Welcome

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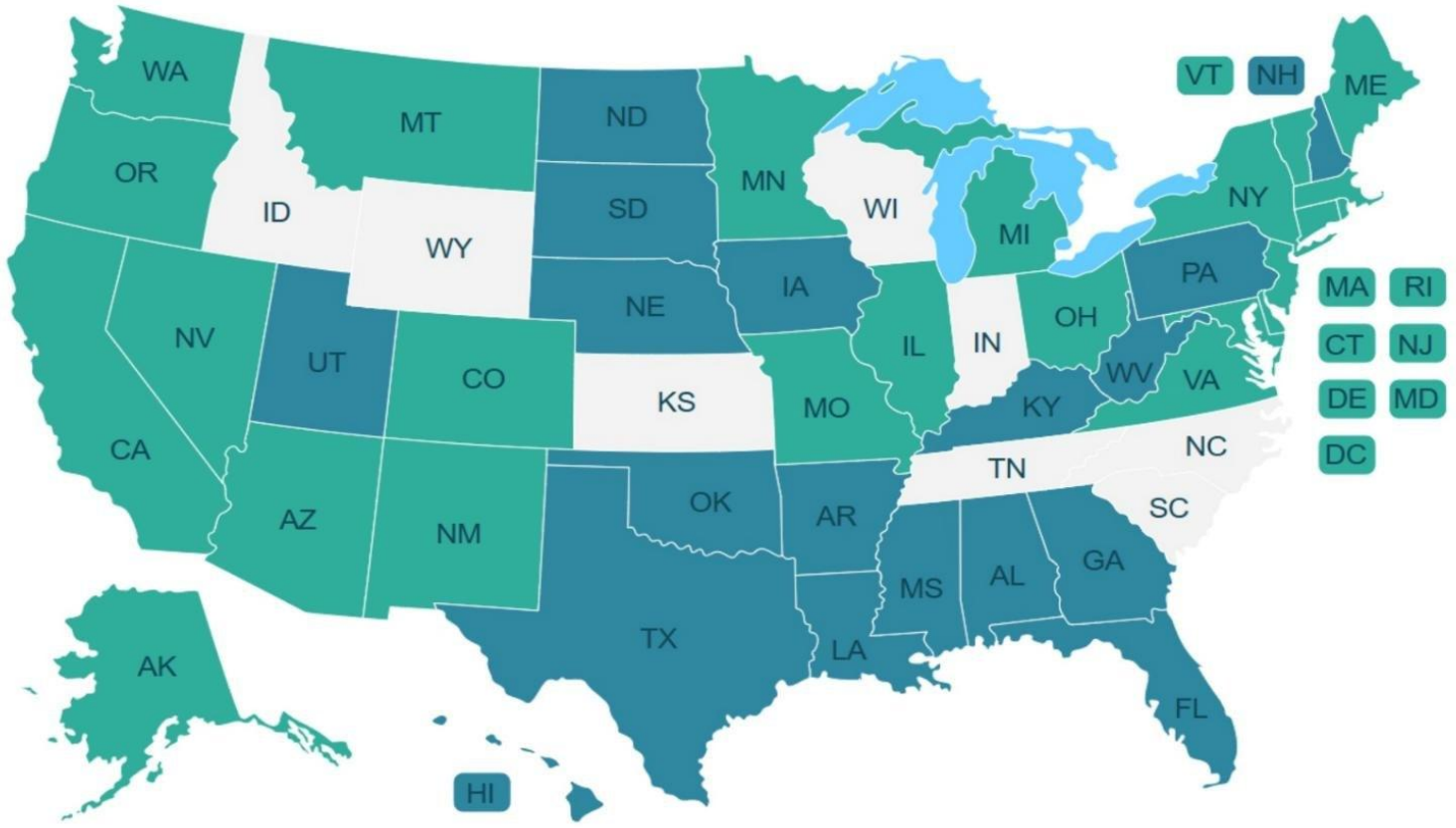
Disclaimer



Nothing in this presentation is, nor should be, considered medical advice.

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States with Legal Cannabis



As of early 2026

Medical & recreational

24 states (all states not listed below) and D.C.

