

CERTIFICATE OF WAIVER OF REGULATION

Authority: N.J.A.C. 17:30-3.7
Date Issued: May 14, 2026
Regulation(s) Affected: N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12(a); N.J.A.C. 17:30-8.1(b)(3)
Effective Date: May 14, 2026
Expiration Date: Upon modification or revocation by the Board of Commissioners

The New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission (Commission) grants relief in the form of this regulatory waiver to “employees” and “volunteers” of a cannabis business or a testing laboratory license applicant or license holder participating in the Adult Use industry, subject to the criteria and conditions set forth herein. N.J.A.C. 17:30-3.7 provides that the Commission may waive a regulatory requirement regarding the operations of a cannabis business if such waiver is necessary to achieve the purpose of the Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act (the “Act”), N.J.S.A. 24:6I-31, et seq. (P.L.2021, c.16); is necessary to provide access to cannabis items to consumers; and does not create a danger to public health, safety, or welfare.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12(a), each owner, principal, employee, or volunteer of a cannabis business or testing laboratory license applicant or license holder or staff member of a license applicant's or license holder's management services contractor shall provide written consent to submit to a criminal history background check pursuant to the Act and shall comply with procedures established by the Division of State Police pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:59 for obtaining readable fingerprint impressions. The Commission is waiving the background check requirement for “employees” and “volunteers” of a cannabis business or a testing laboratory license applicant or license holder participating in the Adult Use industry under N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12(a). Owners and principals of a cannabis business or a testing laboratory license applicant or license holder, as well as staff members of a license applicant’s or license holder’s management service contractor, remain subject to background check requirements.

Additionally, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-8.1(b)(3), the Commission must verify that every owner, principal, management services contractor, employee, or volunteer of a cannabis business license holder or a testing laboratory that requests a Cannabis Business Identification Card “has authorized a criminal history background check pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12(d) and does not have any disqualifying convictions that have not been found to be rehabilitated.” The Commission is waiving N.J.A.C. 17:30-8.1(b)(3) as it applies to “employees” and “volunteers” of a cannabis business or a testing laboratory license holder participating in the Adult Use industry. Owners, principals, management services contractors of a cannabis business and testing laboratory license holder are still subject to the background check requirements.

The specific rule(s) being waived is(are) as follows:

N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12(a): Each owner, principal, employee, or volunteer of a cannabis business or testing laboratory license applicant or license holder or staff member of a license applicant's or license holder's management services contractor shall provide written consent to submit to a criminal history background check pursuant to the Act and shall comply with procedures established by the Division of State Police pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:59 for obtaining readable fingerprint impressions.

N.J.A.C. 17:30-8.1(b)(3): As part of the registration, the Commission shall verify that the person who is requesting a Cannabis Business Identification Card:(3) Has authorized a criminal history background check pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12(d) and does not have any disqualifying convictions that have not been found to be rehabilitated;

The Commission finds that waiver of N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12(a) and N.J.A.C. 17:30-8.1(b)(3), as articulated above, is necessary to achieve the purpose of the Act, is necessary to provide access to cannabis items to consumers; and does not create a danger to public health, safety, or welfare.

This waiver shall take effect immediately and shall remain in place further formal action by the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission is taken to rescind or amend this waiver. The relief granted is subject to review, modification, or revocation as the Commission deems appropriate.



BY: Harris Laufer, Chairperson
New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission