



# April 2023 monthly update

## Table of contents

Program updates ..... page 2

Upcoming meetings ..... page 4

Medical cannabis education ..... page 5

Research and data ..... page 6

Resources ..... page 7

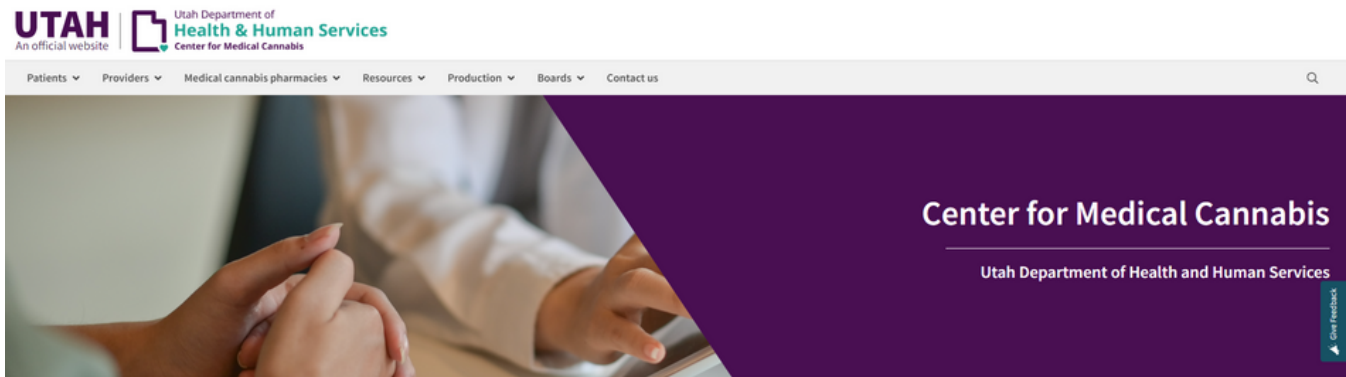
Sign up for future updates from the DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis at  
<https://forms.gle/dig5ejZ37qygx9oY9>

# Program updates

## New DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis website design

We are excited for a new look and feel of our website! All of the information is the same, but just in a new format to make it easier to find what you're looking for.

- **Check it out at [medicalcannabis.utah.gov](https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov).**



## 2022 medical cannabis market analysis results

We are excited to share the results from our market analysis that was conducted in December 2022.

- At this time, we are highlighting the survey responses that we received from medical cannabis patients.
- **Take a look at <https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov/2023/04/06/2022-medical-cannabis-market-analysis-survey/>.**

## New guidelines for medical providers about oral cannabis products from the Cannabis Research Review Board (CRRB)

The CRRB has released new guidelines that medical providers can use when recommending oral cannabis products to adults.

- **The guidelines can be found at <https://medicalcannabis.at.utah.gov/resources/cannabinoid-product-board/> under the "Cannabis Research Review Board documents" tab.**

## Upcoming presentation for providers

Richard Oborn, DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis director, and Dr. Marc Babitz are presenting about medical cannabis at the Ogden Surgical-Medical Society 78th annual CME conference from May 16th to May 19th.

- **You can register to attend this conference in-person or virtually at <https://ogdensurgical.com/presentations/>.**



## Annual update to the "Living Systematic Review on Cannabis and Other Plant Based Treatments for Chronic and Subacute Pain"

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality updated its research about using cannabis to treat pain. Here are the highlights:

- This study didn't have enough information about unprocessed flower to make a statement about how it affects pain.
- Products with the same amounts of CBD and THC in them helped lower the amount of pain that people felt. These products had common side effects of dizziness and tiredness. Some people had nausea after using these products.
- Products with more THC than CBD in them helped lower the amount of pain that people felt. Common side effects included tiredness, nausea, and dizziness.
- **Want to take a look at the study results for yourself? Find them at [https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/plant-based-chronic-subacute-pain-treatment#field\\_report\\_title\\_1](https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/plant-based-chronic-subacute-pain-treatment#field_report_title_1).**

# Upcoming meetings

## Cannabis Research Review Board (CRRB) meetings

The CRRB reviews cannabis research and provides recommendations to the Utah State Legislature and DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis about cannabis use, medical conditions that respond to cannabis, medical cannabis products, and medical cannabis dosages.

- For the meeting dates/times, virtual meeting links, or to see information about past meetings, visit the Utah Public Meeting Notice website at <https://www.utah.gov/pmnl/index.html>.

