



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF CANNABIS POLICY
162 STATE HOUSE STATION
19 UNION STREET
FIRST FLOOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0162

ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL SERVICES

KIRSTEN LC FIGUEROA
COMMISSIONER

OFFICE OF CANNABIS POLICY

JOHN HUDAK
DIRECTOR

Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Program Rulemaking – Executive Summary

The Office of Cannabis Policy (OCP) is engaging in major substantive rulemaking to update [the existing](#) *Medical Use of Cannabis Program Rule* to strike provisions no longer supported by the enabling statute, 22 MRS, ch. 558-C, the *Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act* and to address recent legislative changes. It includes amendments to Section 10 of that rule to implement the requirements legislation enacted in the First Regular and Special Sessions of the 131st Legislature, specifically PL 2023, ch. 6 (*Emergency*, signed March 15, 2023) and PL 2023, ch. 365.

The amendments to section 10 include compliance requirements applicable to registry identification cardholders and registrants, including the implementation of a two-tiered system for assessment of fines for violations of program requirements; as well as notice requirements applicable to the State when it identifies violations of program requirements by a registrant, or a registrant's employee or other agent, have also been revised.

Participating in Rulemaking

The major substantive rules are available for public review and comment as of **September 6, 2023**. The "Rulemaking Public Comment Form" can be accessed [here](#) and can be used by interested parties to provide written public comments. Please be specific in your comments. Additional instructions are available [here](#). All public comments must be submitted to OCP by **October 10, 2023, at 11:59 p.m.**

OCP is also hosting an in-person public hearing on **September 26, 2023**, as another opportunity to solicit public comments and address questions about the rules. The hearing will take place at 19 Union Street (Room 325), Augusta, Maine beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Major Substantive Rulemaking Timeline

Once the process of collecting public comments is complete, OCP will consider the feedback received and make appropriate revisions to the rule. Then, OCP will provisionally adopt the major substantive rule. "Provisional adoption" is a legal term appearing in the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (MAPA) to describe the process whereby a regulatory agency completes its work on major substantive regulations and submits them to the Maine Legislature for review and consideration.

The resolve permitting the final adoption of a rule goes into effect 90 days after the legislature adjourns *sine die*. Agencies must finally adopt the major substantive rules within 60 days of that legislation going into effect. Those rules then become effective 30 days after final adoption. OCP

will provide additional information regarding the implementation of those authorized activities closer to the effective date of the rules.

A complete timeline for this major substantive rulemaking process appears below.

Proposed rules posted online	Public hearing in Augusta	Public comment period ends	Rules <i>provisionally</i> adopted by OCP	Rules <i>finally</i> adopted by OCP	Rules become effective
Sept. 6, 2023	Sept. 26, 2023	Oct. 10, 2023	Fall/Winter 2023	Likely Fall 2024	30 days after final adoption