Medical only

HI, ND, SD, NE, UT, OK, TX, IA, AR, LA, MS, AL, GA, FL, KY, WV, PA, NH

Illegal

ID, WY, KS, WI, IN, TN, NC, SC

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Adult-Use and Medical Cannabis in Missouri









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Economic Impact of Legal Cannabis





More than **21,000** Missourians have jobs in the cannabis industry.

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Missouri Cannabis Industry Economic Stats

$5.69
billion in cumulative sales revenue since December 2020

$750
million in cumulative tax revenue (as of 2025)

$255
million in tax revenue in 2025

$1.5
billion in sales revenue in 2025

How cannabis tax revenue is distributed

1. First
Funding for state departments to carry out the provisions required by the amendment

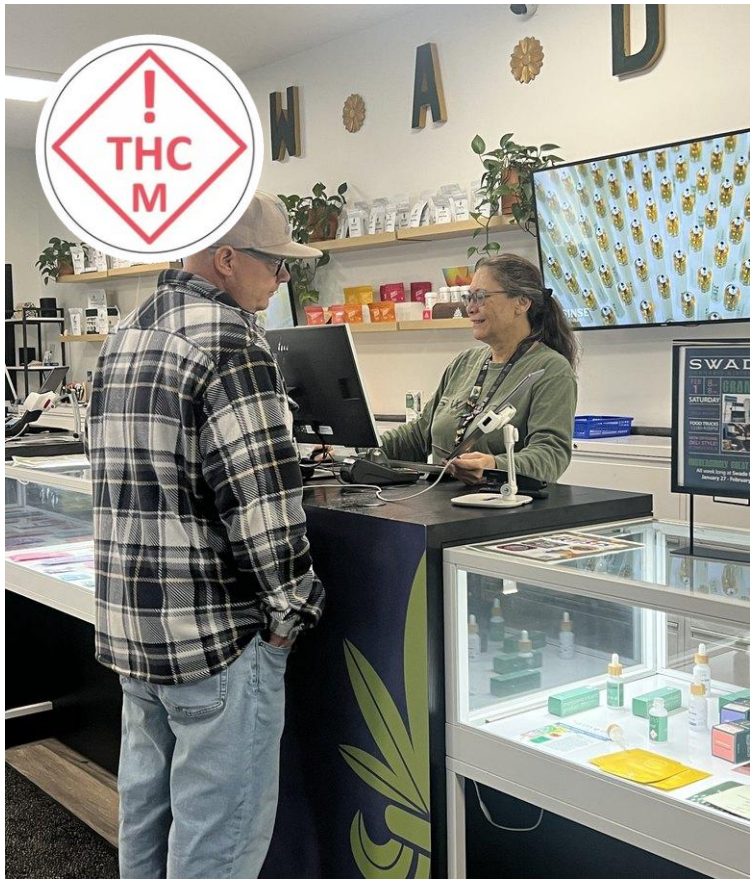
2. Next
Money to implement expungement of criminal records

3. Remaining funds
Split equally (1/3 each): Public Defender System, Missouri Veterans Commission and Drug Treatment Services



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Public Health Impact of Legal Cannabis









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Public Attitudes on Cannabis

70–94%

of Americans consistently support medical cannabis in national polls

95%

of healthcare professionals supported the legal medical use of cannabis in a 2026 survey

87%

of those healthcare professionals agreed cannabis has legitimate therapeutic uses

Healthcare professional figures: 2026 Johns Hopkins–Baylor College of Medicine survey

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Top 5 Reasons for Using Cannabis

Among adults 50+ who used cannabis with THC **at least once** in the past year



Source: University of Michigan National Poll on Healthy Aging, 2024

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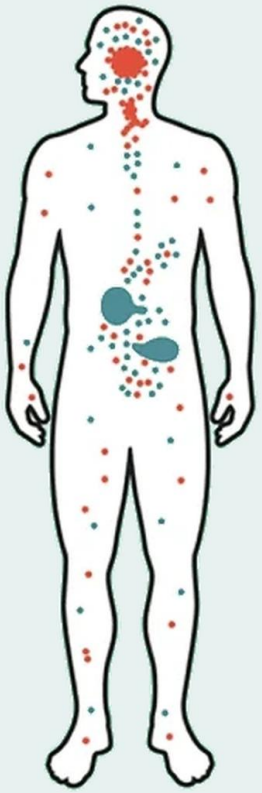
Medical vs. Adult-Use Cannabis



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Endocannabinoid System

The endocannabinoid system (ECS) is a complex cell-signaling system in the body that helps regulate and maintain balance across multiple physiological processes, including mood, appetite, pain, immune function, and memory.



