



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION
560 Jefferson Blvd. Ste. 204
Warwick, RI 02886

Office of Cannabis Regulation

Medical Marijuana Plant Tag Certificate Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ")

Version Issued April 2023

This FAQ is issued by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation ("DBR"), Office of Cannabis Regulation ("OCR") to provide guidance regarding the obtaining and using of medical marijuana Plant Tag Certificates. This FAQ is issued in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws § 21-28.6-12 et seq. and the Rules and Regulations Related to the Medical Marijuana Program Administered by the Department of Business Regulation 230-RICR-80-5-1, as amended (the "Regulations").

This document should not replace a thorough reading of the rules found here:

<https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/230-80-05-1>.

Due to COVID we are often working from home; please give us a few days to return calls

How do Plant Tags work?

Plant Tags are no longer actual physical Tags as they were in the past. We have moved to a Certificate system that shows how many plants you are able to grow as well as the Grow Address and Patient information.

Plant Tags come in "Sets" of two (2); one (1) Plant Tag for an immature (seedling) plant and one (1) Plant Tag for a mature (budding) plant. After ordering your Plant Tags on the website you will be able to print your Certificate and display or keep it in your grow space in case you need to prove the legality of your grow.

If your Plant Tag Certificate is damaged and you need to reprint you can do so by logging back into the Portal (described below), going to "All Licenses" and selecting "generate certificate" from the dropdown menu on the right of the table. If you need to update your name or grow address, please give the Office of Cannabis Regulation a call at [401-889-5607](tel:401-889-5607) or email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov

If you do not have a printer, please [call](#) or [email](#) the Office to request that we print it and mail it to you.

How do I get a Plant Tag Certificate?

To obtain your Plant Tag Certificate please visit our [Cannabis Portal](#) to place your order.

You will be prompted to log in; if this is your first time ordering a Plant Tag Certificate, or you have not ordered on the new website please create a new account. After creating an account or logging in please go to "apply for a license" and select "apply" under the Medical Home Grow Registration option.

If you have limited computer access or are unable to create an account, you can call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation ([401-889-5607](tel:401-889-5607)) or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov for order assistance.

Do I need a Plant Tag Certificate?

If you are planning on growing more than a total of six (6) (3 immature and 3 mature) Marijuana plants, you must register your grow location by obtaining a Plant Tag Certificate. Any grow location with more than six (6) total plants that does not have a Plant Tag Certificate associated with it is considered non-compliant and may result in criminal and civil penalties including, but not limited to, forfeiture of untagged plants, loss of eligibility to obtain A Plant Tag Certificate, and/or administrative fines.

When should I get plant a Plant Tag Certificate?

A Plant Tag Certificate should be obtained only once you are sure you are going to grow medicine for yourself, and you have prepared for this plan. You cannot compliantly have more than six (6) total plants prior to obtaining a Plant Tag Certificate.

If you are unsure when you should order your Plant Tags call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation ([401-889-5607](tel:401-889-5607)) or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov for order assistance.

How much does A Plant Tag Certificate cost? Do I need to provide proof of Disability or Medicaid?

As of Dec. 1st 2022 there is no cost to anyone for Plant Tag Certificates. You will not be charged regardless of disability or income status. You do not need to provide proof of a disability award or Medicaid when uploading documents.

How many plants can I have?

A Patient can obtain up to twelve (12) Sets of Tags per year. They do not all have to be obtained at the same time, but you cannot exceed twelve (12) Sets per Registration (MMP/MMC) in a given timeframe. A person that is a Caregiver and a Patient can order up to twelve (12) Tag Sets for themselves and an additional twelve (12) Tag Sets for the Caregiver's Patient(s).

If you are not growing for yourself but are a Caregiver for multiple Patients, you can order up to twenty-four (24) Tag Sets spread out among your patients.

One (1) Tag Set allows for one immature and one mature plant.

I want to Grow for myself, can I also have a Caregiver?

Anyone growing for themselves cannot concurrently appoint a Caregiver to grow for them. If you need someone to go to a Compassion Center on your behalf, you may want to appoint an Authorized Purchaser to do so. Please contact, RIDOH to learn more about this process.

If, after growing for yourself you decide that you would like to appoint a Caregiver to grow for you, you must cease your own grow and contact RIDOH in order to go through the process of appointing a Caregiver.

Where do I get plants?

Compassion Centers are only permitted to sell designated medical marijuana products. Immature plants and mature plants do not fall under this definition. Patient advocacy groups, such as RIPAC (RI Patient Advocacy Coalition) can be a great resource for those new to the program.

For more information on RIPAC call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation ([401-889-5607](tel:401-889-5607)) or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov

How do I renew my Plant Tag Certificate?

If you have not yet placed an order on the [Portal](#), you will need to make a new application. If you have not yet created an account on the Portal, you will need to create one using the EXACT name as it appears on your Patient Card as this will also be how you renew your card.

If you have already ordered plant tags using the Cannabis Portal (not using Viewpoint nor rimmptags.com) you will be able to renew your existing order up to 30 days prior to expiration by going to “all licenses” in the left menu and then clicking “renew”.

I’m moving my grow location. How do I update my Plant Tag Certificate?

To update your grow location please submit a change request on the [Portal](#). Change requests can be found by going to “all licenses” and clicking the “change request” button next to your Tag registration. If you have questions, please call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation (401-889-5607) or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov.

Requirements for Grow spaces.

Pursuant to § 1.12(D)(7)(a)-(e) of the Regulations, grow spaces must be “secure indoor structures” within 4 secure walls under a solid roof equipped with locks and appropriate security devices.

Outdoor grows, including greenhouses, are prohibited in Rhode Island.

Marijuana or growing equipment must not be visible to the public and any windows in the grow spaces must be covered.

It is required that you take efforts to minimize the smell. If there is an odor complaint, we will notify you and require you to obtain odor mitigation systems; administrative penalties such as fines or Plant Tag Certificate revocation may result from failure to abide by these minimum requirements.

If you must make upgrades to your electrical system or other building upgrades, you must obtain all required building permits as required by your city or town and or the state code. This may include checking with the local or state fire marshal.

For more information on grow location requirements call the General Line for the Office of Cannabis Regulation (401-889-5607) or you can email dbr.mmpcompliance@dbr.ri.gov

Can I grow with someone else?

Pursuant to § 1.12(E)(5) of the Regulations, all Tagholders must grow at a separate address from each other, with the exception of two household members (Ex. spouses or roommates) who may grow together if the grow location is their primary residence.

If you rent a commercial space, you must grow individually.

A household with more than one Patient/Caregiver may not exceed the maximum number of 24 Sets of Tags total (48 total plants).

Should I grow my own medicine?

We cannot advise you directly if growing your own medicine is best for you. We encourage you to research the process and find out if it’s something you feel is in your best interest. Growing Medical Marijuana can be difficult for some. It takes a specific set up and can be complicated. On the other hand, it can be an ideal way to obtain a specific strain that you find works best for you and for some may be more affordable. It is recommended to talk to others in the community about their experiences to determine the best course of action.

To access OCR's Regulations, please visit <https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/230-80-05-1>