

Texas Compassionate Use Program

Shanna Hampton, PharmD

Program Director Pharmacist

Texas Department of Public Safety

Regulatory Services Division



- Low-THC medical program regulated by the Texas Department of Public Safety and responsible for the Compassionate Use Registry of Texas (CURT)
- Qualified and registered physicians may prescribe low-THC cannabis to patients with qualifying medical conditions
- Licensed dispensing organizations may dispense low-THC cannabis to patients who have prescriptions in CURT
- "Low-THC cannabis" means the plant *Cannabis sativa* L., and any part of that plant or any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, preparation, resin, or oil of that plant that contains not more than one percent by weight of tetrahydrocannabinol
- "Medical use" means the ingestion by a means of administration other than by smoking of a prescribed amount of low-THC cannabis by a person for whom low-THC cannabis is prescribed

Texas Compassionate Use Program

History of CUP

Enacted by Texas Legislature in 2015 (Senate Bill 339)

Texas Department of Public Safety administers by authority of Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 487; Texas Occupation Code, Chapter 169; Texas Administrative Rules (37 TAC Part 1, Chapter 12, and 25 TAC Part 1; Chapter 1, Rule §161)

Create and operate Compassionate Use Registry of Texas (CURT)

License dispensing organizations

- **Texas Administrative Code**
- Compassionate Use Program (37 TAC Part 1, Chapter 12)
- Incurable Neurodegenerative Disease Definitions (25 TAC Part 1; Chapter 1, Rule §161)
- **Texas Statutes**
- Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 487
- Texas Occupation Code, Chapter 169

Laws and Regulations

Overview of CUP

Physicians

Patients

Dispensing Organizations

Physicians - Registration

- Licensed with the Texas Medical Board and in good standing
- MD, DO
- Board-certified in a medical specialty relevant to treatment
- Application: [Licensing and Registration | Department of Public Safety \(texas.gov\)](https://www.texas.gov/health-services/medical-boards/physician-licensing-and-registration)
- Once approved, physicians may enter qualifying patients into CURT
- May elect to be published as a low-THC cannabis prescriber for Texas
- 861 physicians registered



Licensing and Registration

[Compassionate Use Registry of Texas \(CURT\) - Access Now](#)

Dispensing Organization

CUP license applicants are responsible for reviewing and being familiar with the program's enabling statutes and administrative rules, and for ensuring their application materials reflect the requirements of those [statutes and rules](#).

- [Application Instructions](#)
- [Application Information](#)
- [Facility Information and Requirements](#)
- [Employee Registration](#)
- [Fingerprinting Instructions](#)

Physician

- [Application Information \(PDF\)](#)
- [Physician Registration](#)
- [Physician Search](#)

Program Information

- [Administrative Hearings](#)

Contact Information

- [Consumer Complaint Sign \(PDF\)](#)
- [Customer Support: \(512\) 424-7293](#)

[CUP Home](#)

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Patients

Texas resident

Qualifying conditions:

- Epilepsy
- Seizure disorder
- Multiple sclerosis
- Spasticity
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Autism
- Cancer
- Incurable neurodegenerative disease
- Post-traumatic stress disorder

Guardian (optional)

Patient information in CURT is considered protected health information

116,216 lifetime patients

Dispensing organizations

- Currently 3 vertically-integrated licensed dispensaries in Texas, all initially licensed in 2017:
 - **Fluent**
 - **Goodblend**
 - **Texas Original Compassionate Cultivation**
- Products are required to be tested for the following:
 - Heavy metals
 - Pesticides and fungicides
 - Residual solvents
 - Microbial impurities
 - Potency
- Facilities are inspected monthly by DPS on a scheduled basis and with intermittent random inspections
- Employees pass a background check

Dispensing Organizations

- **What is the license fee and when is payment required?**
- Payment is required upon license approval Texas Administrative Code §12.14.
- A New license is \$488,520 for a two (2) year period, and
- The biennial renewal license is \$318,511.

Vertically- integrated facilities

Cultivation

Processing

Manufacturing

Laboratory testing and analysis

Packaging and labeling

Storage and security

Dispensing

Delivery and sales

Dispensing Organizations

- Products must pass an approval process and are evaluated for:
 - Dosage form
 - Potency of active ingredients
 - Excipients and inert ingredients – may require evaluation of certificates of analysis
 - Container conformity
 - Label content and design
 - Lab testing (internal and external labs) and certificates of analysis



Products

Must not exceed 1% w/w of tetrahydrocannabinols (THC)

Are not smokeable

Are packaged in child resistant packaging

Are not packaged in a way to be appealing to children

Must clearly indicate the amount of active ingredients in a serving

Tinctures must be dispensed with a calibrated dropper that can clearly measure a dose

Packaging must include the dispensaries mailing address and license number

Questions and Complaints

Complaints, questions, or concerns may be submitted to DPS

- Patients, guardians
- Physicians
- Law enforcement officers

- [RSD Contact Us](#)

<https://www.dps.texas.gov/apps/rsd/contact/Contact?sProgram=CUP>

To
summarize...

- DPS is tasked with
 - Maintaining a patient registry
 - Registering qualified physicians
 - Licensing dispensing organizations and employees
 - Ensuring access to regulated low-THC medical products for qualifying patients in Texas