CB1 receptors (red) target:

- Motor activity
- Thinking
- Motor coordination
- Appetite
- Short-term memory
- Pain perception
- Immune cells

CB2 receptors (teal) target:

- Gut
- Kidneys
- Pancreas
- Adipose tissue
- Skeletal muscle
- Bone
- Eye
- Tumors
- Reproductive system
- Immune system
- Respiratory tract
- Skin

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Types of Cannabinoids

Endogenous cannabinoids

- Naturally produced in our bodies
- Bind to endocannabinoid receptors

Phytocannabinoids

- Produced by plants
- Interact with ECS in different ways

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What Is a Cannabinoid?

Commonly known plants with cannabinoids



Black pepper
beta-caryophyllene



Cacao
anandamides



Echinacea
alkamides

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Intoxicating Cannabinoids

THC

Tetrahydrocannabinol, delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol, THCa

Effects: *pain relief, mood elevating, anti-anxiety, appetite inducing*

THCV

Tetrahydrocannabivarin

Non-intoxicating in low doses

Effects: *appetite suppressant, focus, calming*

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Non-Intoxicating Cannabinoids

CBD Cannabidiol, CBDa

Effects: *pain relief, anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, calming*

CBG Cannabigerol, CBGa

Effects: *pain relief, anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, calming, effective against MRSA*

CBN Cannabinol

Effects: *sedative, pain relief, anti-inflammatory*

CBC Cannabichromene

Effects: *pain relief, anti-inflammatory, anti-microbial*

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What Is a Terpene?

Naturally occurring chemical compounds in plants responsible for aromas, flavors, and colors

Common plants with terpenes



Herbs
linalool (coriander, lavender)



Hops
humulene and caryophyllene



Citrus fruits
limonene



Mango, blueberry
myrcene

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How Do People Consume Cannabis?

The way that cannabis is consumed affects the rate and the amount of cannabinoid metabolism.

Cannabis is consumed by:



Inhaling



Ingesting



Sublingual / Oral-Mucosal



Transdermal / Topical

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Consumption Methods

Inhalants



Flower



Cartridge



Extract

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Pros & Cons of Inhalants

Pros

- Fast onset
- Sometimes, immediate relief
- Wide availability of a variety of strains

Cons

- Smoking is not allowed in most places
- Extracts require a complicated dab rig

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Consumption Methods

Edibles



Gummies, Mints, Chocolate



Capsules or Pills



Beverages

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Pros & Cons of Ingestibles (Edibles)

Pros

- Discreet
- No air pollutants or odor
- Longer duration of effects

Cons

- Difficult to dose precisely
- Servings are not easily divided
- Potential for drug interactions

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Consumption Methods

Transdermal and Topical



Transdermal Patch



Topical

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Pros & Cons of Topicals and Transdermals

Pros

- Constant rate of delivery for 8–12 hours
- Patches can be cut smaller; delivery rate stays the same
- Discreet: no air pollutants; looks like any other medicine patch

Cons

- Potential for drug interactions (transdermals enter the bloodstream)
- Skin sensitivity: may cause irritation
- Limited availability, for now

Topicals (creams and salves) do not enter the bloodstream: no psychoactive effect and no drug interactions. Shown to help with joint and muscle pain, psoriasis, eczema and wound healing.

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Oral-Mucosal or Sublingual



Tinctures

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Pros & Cons of Sublingual

Pros

- Faster onset than edibles
- Higher bioavailability
- Discreet
- Precise dosing
- No impact on lungs, GI, liver

Cons

- Potential for drug interactions
- Taste
- Limited availability

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Unregulated Product Safety Features



1. Unclear labeling of package contents, intoxicating contents and/or dosage amounts
2. Small or no warnings that the product is intoxicating or contains THC
3. Not Missouri made and/or tested; little to no manufacturer, testing or safety information
4. Easy-to-open packaging that children can access
5. Colorful, animated or candy-like packaging that appeals to children

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Regulated Product Safety Features





THC M

Missouri THC warning symbol

1. Large “MARIJUANA” warning and THC diamond symbol clearly marked
2. Required compliance label: license, batch and tracking numbers, dates, ingredients, dosing and instructions
3. Limited-color packaging that does not appeal to children or look like candy
4. Certified child-resistant closures and containers
5. Web link or QR code for manufacturer or product information

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All About Dispensaries





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Identify a State-Regulated Dispensary

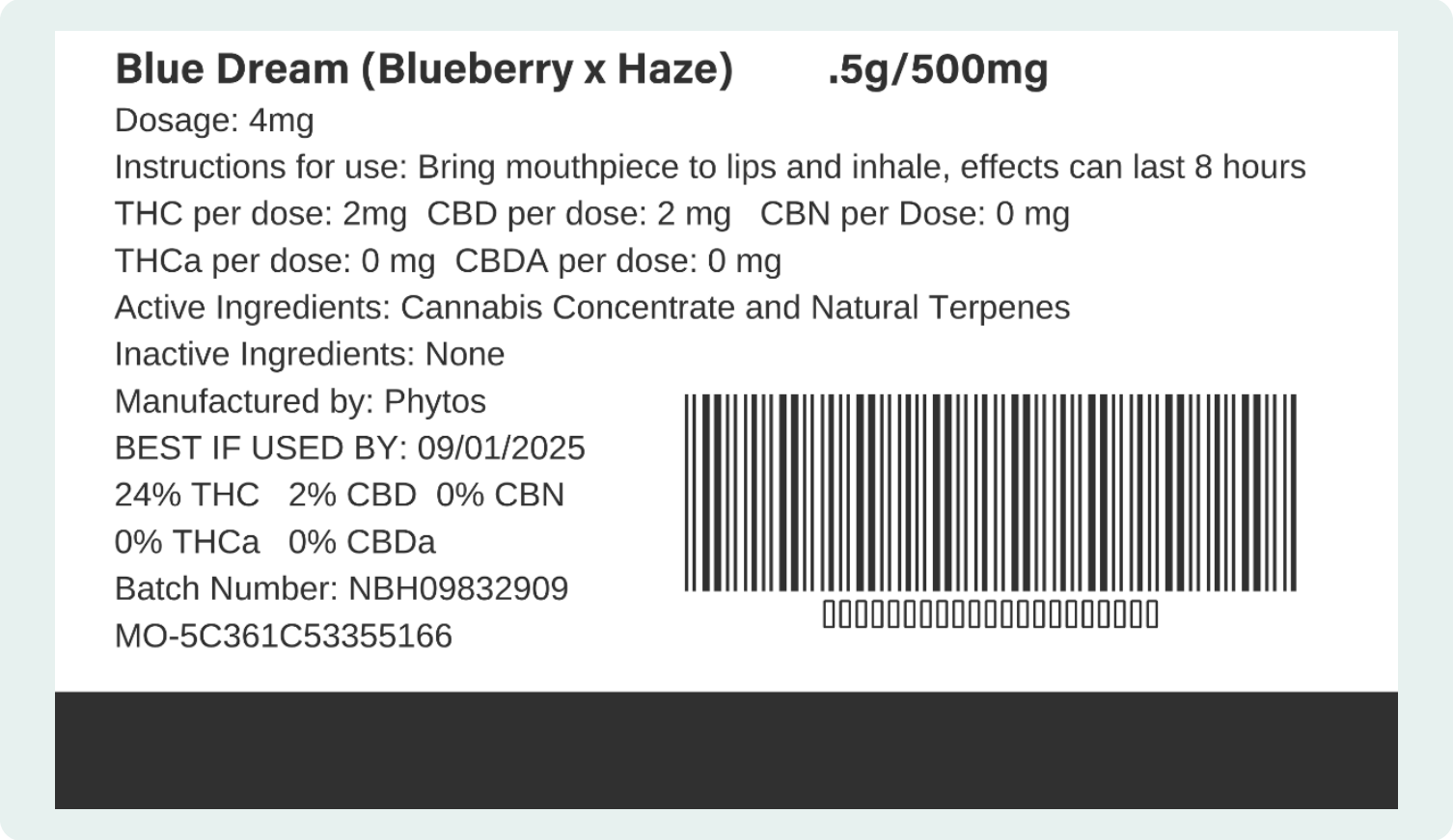
Show ID at the door AND at the register

Only legally allowed to sell approved cannabis products and some apparel/accessories



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Cannabis Safety – Reading the Label



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Cannabis Safety – Drug Interactions



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Cannabis Safety – Medical Precautions



