%
MDVOB	2	1	0	1%	1%
MWBE	20	48	5	18%	17%
MWBE/DVOB	0	2	0	1%	0%
WBE	38	60	3	26%	23%
No Certification	45	78	49	33%	40%
Sub Total by Type	141	233	57		
Sub Total by Group		374	57		
Grand Total		431			



Licensing Update – Total Recreational Licenses Approved

- as of February 12, 2024

- 1,344 conditionals
- 268 conditional-to-annual conversions
- 153 annuals
- 66 Expanded ATCs
- **209 Total: operating licenses issued**



Applications up for consideration

- 12 Conditional applications
- 20 Conditional-to-annual conversion applications
- 4 Annual applications
- 3 Annual renewals
- 1 Expanded ATC



Current Patient Enrollment Numbers

- As of February 12, 2024

- Total patients: 85,641
- Caregivers: 5,234
- Doctors: 1,533



CRC High Points Podcast

- A monthly podcast about the NJ-CRC's work and New Jersey cannabis
- Provides valuable insights, expert discussions, and updates for:
 - Consumers
 - Cannabis business owners
 - Potential entrepreneurs
 - Canna-curious audience
- Next episode, March 1 with Chair Houenou





Safe-Use Campaign Update

- Launched in October 2023
- Primary Goals
 - Promote safe-use practices among adults
 - Promote teen deterrence
 - Educate consumers about keeping small children safe
- Digital ads
 - Social media, internet banner ads, streaming television and audio services
 - Impressions: 6,856,991
 - Outperforming benchmarks for click-thru rates and completions

Facebook / Instagram

New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission December 11 · 🌐

Cannabis is legal in New Jersey—for adults. But there are some things you should know in order to use it safely. Get cannabis smart at cannabissafe.nj.gov



My friends tell me that cannabis could help me relax. But I take medications.
Will there be any side effects?

Have questions about legal cannabis use in the Garden State?
Let's clear the air at cannabissafe.nj.gov



CANNABISSAFE.NJ.GOV
Get Cannabis Smart.
Safe & Responsible Consumption

Learn more

2 likes 1 comment

New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission December 7 · 🌐

Cannabis (marijuana) is legal in New Jersey for adults. However, you must be informed well to use it safely. [cannabis is safe. nj. gov](http://cannabissafe.nj.gov)

🔗 See original · Rate this translation



Mis amigos me dicen que el cannabis puede ayudarme a relajarme. Pero yo tomo medicamentos.
¿Habrá algún efecto secundario?

¿Tienes preguntas sobre el consumo legal del cannabis en el estado jardín?
Aclaremos las cosas en cannabissafe.nj.gov



CANNABISSAFE.NJ.GOV
Conozca los hechos para uso seguro.
Uso seguro y responsable

1 like

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Getting high can get in the way of getting ahead.



Cannabis Smart.
Cannabis Safe.

newjerseycrc If you're under 21, cannabis isn't legal. It can also affect your performance in everything. Want to achieve? Think twice about weed. Learn more at cannabissafe.nj.gov


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YouTube

**Cannabis is legal
in New Jersey
– for adults.**



0:01/00:06



**But there are
some things you
should know in
order to use it
safely.**

0:05/00:29



**Cannabis Smart.
Cannabis Safe.**

cannabissafe.nj.gov

0:14/00:15

Display



**Cannabis Smart.
Cannabis Safe.**

LEARN MORE



U.S. INTERNATIONAL CANADA ESPAÑOL 中文

Wednesday, December 13, 2023
Today's Paper

The New York Times

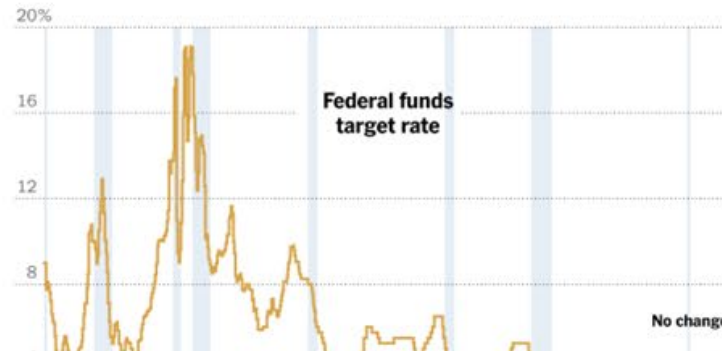
U.S. World Business Arts Lifestyle Opinion Audio Games Cooking Wirecutter The Athletic

