

# UTAH MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM NOVEMBER 2020 UPDATE

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## IMPORTANT PROGRAM DEADLINES AND DATES

### December 31, 2020

All recommendation letters used by patients to purchase product from medical cannabis pharmacies will expire on this date. All patients must hold a valid medical cannabis card in order to legally purchase and possess medical cannabis product after this date.

### January 1, 2021

Any cannabis product in an individual's possession must have been purchased from a licensed Utah medical cannabis pharmacy beginning on this date. Cannabis product purchased outside Utah may no longer be legally possessed in Utah.

**[For information about obtaining a medical cannabis card, click here.](#)**

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**Utah Medical Cannabis Program Monthly Report**  
November 6, 2020

On November 6, 2018, Utah voters approved Proposition 2, which legalized the use of medical cannabis in Utah for qualifying patients. Since its passage, the Utah Medical Cannabis Act (UMCA) has been amended multiple times by the Utah State Legislature. The UMCA designates the Utah Department of Health as the state agency responsible for licensing and oversight of medical cannabis pharmacies, registration of medical providers, and issuance of medical cannabis cards to qualifying patients. Qualifying patients first purchased medical cannabis in Utah on March 2, 2020 and this report shows growth in the program since that time.

This report presents data collected from the Department’s electronic verification system (EVS) and inventory control system (ICS) on October 31, 2020. For further information and data, please contact the Center for Medical Cannabis at [medicalcannabis@utah.gov](mailto:medicalcannabis@utah.gov).

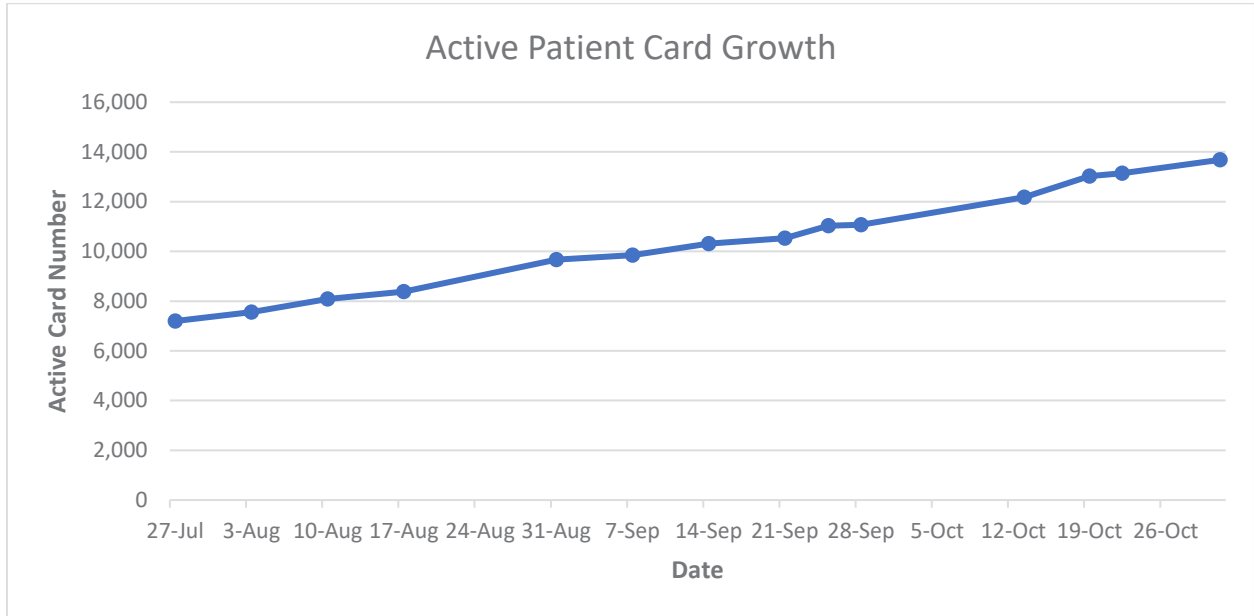
## Patient Card Registrations and Recommendation Letters

**Table 1. Patient Cardholders and Recommendation Letter Customers**

13,681	<b>Active patient cardholders</b> – Number of patients with an active medical cannabis card as of October 31, 2020.
5,495	<b>Recommendation letter customers in September 2020</b> – Number of customers who purchased medical cannabis using a recommendation letter in October 2020.

