

UTAH MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM DECEMBER 2020 UPDATE

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288 North 1460 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84116

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.](#)



PHARMACY UPDATES

COURIER APPLICATION

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

REFERENCE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

PATIENT SURVEY

In October 2020, the Center for Medical Cannabis sent out the first medical cannabis patient survey to patients registered in the Utah Medical Cannabis program. Survey results are compiled and available in the November 2020 Medical Cannabis Patient Survey Report, available here:

<https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov/resources/reporting/>

PUBLIC NOTICES

CPB MEETING

The [Cannabinoid Product Board](#) meets January 12, 2021 at 9 a.m. MST via online conference.

<https://meet.google.com/ssg-wxbx-zjf>

Dial in: +1 574-310-8826 PIN: 981 401 459#

2021 GENERAL SESSION

The 2021 General Session of the 64th Legislature begins January 19, 2021 and ends March 5, 2021.

NEWS AND PRESS RELEASES

UDOH SEEKS INTERNS

The Utah Department of Health, Center for Medical Cannabis is seeking to fill two unpaid graduate-level intern positions to begin in January 2021 and last for between four and 12 months, depending on availability. The hourly commitment is up to 15 hours per week.

Policy Intern: Conduct policy research regarding medical cannabis across the United States. This assignment will include evaluating medical cannabis policies in other states and assessing policies that are considered by Utah lawmakers during the 2021 General Legislative Session.

Medical Research Intern: Conduct literature reviews for the Utah Department of Health and the Cannabinoid Product Board as they evaluate the health effects of cannabis and cannabinoids and the impact of cannabis legalization on various states. The intern would research medical journals and digital libraries and gather and assess literature on these and other related topics.

To apply, please submit a resume including your name, contact information, relevant education and experience, and a reference list to Reshma Arrington at rarrington@utah.gov by Monday, December 28, 2020. If one of the internships is especially interesting to you, please specify in your email which one you prefer and why.

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) encourages all medical cannabis patients who hold recommendation letters to register as cardholders prior to the upcoming December 31, 2020 deadline.

After this date, recommendation letters will no longer be accepted at medical cannabis pharmacies to allow patients to purchase medical cannabis. The changes that take effect January 1, 2021 also remove protections previously granted for patients who possess medical cannabis purchased outside the state of Utah. On January 1, 2021 any cannabis product in an individual's possession must have been purchased from a licensed Utah medical cannabis pharmacy.

Information about how to get a medical cannabis card can be found at <https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov>.

As of November 30, 2020, the UDOH has 16,096 active medical cannabis patients and 560 active qualified medical providers. Currently, there are seven medical cannabis pharmacies open in Utah. An additional seven medical cannabis pharmacies are expected to open by the end of March 2021.

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.

Please refer to 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



Utah Medical Cannabis Program Report

December 9, 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 November 30, 2020. For further information and data, please contact the Center for Medical Cannabis at medicalcannabis@utah.gov.

Patient Card Registrations and Recommendation Letters

Table 1. Patient Cardholders and Recommendation Letter Customers

16,096	Active patient cardholders – Number of patients with an active medical cannabis card as of November 30, 2020.
4,550	Recommendation letter customers in November 2020 – Number of customers who purchased medical cannabis using a recommendation letter in November 2020.

Figure 1. Active Patient Cardholder Growth

Total active patient card growth from August 2020 through November 30, 2020 is shown in the graph below.

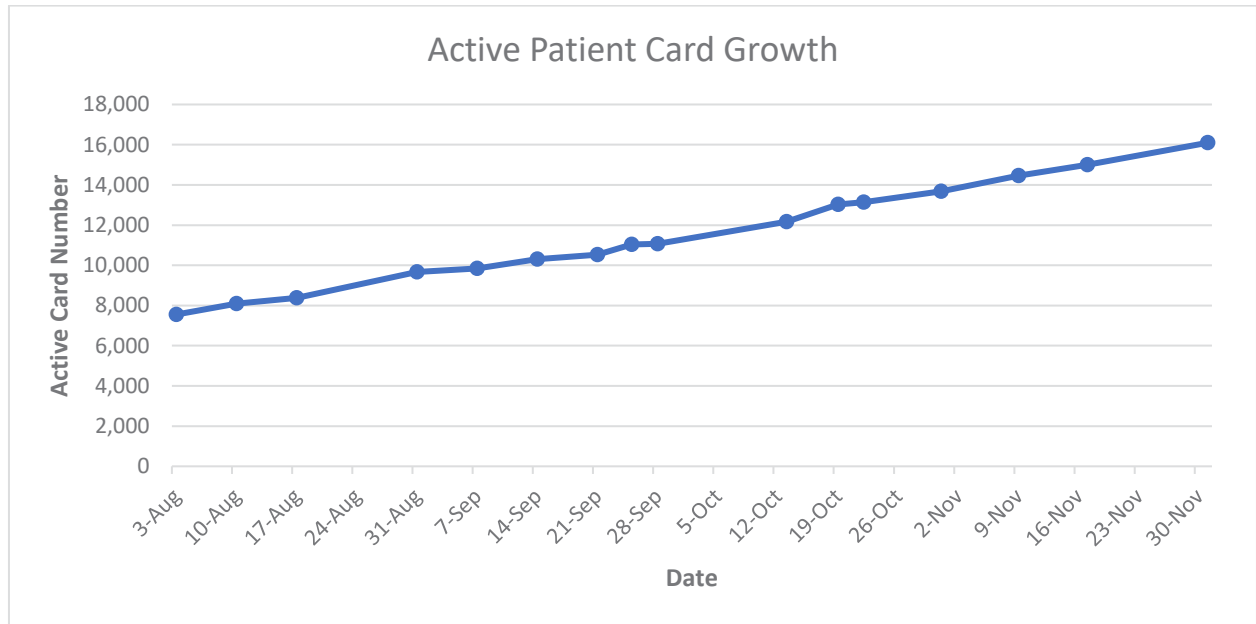


Table 2. Patient Demographics by Age and Sex

Patient Age	Number (N = 16,096)	Percentage
Less than 10 years	8	Less than 1%
11-21	72	Less than 1%
22-30	3,229	20%
31-45	6,734	42%
46-55	2,478	15%
56-65	2,088	13%
66+	1,487	9%
Patient Sex		
Male	8,969	56%
Female	7,090	44%
Other	37	Less than 1%

Table 3. Patient Cardholders by County of Residence

County	Number of patient cardholders
Beaver	29
Box Elder	213
Cache	580
Carbon	84
Daggett	5
Davis	1283
Duchesne	28
Emery	16
Garfield	4
Grand	7
Iron	41
Juab	23
Kane	7
Millard	26
Morgan	20
Piute	1
Rich	6
Salt Lake	4503
San Juan	6
Sanpete	42
Sevier	18
Summit	165
Tooele	180
Uintah	51
Utah	7003
Wasatch	93
Washington	196
Wayne	1
Weber	1465
Total Active Patient Cardholders	16,096

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.

Medical condition	Total number of patient certifications as of November 30, 2020
AIDS	6
ALS	5
Alzheimer’s	6
Autism	83
Cachexia	11
Cancer	135
Chronic Pain	12,731
Crohn’s Disease	246
Debilitating Seizures	68
Epilepsy	179
HIV	94
Hospice	2
MS	232
Nausea	401
Other*	14
Persistent Muscle Spasms	90
PTSD	1,966
Rare Condition	45
Terminal Illness	343
Ulcerative Colitis	95
Total number of patient certifications	16,752

*Other denotes those conditions petitioned to the Compassionate Use Board. Conditions petitioned to the Board include localized lipodystrophy pain, disabilities with severe emotional dysregulation, Macular Degeneration, anxiety, anorexia, MDD, GAD, insomnia and sleep disorders

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 November 30, 2020.

Status	Number of petitions reviewed, March 2020 - November 2020 (N=147)
Approved	118
Incomplete	27
Denied	1
Expedited Approval*	1

*Expedited approval is a review status which was added to the CUB approval process starting the November 2020 meeting.

Table 6. Compassionate Use Board Petitions by Age

	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV
Total petitions	11	20	19	16	16	16	28	16
Age range	9-20	7-40	6-61	5-43	6-27	12-72	2-20	3-20
Total under 21yo	11	17	13	15	16	14	17	16

Qualified Medical Providers

Table 7. Qualified Medical Provider Totals

560	Active Qualified Medical Providers – Number of medical providers with an active QMP registration.
127	Active Qualified Medical Providers with Cardholder Cap of 600 – Number of medical providers approved by UDOH to recommend to up to 600 active cardholders at one time (23% of all QMPs).
433	Active Qualified Medical Providers with Cardholder Cap of 275 – Number of Medical Providers limited to recommend to up to 275 active cardholders at one time (77% 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.

County	Number of QMP office locations registered
Beaver	1
Box Elder	2
Cache	8
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	249
San Juan	0
Sanpete	1
Sevier	3
Summit	4
Tooele	3
Uintah	3
Utah	199
Wasatch	3
Washington	18
Wayne	0
Weber	36
Total QMP office locations registered	579

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.

American Medical Board Certification	Number of QMPs reporting American Medical Board Certification
Anesthesiology	16
Endocrinology	0
Gastroenterology	4
Hospice and Palliative Care	11
Neurology	10
Oncology	9
Pain Medicine	10
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	16
Psychiatry	15
Rheumatology	1
Total QMPs with American Medical Board Certification	92

Table 10. Qualified Medical Providers by DOPL License type

Qualified Medical Providers	Number (N=560)
Medical Doctor (MD)	218
Osteopathic Doctor (DO)	44
Physician Assistant (PA)	69
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)	229

Pharmacy Medical Providers and Pharmacy Transactions

Table 11. Medical Cannabis Pharmacy Employee Totals

39	Active Pharmacy Medical Providers - Pharmacy medical providers who have an active registration with the Utah Department of Health.
122	Active Pharmacy Agents - 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 November 30, 2020 from seven medical cannabis pharmacies that opened during that time frame. As of November 30, 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).

136,529	Transactions at Medical Cannabis Pharmacies – Transactions at medical cannabis pharmacies between March 2, 2020 and November 30, 2020.
27,322	Transactions at Medical Cannabis Pharmacies in November 2020 – Transactions at medical cannabis pharmacies in November 2020.
\$17,853,741.48	Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue – Medical cannabis sales revenue at licensed medical cannabis pharmacies between March 2, 2020 and November 30, 2020 (does not include sales of medical cannabis devices and medical cannabis educational materials).
\$3,390,993.11	Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue in November 2020 - Medical cannabis sales revenue at licensed medical cannabis pharmacies during November 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)

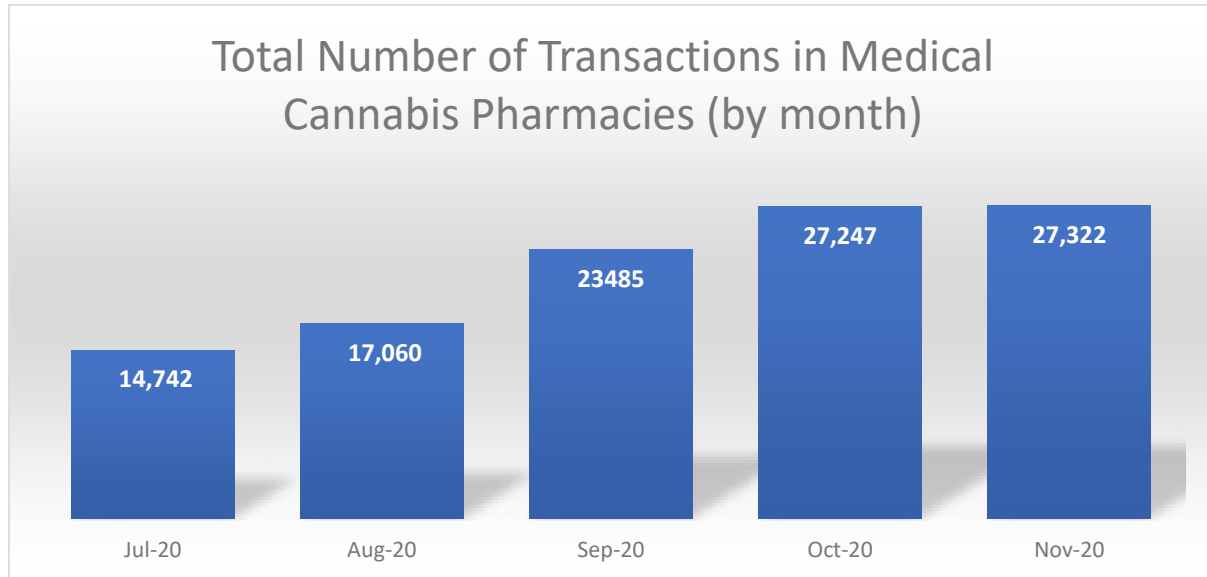
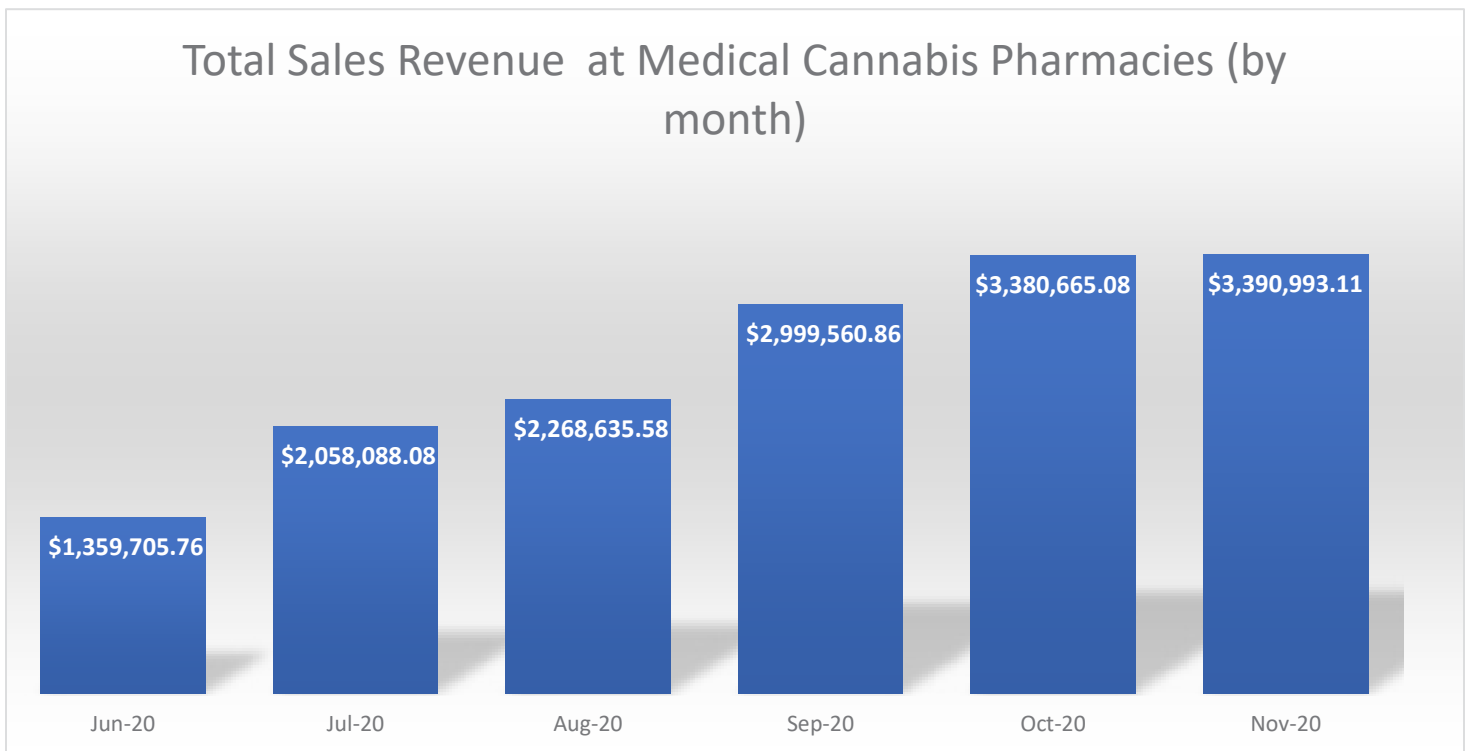


Figure 3. Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue by Month (for months not displayed below, please find earlier reports posted on the Center for Medical Cannabis’ website)



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