LIVE Israel-Hamas War *Just Now* Federal Reserve Meeting *Just Now*

LIVE *Just Now*

Fed Officials Leave Rates Unchanged and Forecast Three Cuts Next Year

Inflation has moderated substantially, and central bank officials have signaled that they may be done raising borrowing costs. See more updates **94**



Opinion

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

What Worries Me About the Gaza War After My Trip to Arab States

7 MIN READ



JENEEN INTERLANDI

'The Entire System Sets You Up to Fail, and Then Blames You for Failing'





Safe-Use Campaign Update

- Interactive Banner ads
 - In English & Spanish
 - Impressions: 564,959
- Streaming service interactive ads (OTT and CTV)
 - Devices and apps
 - 99% viewers watched the video in its entirety
- Billboards
 - 93 digital and analog
 - Located along highways in 12 counties
 - Impressions: 17,120,546

OOH

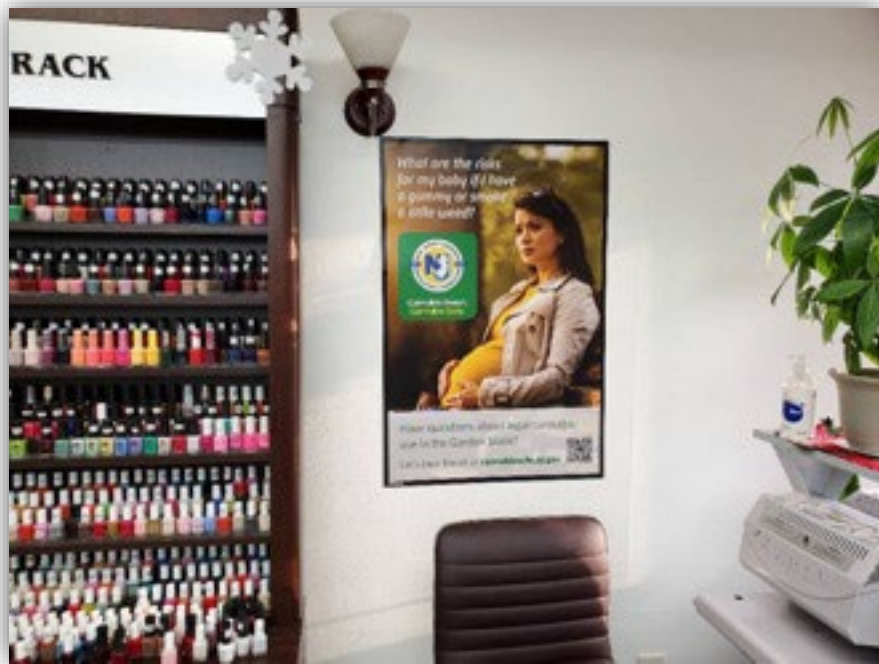




Safe-Use Campaign Update

- Posters
 - Barbershops and hair salons (places where people sit for a long time)
- Community Partners

Barbershops/Beauty Salons



Our BIPOC Community Messengers



The Reset Talk Show



Push
Black

IMMIGRANTLY





Committee Reports



Permitting & Licensing Committee



Permitting/Licensing Committee Report

194 extensions granted from November – January.

OFFICIAL SITE OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY Governor Phil Murphy • Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver
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Cannabis Regulatory Commission

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Home / Cannabis Businesses / Recreational Cannabis Businesses

Recreational Cannabis Businesses

[Apply Here](#)

License Applications

The Cannabis Regulatory Commission issues licenses for medicinal and recreational cannabis business operations in New Jersey. Each business requires a license, which must be active and in good standing, to perform any commercial cannabis activity, including:

- Growing cannabis plants
- Storing cannabis and cannabis products
- Making cannabis products
- Transporting or delivering cannabis and cannabis products
- Selling cannabis and cannabis products
- Testing cannabis and cannabis products

We are currently accepting applications for personal use (recreational) cannabis businesses in the following categories:

- Class 1 Cultivator Licenses

Applying

- [Apply for a Business License](#)
- [Conditional to Annual Conversion Application](#)
- [About Extension Requests](#)
- [Application Extension Requests](#)
- [License Renewal Application](#)
- [Log-in to Existing Account](#)



Permitting/Licensing Committee Report

AU Awardees approaching their operational deadline

Month	Number of Awardees with Operational Deadline
January	14
February	22
March	17



Permitting/Licensing Committee Report

- 2019 RFA – There are 21 awardees with an upcoming expiration date.
 - The Committee highly encourages the awardees to stay in constant communication with their Field Monitor.
- From the overall awards, two (2) awardees withdrew their consideration from the 2019 RFA.
 - The Committee is recommending **not** to reissue those awards.