**Figure 1. Active Patient Cardholder Growth**

Total active patient card growth from July 2020 to current day is shown in the graph below.



**Table 2. Patient Demographics by Age and Sex**

Patient Age	Number (N = 13,681)	Percentage
Less than 10 years	4	Less than 1%
11-21	60	Less than 1%
22-30	3116	23%
31-45	5473	40%
46-55	1998	15%
56-65	1743	13%
66+	1287	9%
<b>Patient Sex</b>		
Male	7509	55%
Female	6146	44%
Other	26	Less than 1%

**Table 3. Patient Cardholders by County of Residence**

<b>County</b>	<b>Number of patient cardholders</b>
Beaver	25
Box Elder	190
Cache	504
Carbon	70
Daggett	3
Davis	1074
Duchesne	19
Emery	13
Garfield	4
Grand	5
Iron	32
Juab	18
Kane	6
Millard	21
Morgan	14
Piute	0
Rich	6
Salt Lake	3801
San Juan	3
Sanpete	34
Sevier	20
Summit	138
Tooele	160
Uintah	51
Utah	5898
Wasatch	79
Washington	173
Wayne	1
Weber	1319
<b>Total Active Patient Cardholders</b>	<b>13,681</b>

**Table 4. Patient Cardholders by Medical Condition**

Patients may register in the program with more than one qualifying condition, thus the total number of patient cards by condition is higher than the actual number of total active patient cards.

<b>Medical condition</b>	<b>Total number of patient certifications as of October 31, 2020</b>
AIDS	4
ALS	4
Alzheimer's	6
Autism	91
Cachexia	20
Cancer	163
Chronic Pain	10961
Crohn's Disease	238
Debilitating Seizures	50
Epilepsy	146
HIV	95
Hospice	5
MS	215
Nausea	315
Other*	15
Persistent Muscle Spasms	38
PTSD	1678
Rare Condition	33
Terminal Illness	284
Ulcerative Colitis	74
<b>Total number of patient certifications</b>	<b>14,435</b>

\*Other denotes those conditions petitioned to the Compassionate Use Board. Conditions petitioned to the Board include localized lipodystrophy pain

## Compassionate Use Board

**Table 5. Compassionate Use Board Petitions Submitted by Petition Status**

The Compassionate Use Board meets monthly to review patient petitions. Petitions may be approved, denied, or considered incomplete (i.e. needing more information). The data below represents petitions received through October 31, 2020.

Status	Number of petitions reviewed, March 2020 - October 2020 (N=131)
Approved	103
Incomplete	27
Denied	1

**Table 6. Compassionate Use Board Petitions by Age**

	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT
<b>Total petitions</b>	5	11	20	19	16	16	16	28
<b>Age range</b>	11-36	9-20	7-40	6-61	5-43	6-27	12-72	2-20
<b>Total under 21yo</b>	4	11	17	13	15	16	14	17

## Qualified Medical Providers

**Table 7. Qualified Medical Provider Totals**

528	<b>Active Qualified Medical Providers</b> – Number of medical providers with an active QMP registration.
116	<b>Active Qualified Medical Providers with Cardholder Cap of 600</b> – Number of medical providers approved by UDOH to recommend to up to 600 active cardholders at one time (22% of all QMPs).
412	<b>Active Qualified Medical Providers with Cardholder Cap of 275</b> – Number of Medical Providers limited to recommend to up to 275 active cardholders at one time (78% of all QMPs).

**Table 8. Total Registered Qualified Medical Providers by County**

A qualified medical provider (QMP) may list more than one office location for their practice. The table below shows the distribution of QMPs registered throughout Utah by county. This total is greater than the total of registered QMPs because a QMP may have multiple office locations.

<b>County</b>	<b>Number of QMP office locations registered</b>
Beaver	1
Box Elder	1
Cache	7
Carbon	2
Daggett	0
Davis	40
Duchesne	0
Emery	0
Garfield	0
Grand	1
Iron	1
Juab	3
Kane	0
Millard	2
Morgan	0
Piute	0
Rich	0
Salt Lake	241
San Juan	0
Sanpete	1
Sevier	2
Summit	4
Tooele	3
Uintah	3
Utah	186
Wasatch	2
Washington	16
Wayne	0
Weber	33
<b>Total QMP office locations registered</b>	<b>549</b>



**Table 9. Total Registered Qualified Medical Providers by American Medical Board Certification**

Most QMPs are limited to recommending cannabis as a treatment to up to 275 active patient cardholders but some QMPs have qualified to recommend to up to 600 active cardholders. To qualify to recommend to up to 600 active cardholders, a QMP must be a physician certified by the appropriate American Medical Board of anesthesiology, neurology, oncology, pain, hospice and palliative care, physical medicine and rehabilitation, endocrinology, rheumatology or psychiatry OR the QMP may be employed or contracted by a business for the specific purpose of providing hospice and palliative care. The table below shows the distribution of QMPs reporting an American Medical Board Certification to receive the higher patient cap. This is a total list of MDs and DOs only. APRNs and PAs can only apply for the higher patient cap if they are employed by hospice and palliative care, which is not represented below.

<b>American Medical Board Certification</b>	<b>Number of QMPs reporting American Medical Board Certification</b>
Anesthesiology	17
Endocrinology	0
Gastroenterology	4
Hospice and Palliative Care	11
Neurology	10
Oncology	8
Pain Medicine	10
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	16
Psychiatry	16
Rheumatology	1
<b>Total QMPs with American Medical Board Certification</b>	<b>93</b>

**Table 10. Qualified Medical Providers by DOPL License type**

<b>Qualified Medical Providers</b>	<b>Number (N=528)</b>
Medical Doctor (MD)	208
Osteopathic Doctor (DO)	43
Physician Assistant (PA)	64
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)	213

## Pharmacy Medical Providers and Pharmacy Transactions

**Table 11. Medical Cannabis Pharmacy Employee Totals**

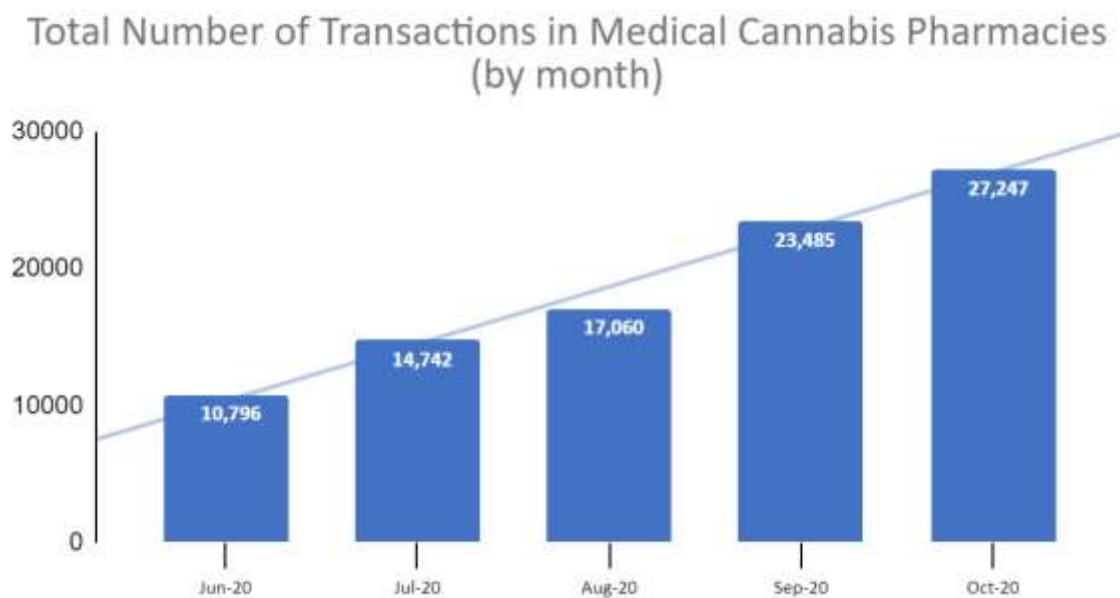
35	<b>Active Pharmacy Medical Providers</b> - Pharmacy medical providers who have an active registration with the Utah Department of Health.
109	<b>Active Pharmacy Agents</b> - Pharmacy agents who have an active registration with the Utah Department of Health.

**Table 12. Medical Cannabis Pharmacy Sales Transaction Totals**

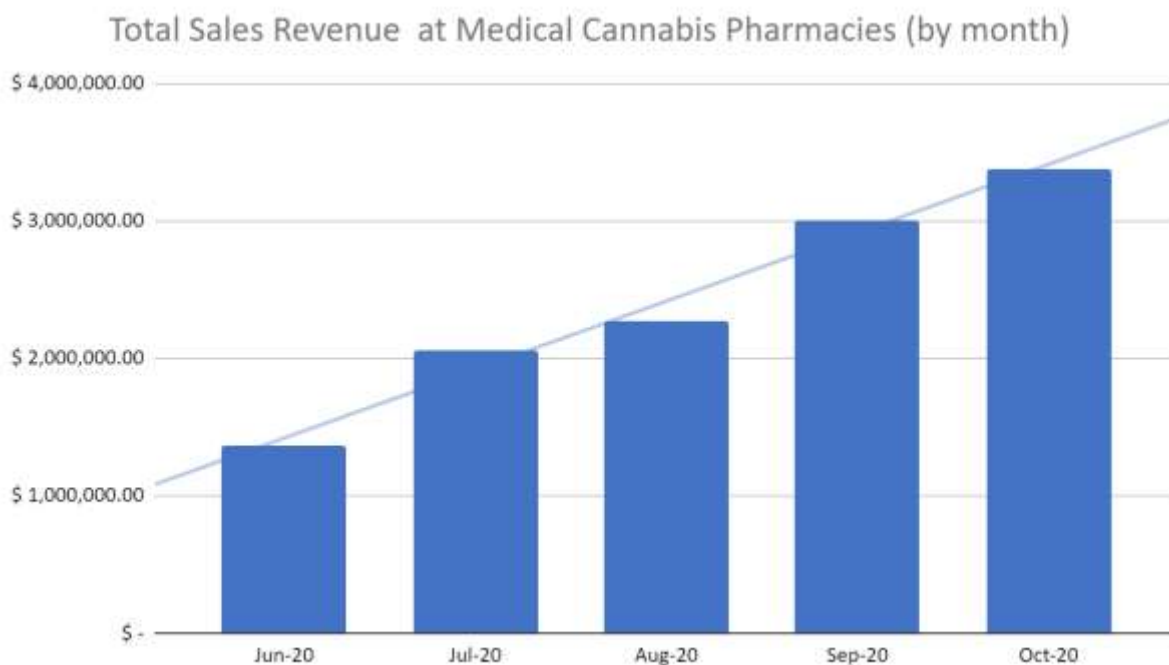
Transaction and sales revenue data is retrieved at the end of each month. Data below represents all transactions and total sales revenue between March 2, 2020 and October 31, 2020 from seven medical cannabis pharmacies that opened during that time frame. As of October 31, 2020, medical cannabis pharmacies operating in Utah include Dragonfly Wellness (Salt Lake City), Perfect Earth Modern Apothecary (Logan), Perfect Earth Modern Apothecary (Ogden), WholesomeCo Cannabis (West Bountiful), Curaleaf (Lehi), Deseret Wellness (Provo), Beehive Farmacy (Salt Lake City).

109,207	<b>Transactions at Medical Cannabis Pharmacies</b> – Transactions at medical cannabis pharmacies between March 2, 2020 and October 31, 2020.
27,247	<b>Transactions at Medical Cannabis Pharmacies in October 2020</b> – Transactions at medical cannabis pharmacies in October 2020.
\$14,462,748.37	<b>Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue</b> – Medical cannabis sales revenue at licensed medical cannabis pharmacies between March 2, 2020 and October 31, 2020 (does not include sales of medical cannabis devices and medical cannabis educational materials).
\$ 3,380,665.08	<b>Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue in October 2020</b> - Medical cannabis sales revenue at licensed medical cannabis pharmacies during October 2020 (does not include sales of medical cannabis devices and medical cannabis educational materials).

**Figure 2. Medical Cannabis Transactions at Pharmacies by Month** (for months not displayed below, please find earlier reports posted on the Center for Medical Cannabis' website)



**Figure 3. Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue by Month** (for months not displayed below, please find earlier reports posted on the Center for Medical Cannabis' website)



## PHARMACY UPDATES

The medical cannabis courier application is now available on the Center for Medical Cannabis website. Click [here](#) for more information.

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## STATUTE AND RULE CLARIFICATIONS

In regards to official educational events (which would not be held inside the limited access area of the pharmacy), the law states:

Utah Code 26-61a-505

(5) (a) A medical cannabis pharmacy may hold an educational event for the public or medical providers in accordance with this Subsection (5) and the rules described in Subsection (5)(c). (b) A medical cannabis pharmacy may not include in an educational event described in Subsection (5)(a): (i) any topic that conflicts with this chapter or Title 4, Chapter 41a, Cannabis Production Establishments; **(ii) any gift items or merchandise other than educational materials**, as those terms are defined by the department; Utah Code Page 47 **(iii) any marketing for a specific product** from the medical cannabis pharmacy or any other statement, claim, or information that would violate the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. Sec. 301, et seq.; or **(iv) a presenter other than the following: (A) a pharmacist licensed under Title 58, Chapter 17b, Pharmacy Practice Act; (B) an advanced practice registered nurse licensed under Title 58, Chapter 31b, Nurse Practice Act; (C) a physician licensed under Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act, or Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act; (D) a physician assistant licensed under Title 58, Chapter 70a, Utah Physician Assistant Act; or (E) a state employee.**

If you plan to simply host a vendor inside the pharmacy to discuss products with cardholders, it would not be considered an educational event and must take place within the limited access cardholder area of your pharmacy.

Since this would be considered a pharmacy event, the same rules apply for advertising and giving away merchandise, medical cannabis products, and devices. A pharmacy may never give away for free a medical cannabis product or device, and merchandise with logos is considered advertising.

Production educational events are defined differently in Utah Code 4-41a-403, although these events may not take place at a pharmacy due to the UDOH statute above.

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

The [Cannabinoid Product Board](#) meets December 8, 2020 at 9 a.m. MST via online conference.

<https://meet.google.com/yji-wdqf-obi>

Dial in: +1 513-783-1477 PIN: 553 928 245#

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The Center for Medical Cannabis, Cannabinoid Product Board, and the Compassionate Use Board presented their annual reports to the Utah Legislature's Health and Human Services Interim Committee on November 18. The minutes and audio from this meeting are available [here](#).

The Center for Medical Cannabis annual report is available [here](#).

The Cannabinoid Product Board annual report is available [here](#).

The Compassionate Use Board annual report is available [here](#).

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## EVS AND ICS ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PROVIDERS:** Work is still ongoing regarding the system error preventing Expired or Cancelled patients who are IN RENEWAL from populating in the Enhanced Inbox. To update patient notes for renewals, please contact [medicalcannabis@utah.gov](mailto:medicalcannabis@utah.gov).

Please refer to [medicalcannabis.utah.gov](http://medicalcannabis.utah.gov) for the most up-to-date system advisories for providers.



**ATTENTION PROVIDERS:** Click here for the most up to date Electronic Verification System guides and announcements

## NEWS AND PRESS RELEASES

Utah has joined in establishing the Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA). The non-partisan organization aims to better share institutional knowledge and regulatory best practices. Cannabis regulators from 19 states have joined in filing documents to establish CANNRA, which is being created in order to assist federal, state, and local jurisdictions that have approved or are weighing legalization of cannabis.

More information [here](#).

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[Sign up](#) for future updates from the Center for Medical Cannabis.