

Cannabis Compliance and Enforcement Program Fact Sheet

Background

In December 2017, Los Angeles County (County) approved the Cannabis Facilities ordinance authorizing the Department of Public Health (Public Health) to issue Public Health Permits and conduct environmental health and sanitation inspections of commercial cannabis facilities licensed by incorporated cities and operating within the city's territorial limits.

Cities requesting Public Health to permit and regulate their commercial cannabis facilities must adopt the County ordinance into their municipal code and enter a separate formal contract with the County.

Current Contracts for Permitting and Inspection

Public Health has issued 117 Public Health Permits to facilities in these cities ensuring facilities comply with Public Health code requirements.

[Culver City \(Oct. 2020\)](#)

[El Monte \(Feb.2021\)](#)

[Baldwin Park \(Nov.2021\)](#)

[Lancaster \(Oct. 2020\)](#)

[Malibu \(Oct. 2021\)](#)

[Los Angeles \(Jul. 2022\)](#)

Permits and Plan Check

Cities that contract with the County refer their cannabis facilities to initiate the permitting process. New businesses are required to submit plans to Public Health. Businesses that were licensed by the city prior to adoption of the ordinance, must go through a site evaluation to ensure that basic construction and equipment requirements are met. Public Health Permits are issued upon successful review and approval. Permits for cannabis facilities are valid for 12 months and must be renewed annually.

Permit Fees

Plan review and annual permit fees are published in Division 1, Part 2, Chapter 8.04 of Title 8 of County Code. Visit www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh for a current listing of fees.

Inspections and Enforcement

Public Health performs two unannounced inspections of permitted facilities per fiscal year to determine compliance with state and local regulations. Official Inspection Reports are issued following each inspection. Progressive enforcement will be utilized to gain compliance at sites with violations. If any violation poses an imminent health hazard, the facility will be closed, and the Public Health permit suspended until such violation is corrected. Cities may choose to take additional enforcement actions at facilities that do not immediately comply.

Complaint Investigations

Public Health investigates complaints at commercial cannabis facilities that have a Public Health Permit. Complaints of unpermitted facilities will be referred to the appropriate city for their investigation and enforcement.

Contracted Cities

Public Health has Health Officer Authority in 85 incorporated cities in the County. As of November 2021, 19 cities have or plan to allow commercial cannabis facilities within their city. Although most plan to contract with Public Health, some have decided to perform their own permitting and inspections. The table below shows the status of each city. Additional information is posted on Public Health's website and city website postings once the contracts are executed.

Businesses can contact their city to apply for a license.

STATUS	CITIES
Contracted with Public Health	Baldwin Park, Culver City, El Monte, Lancaster, Los Angeles, and Malibu
Planning to Contract	Bell, Carson, Maywood, Montebello, Santa Monica, and West Hollywood
Undecided	Commerce, Cudahy, Lynwood, and Pomona
No	Avalon, Bellflower, and Huntington Park

Cannabis Emblem Placard



The Emblem Program was created to help inform the public on which cannabis facilities have obtained a permit from Public Health.

The Emblem Placard must be posted at all retail storefronts that have a Public Health Permit. The Emblem Placard contains the phone number where the public can call to register a complaint, along with a QR Code that links to the Public Health website where the latest inspection results can be found.

Resources

For general information about cannabis use and health warnings that permitted facilities must distribute, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/LetsTalkAboutCannabis>.

Additional educational materials regarding safe use and storage of cannabis products can be found at <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/cannabis/>

Constituents' inquiries may be referred to the Cannabis Compliance and Enforcement Program.

Cannabis Compliance and Enforcement Program

(626) 430-5635

Email: ccep@ph.lacounty.gov

Website: <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/business/cannabis.htm>