Avoid cannabis if you have irregular heartbeat or any history, or family history, of schizophrenia or psychosis.



Follow instructions carefully when having surgery and/or anesthesia, both before and after the procedure. *This is important even if you are only taking non-intoxicating cannabis such as CBD.*

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Cannabis Safety – Choosing Quality Products



Avoid distillates and synthetic products. Always look for Full Spectrum products. Look for “live rosin” or “live resin” on the label.



Vaporizers are a safe way to consume cannabis, but only if the products in the vapes are high quality. Dry herb vaping is a way to consume flower without smoking.

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Federal Cannabis Rescheduling Progress

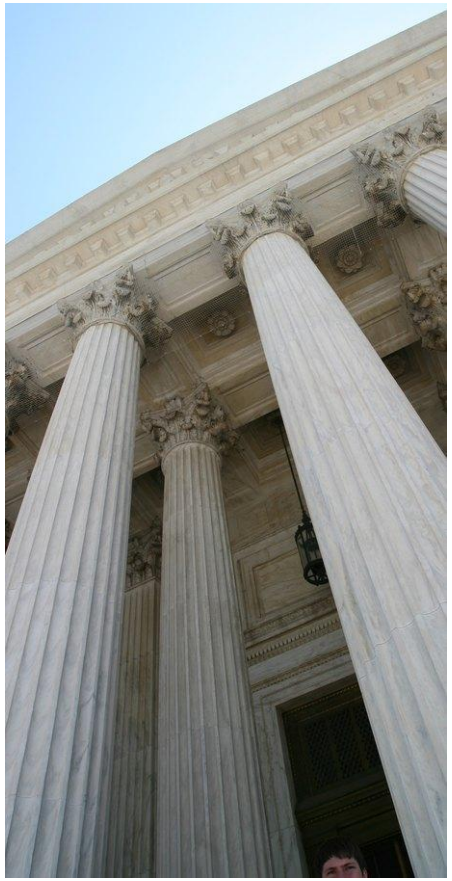
2022 Biden administration advised HHS and the Attorney General's office to conduct a scientific review of cannabis' schedule under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

2023 HHS and FDA recommended that cannabis be reclassified to Schedule III. Their scientific review found that cannabis has currently accepted medical use and a lower potential for abuse than Schedule I and II drugs.

2024 The DOJ proposed rescheduling and opened a public comment period. More than 90% of comments submitted called for rescheduling or descheduling.

Dec. 18, 2025 President Trump signed an executive order directing the Attorney General to expedite rescheduling of cannabis from Schedule I to Schedule III.

April 2026 **The federal government rescheduled state-regulated cannabis to Schedule III, acknowledging its medical value and legalizing state-legal medical cannabis.**



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Federal Laws About Cannabis



Rohrabacher-Farr Amendment (2014)



2018 Farm Bill and 2026 Hemp Product Ban

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Is Cannabis Covered by Medicare?