Permitting/Licensing Committee Report

- The Committee will solicit feedback on the application and licensing processes.
- The Committee will convene a public hearing this spring to:
 - Give the public an opportunity to weigh in on the current licensing process
 - Understand what's working and what can be improved
 - Hear ideas to make processes more efficient
- Details will be announced soon.



Consideration of Provisional Badging



Provisional Badging

- Guidance for both ATC ID and Cannabis Business ID cards include the following provisions and conditions:
 - If fingerprint results are not received within 14 days of an appointment, a provisional ID will be issued (good for 90 days)
 - Average time from request to issuance is 50 days.
 - Applicants must provide a receipt for a fingerprint appointment and signed attestation stating they have no disqualifying convictions.



Provisional Badging

- Provisional status not offered to owners, principals, or managers (line-level employees only).
- Being issued a provisional ID does not guarantee qualification.
- Submitting a false attestation can result in disqualification and ineligibility.



Vote:

To approve provisional badging



Consideration of Applications for Permit or License Changes



Name change applications:

- Clade9 New Jersey LLC – The QCC Group LLC
- Shigh LLC – Midnight Greens LLC



Vote:

**To approve name change
applications**



Consideration of Applications for Ownership Changes



Ownership change application:

- Harmony Foundation
 - Illicit Cannabis New Jersey LLC



Vote:

**To approve ownership change
application**



Consideration of Adult-use Cannabis Business Applications



Conditional applications:

- **12 conditional licenses**
 - **2 cultivators**
 - **1 manufacturer**
 - **1 wholesaler**
 - **1 distributor**
 - **6 retailers**
 - **1 delivery**



Adult-Use: Consideration of conditional applications

Recommendation:

No.	Application ID	Applicant Business Name	License Class	Business Category
1	5503	Garden St. Gas LLC	Cultivator	Microbusiness
2	4919	Simply Pure Trenton NJ Inc	Cultivator	Standard
3	6537	TerpTaxi LLC	Delivery	Standard
4	5533	YCE Wholesale & Logistics	Distributor	Standard
5	5791	Mudd Brothers Cannabis Company	Manufacturer	Standard
6	5887	Atlantic City Cannabis	Retailer	Microbusiness
7	3288	Epitome7 LLC	Retailer	Microbusiness
8	1382	Gas on the Go Vending	Retailer	Microbusiness
9	5709	Green Acres Dispensary LLC	Retailer	Microbusiness
10	6403	Green Paradise Therapy, LLC	Retailer	Microbusiness
11	3957	Emerald Apothecary, LLC	Retailer	Standard
12	5532	YCE Wholesale & Logistics	Wholesaler	Standard



Vote:

To approve 12 conditional license applications



Consideration of Adult-use Conditional Application Denials



Adult-Use: Consideration of conditional application denials

Payment Process Overview for conditional licenses:

- Upon approval, applicants are required to pay required fees
- Payment is considered delinquent after 30 days
- Final 30-day notice is issued after an additional 30 days
- Notice of denial recommendation is issued after 60 days



Adult-Use: Consideration of conditional application denials

Recommended denial for nonpayment:

No.	Applicant ID	Applicant Business Name	License Class	Business Category
1	3788	JNB Prime LLC	Cultivator	Standard
2	3789	JNB Prime LLC	Manufacturer	Standard
3	1915	High Buddy	Retailer	Microbusiness
4	3262	Loddy Exotics	Retailer	Microbusiness
5	2900	Urth Company LLC	Retailer	Microbusiness
6	3637	Aspen Corner Office LLC	Retailer	Standard
7	3241	JNB Prime LLC	Retailer	Standard



Vote:

To deny 7 conditional license applications license application



Conditional-to-Annual license conversion applications

- 20 conditional-to-annual conversion licenses
 - 3 cultivators
 - 6 manufacturers
 - 11 retailers



Adult-Use: Consideration of conditional-to-annual license conversion applications

Recommendation:

No.	Application ID	Applicant Business Name	Conditional Application ID	License Class	Business Category
1	3033	420 Organics LLC	2232	Cultivator	Microbusiness
2	3784	Shnicks Shnacks	1248	Cultivator	Microbusiness
3	4398	Aeterna LLC	1175	Cultivator	Standard
4	3019	Green Alchemy LLC	1289	Manufacturer	Microbusiness
5	3335	Prolific Growhouse	2465	Manufacturer	Microbusiness
6	3785	Shnicks Shnacks	1250	Manufacturer	Microbusiness
7	3243	ABCO Garden State LLC	1349	Manufacturer	Standard
8	2718	Jersey Extraction Lab LLC	1245	Manufacturer	Standard
9	3432	Topless Pre Rolls LLC	2876	Manufacturer	Standard
10	3684	Canopy Crossroad, LLC	1406	Retailer	Microbusiness



Adult-Use: Consideration of conditional-to-annual license conversion applications

Recommendation:

No.	Application ID	Applicant Business Name	Conditional Application ID	License Class	Business Category
11	4291	Lady L Cannabis LLC	1462	Retailer	Microbusiness
12	4027	Social Dispensary	2026	Retailer	Microbusiness
13	3608	Citi Roots LLC	2786	Retailer	Standard
14	4385	Dogwood Green LLC	1812	Retailer	Standard
15	3006	Hound Town 543	1976	Retailer	Standard
16	2774	HudHaus LLC	1504	Retailer	Standard
17	4020	Nimbus Holdings LLC	1786	Retailer	Standard
18	3200	ReLeaf Cannabis LLC	1418	Retailer	Standard
19	3621	Scarlet Reserve Room RB	1434	Retailer	Standard
20	3038	Vigor Dispensary LLC	1428	Retailer	Standard



Vote:

**To approve 20 conditional-to-annual
license conversion applications**



Consideration of Adult-use Conditional Conversion-to- Annual Application Denials



Adult-Use: Consideration of conditional conversion-to-annual application denials

Payment Process Overview for conditional conversion-to-annual licenses:

- Upon approval, applicants are required to pay required fees
- Payment is considered delinquent after 30 days
- Final 30-day notice is issued after an additional 30 days
- Notice of denial recommendation is issued after 60 days



Adult-Use: Consideration of conditional conversion-to-annual application denials

Recommended denial for nonpayment:

No.	Applicant ID	Applicant Business Name	Conditional Applicant ID	License Class	Business Category
1	2559	Sensory Dispensary	2322	Retailer	Standard



Vote:

To deny 1 conditional conversion-to-annual license application



Annual license applications

- 4 annual licenses
 - 0 cultivators
 - 0 manufacturers
 - 4 retailers



Adult-Use: Consideration of annual license applications

Recommendation:

No.	Application ID	Applicant Business Name	License Class	Business Category
1	3825	Kine Buds Maywood LLC	Retailer	Standard
2	3592	Kine Buds Monroe LLC	Retailer	Standard
3	4773	KushKlub NJ LLC	Retailer	Standard
4	4741	Lenola Wellness LLC	Retailer	Standard



Vote:
**To approve 4 annual
license applications**



Annual license renewals

- **BLOC Dispensary LLC**
 - ATC – 1474 Prospect Street, Ewing
 - ATC – 1761 North Olden Avenue, Ewing
 - ATC – 1075 Easton Avenue, Somerset



Vote:

**To approve 3 annual license
renewal applications**



Expanded ATC certifications:

- **Harmony Foundation**, Class 1 Cultivator, 144 Route 94, Lafayette
- **Harmony Foundation**, Class 2 Manufacturer, 144 Route 94, Lafayette



Vote:

**To approve Harmony
Foundation expansion
certifications**



Public comment

1. Speakers signed up in advance.
2. 3 minutes per speaker.
3. Please be respectful, concise and on-topic to issues the Commission has the power to address and/or should be aware of.
4. Do not use this time to market or advertise private businesses.
5. May also submit comments in writing at NJ.gov/cannabis/meetings



Adjournment

The Commission will hold its next public meeting on Wednesday, March 13th, 2024,
at 44 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey.