Georgia has numerous laws addressing the use and cultivation of medical cannabis.

Georgians who have a physician certify that they have one or more medical conditions that are covered by state law and then obtain a ‘Low THC Oil Registry’ card from the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) can possess up to 20 fluid ounces of low THC/CBD [cannabidiol] extracts oil “containing not more than five percent THC and an amount of CBD equal to or greater than the amount of THC.”

The medical conditions that are covered by Georgia’s ‘Low THC Oil Registry’ include...

- Cancer (end-stage or when treatment produces wasting illness or recalcitrant nausea and vomiting)
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (severe or end-stage)
- Seizure disorders related to epilepsy or trauma-related head injuries
- Multiple sclerosis (severe or end-stage)
- Crohn’s disease
- Mitochondrial disease
- Parkinson’s disease (severe or end-stage)
- Sickle cell disease (severe or end-stage)
- Tourette’s syndrome (severe)
- Autism spectrum disorder (patients who are 18 or older or younger than 18 with severe autism)
- Epidermolysis bullosa
- Alzheimer’s disease (severe or end-stage)
- AIDS (severe or end-stage)
- Peripheral neuropathy (severe or end-stage)
- Patients in hospice (inpatient or outpatient)
- Intractable pain
- PTSD resulting from direct exposure or witnessing a trauma when patient is 18 or older

Physicians who use Georgia’s ‘Low THC Oil Registry’ certification system should know that they...

1. Must be licensed in Georgia
2. Must have a “continuing relationship” with the patient
3. Must create an account in DPH’s ‘Low THC Oil Registry’ system
4. Must login to the DPH system and complete an online ‘Low THC Oil Registry’ form for each applicable patient, who can then pick up their ‘Low THC Oil Registry’ card from DPH for a $25 fee
5. Must submit a semi-annual report to the Georgia Composite Medical Board (GCMB) for every patient they certify
6. Cannot be arrested or prosecuted or face any disciplinary action for certifying a patient
Completing an online ‘Low THC Oil Registry’ certification form is not the same as writing a prescription. The certification form has been approved by GCMB, and it explicitly states that it is not a prescription.

Marijuana may be cultivated in Georgia for the purpose of producing low-THC CBD oil, but federal law still prohibits the transportation of any marijuana derivative across state lines because of its classification as a DEA Schedule I controlled substance.

There are currently no legal or licensed facilities manufacturing, producing or distributing low-THC/CBD oil in Georgia.

The CBD oil that meets the aforementioned criteria is the only low-THC product that is legal in Georgia [for the patients who have one or more of the approved medical conditions]. It is illegal to smoke or consume low-THC products in any other form in Georgia.

Resources

[Georgia DPH ‘Low THC Oil’ FAQ (for patients)]

[Georgia DPH ‘Low THC Oil’ FAQ (for physicians)]

[Georgia Low THC Oil Registry Physicians Request for Card Users Guide]

[Georgia Physician Low THC Oil Certification Registry]

Contact Bethany Sherrer at bsherrer@mag.org or 678.303.9273 with questions related to Georgia’s medical cannabis laws.

With more than 8,000 members, MAG is the leading voice for physicians in Georgia. MAG represents physicians in every specialty and practice setting in the state – and MAG’s membership has increased by more than 35 percent since 2010. Go to www.mag.org for additional information.

Updated July 29, 2019