**Cannabis Research Review Board meetings and recordings are available at <https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov/resources/cannabinoid-product-board/>.**

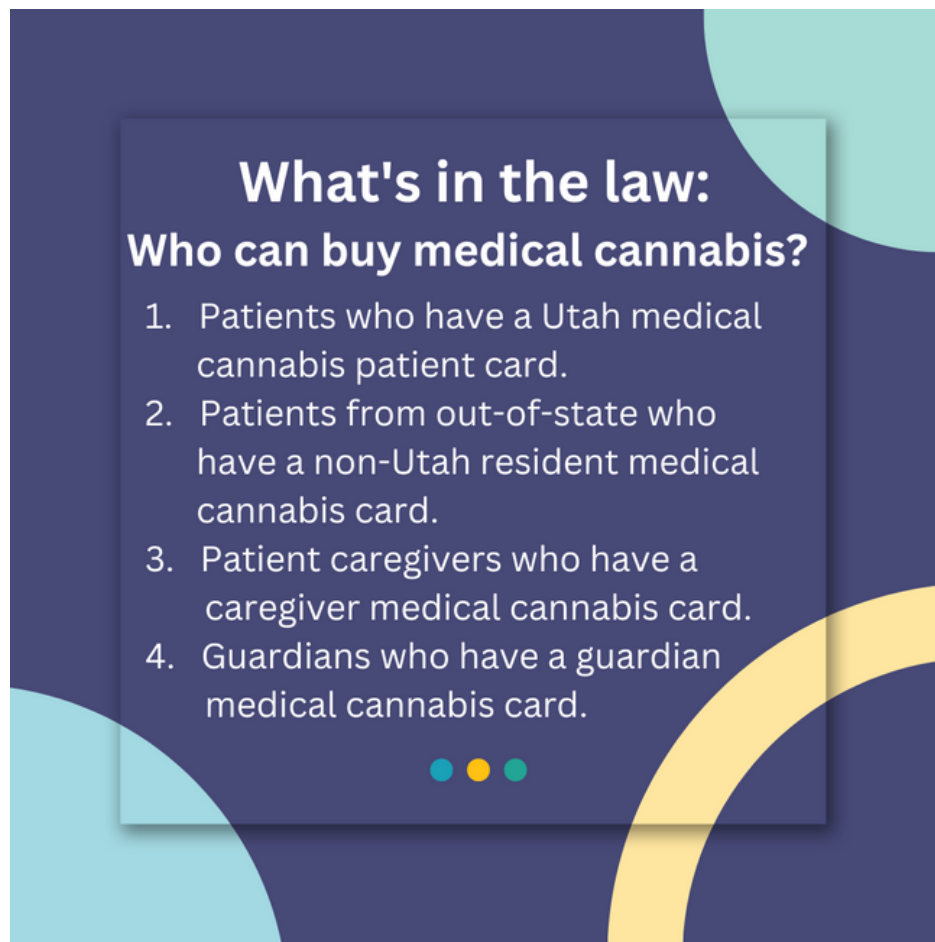
## Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) Cannabis Establishment Licensing Advisory Board meetings

The UDAF Cannabis Production Establishment Licensing Advisory Board reviews cannabis cultivation and production license applications and renewals. They also review requests such as ownership changes, location changes, and production changes, among others.

- The next UDAF Cannabis Establishment Licensing Boards meetings are:
  - April 13, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. MT
  - June 15, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. MT
  - August 9, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. MT
  - October 10, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. MT
  - December 5, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. MT
  - Meetings can be attended in person or virtually.
- For in-person meeting locations, virtual meeting links, or to see information about past meetings, visit the Utah Public Meeting Notice website at <https://www.utah.gov/pmnl/index.html>.

# Medical cannabis education

Have you ever wondered about the specifics of the Utah Medical Cannabis Act? We're here to help! For the next few months, our medical cannabis education is going to focus on the different parts of Utah medical cannabis laws.



The Utah Medical Cannabis Act tells us who can buy medical cannabis. This includes 4 types of people.

1. Medical cannabis patients from Utah who have a medical cannabis card from DHHS.
2. Medical cannabis patients who are visiting Utah and who have a non-Utah resident medical cannabis card from DHHS to use while they're here.
3. Guardians of patients who are younger than 18 years old. When the patient gets a medical cannabis card, the guardian will get a guardian medical cannabis card that they can use to buy medical cannabis for the patient.
4. Caregivers who are taking care of a medical cannabis patient. If the patient logs into their EVS account and adds a person as a caregiver, then the caregiver can get a caregiver medical cannabis card that they can use to buy medical cannabis for the patient.

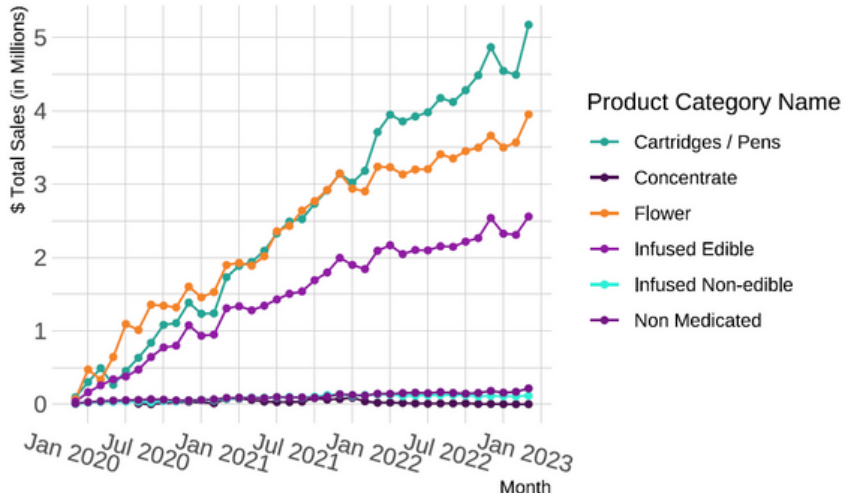
**Have questions about the types of medical cannabis cards that are available and how to apply for them? Visit <https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov/patients/>.**

# Research and data

## DHHS data reporting

In March:

- The number of active medical cannabis cardholders increased by 2.6% from 65,016 patients in February to 66,749 patients in March.
- The number of QMPs increased by 1.8% from 917 QMPs in February to 934 QMPs in March.
- The top 3 most sold products are vape cartridges and pens, unprocessed flower, and infused edibles like gummies and capsules.



Totals for this month

Product Category Name	Total Sales	Product Subtypes
Cartridges / Pens	\$5,174,033	Vape Cartridges, Vape Pens
Concentrate	\$265.59	Tinctures
Flower	\$3,953,025	Buds, Finished Flower, Pre-Pack
Infused Edible	\$2,559,040	Gummies, Lozenges, Oils, Sprays, Liquid Suspensions, Capsules, Pills
Infused Non-edible	\$115,644.8	Balms, Gels, Lotion, Patches, Salves, Topical
Non Medicated	\$214,782.8	Pens, Vaporizers, Devices, Grinders, Batteries, Cases

## Compassionate Use Board data reporting

2023	
CUB first quarter data	
number of patients with first EVS event of 'Awaiting Cub Review'	74
number of REDCap petitions received from QMPs	52
number of Board approvals	15
number of Board denials	1
number of Need More Information requests sent to QMPs	40
*this includes EVS event and REDCap petition data received in previous quarters	

## UDAF data reporting

As of March, there are:

- 8 medical cannabis cultivators who are allowed to cultivate medical cannabis.
- 1 tier-2 processor who is allowed to package and label medical cannabis products.
- 14 tier-1 processors who are allowed to process, formulate, package, and label medical cannabis products.
- 1 testing lab license who tests medical cannabis products before they're sold.

Review our data reports at

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

# Resources

## Utah Medical Cannabis Visit Cost website

Medical cannabis patients should be able to know the cost of their medical visits and have the opportunity to find the right care at a reasonable price. The Medical Cannabis Visit Cost website (<https://healthcost.utah.gov/cannabis.php>) helps patients compare prices charged by qualified medical providers (QMPs) for initial and renewal medical cannabis evaluation visits. Here's what you need to know about the site:

- QMPs and medical clinics are required to report their fees if they represent online or in printed materials that they offer medical cannabis evaluations.
- The fees posted are estimates, and patients who use insurance should always contact the clinic to confirm what their out-of-pocket costs will be.

**Are there incorrect prices listed?** If you notice a price posted on the website is significantly different than the price actually charged by a clinic, you can submit a complaint at <https://forms.gle/TiCGp1axn6iKj2md9>.

- You'll need to provide the name of the QMP who you met and the name and address of the clinic where you met with them.

## Utah Subsidy Program from Utah Patients Coalition

You may qualify for financial help to pay for medical cannabis. The Utah Patients Coalition has a Utah Subsidy Program that assists with many costs associated with medical cannabis.

- This program can subsidize the following costs:
  - Medical consultations and doctor visits.
  - Medical cannabis products and devices.
  - DHHS electronic verification system (EVS) fees.
  - Cannabis home delivery costs.
- In order to qualify, you must provide:
  - Proof of Utah residency.
  - Proof of financial eligibility.
  - Proof of a qualifying medical condition for medical cannabis.
  - Proof of registration or intent to register as a cardholder with the DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis.
- **Learn more about the Utah Subsidy Program at <https://utahpatients.org/upsp/>.**

## External medical cannabis research review requests

The Cannabis Research Review Board (CRRB) and the DHHS Center for Medical Cannabis want to create an inclusive and educated medical cannabis program community by continuing to consider research studies submitted by the industry and the public.

- **We invite you to submit studies for review and consideration.** The industry and public are welcome to submit studies published inside and outside the United States for review by the DHHS and CRRB. The DHHS will evaluate the validity of the scientific findings of each study submitted based on the rigor of the study design, the risk of bias, and relevance.
- **To submit a study for review, fill out this form:** <https://forms.gle/HegxpfZ3TdGPfkcw7>.
- If the study meets the scientific rigor required by state statute, then it will be shared with the CRRB.
- To review the state statute about scientific studies, visit [https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title26/Chapter61/26-61-S202.html?v=C26-61-S202\\_2022050420220504](https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title26/Chapter61/26-61-S202.html?v=C26-61-S202_2022050420220504).

## UDAF medical cannabis production information

Are you interested in learning more about medical cannabis production? You can find information about production facilities, production numbers, administrative rules, application resources, and more at <https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov/production/>.