Medicare Part D

May cover *FDA-approved* cannabinoid medications such as Marinol or Cesamet

SSBCI

Cannabis is officially excluded in a category with alcohol and tobacco



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Medicare Coverage – What the CMS Pilot Allows

CMS Innovation Center Pilot 2026

- Allows certain models to consult with eligible beneficiaries about possible use of *eligible hemp products*
- Participant orgs may elect to furnish hemp products up to $500/year per eligible beneficiary



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Medicare Coverage – Eligible Hemp Products

CMS Innovation Center Pilot 2026

- Eligible hemp products are limited to *federally legal* hemp-derived products with less than 0.3% *delta-9 THC*
- Excludes all inhalable products, any edibles containing more than 3mg of THC (delta-8, delta-10, and THCa)
- Excludes synthetic cannabinoids



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Medicare Coverage – Rules for Participants

CMS Innovation Center Pilot 2026

- Model participants are responsible for procurement, inventory controls, storage, and dispensing
- BEI and product availability cannot be marketed to induce beneficiaries to choose or stay with a participant org
- Participant orgs may not enter into agreements to promote certain manufacturers/sellers and must implement oversight

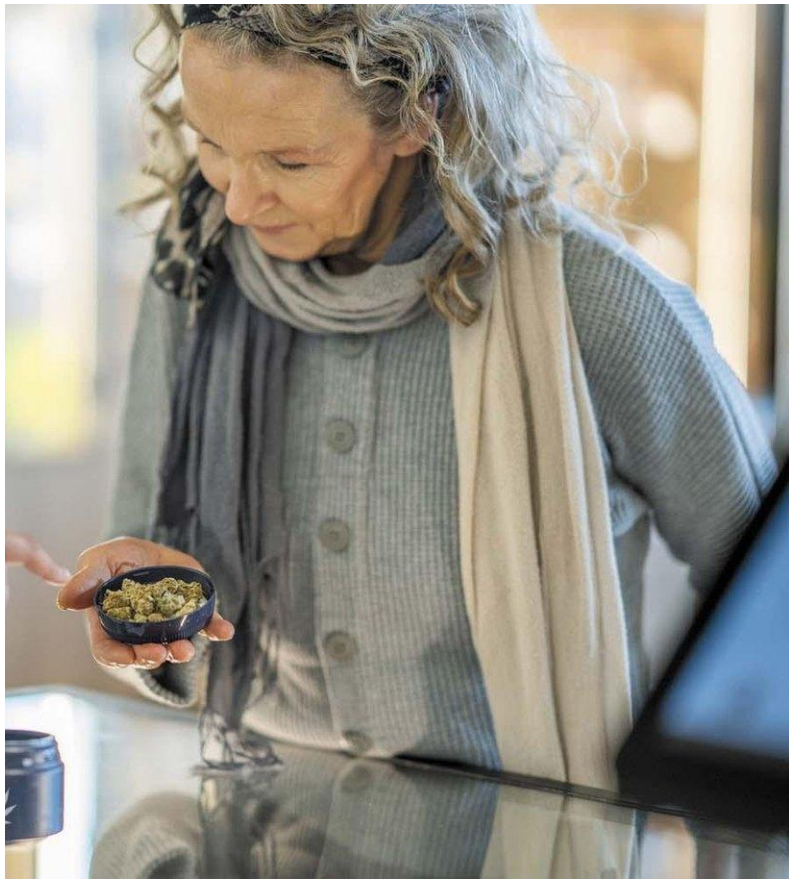


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Medicare Coverage – Payment and Claims

CMS Innovation Center Pilot 2026

- Medicare does *not* pay model participants for cannabis products
- Beneficiaries should not be asked to submit a claim for cannabis products
- Model participants cannot instruct beneficiaries to purchase retail cannabis products and submit receipts for reimbursement under this BEI



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Why Should People Get a Med Card?

Legal Protections

- Medical marijuana license holders are the only federally recognized legal cannabis users.
- Employment protections

Tax breaks

- 3% discount on taxes

Store perks and discounts

- SWADE has discounts for 60+, veterans, early birds

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Missouri Medical Marijuana Patient Program



Step 1
Forms

Step 2
Register

Step 3
Apply

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Resources for Cannabis Information

Rebecca Rivas, Missouri Independent

Policy, legislation, product recalls

MO Division of Cannabis Regulation

License holders, med cards, revenue stats

MOCannTrade

Physician education, 3rd party labs, industry events

leaf411

Nonprofit cannabis nurse hotline

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Thank You!

Please send any questions, comments, or suggestions to:

wellness@swadecannabis.com

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