

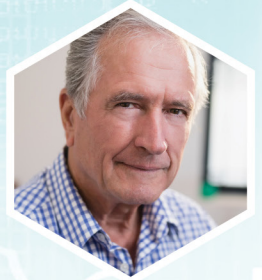


Office of **MEDICAL MARIJUANA** Use

Florida's Official Source for Medical Use

Annual Update on the Statewide
Cannabis and Medical Marijuana
Education and Illicit Use
Prevention Campaign

January 31, 2023



Florida
HEALTH



Ron DeSantis
GOVERNOR

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
STATE SURGEON GENERAL

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INTRODUCTION

Legislative Direction

During Florida’s Special Legislative Session held in June 2017, Senate Bill 8A was passed and subsequently signed by Governor Rick Scott on June 23, 2017. Senate Bill 8A amended section 381.989, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and includes provisions directing the Florida Department of Health (Department) to develop a statewide public education campaign to inform and educate Floridians on newly established medical marijuana laws and the importance of responsible use.

There are specific objectives established in statute including publicizing accurate information regarding the legal requirements for licit use and possession; the safe use of medical marijuana and preventing access by those other than the qualified patient, particularly children.

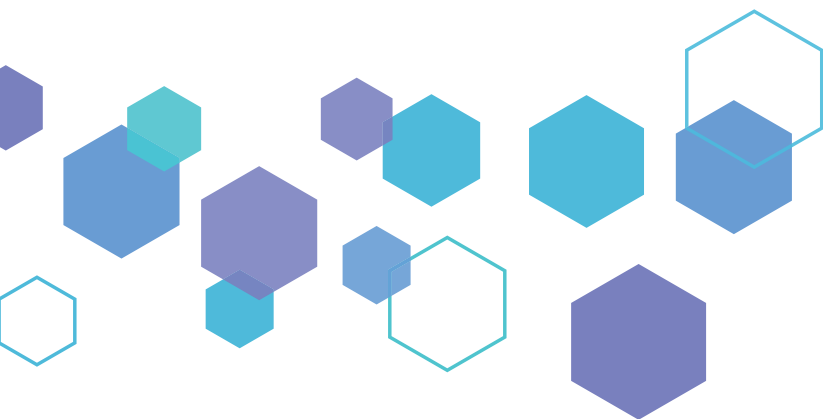
Additionally, the Office of Medical Marijuana Use (OMMU) develops and implements the Florida Department of Health’s rules for medical marijuana; oversees the statewide Medical Marijuana Use Registry (MMUR); licenses Florida businesses to cultivate, process and dispense medical marijuana to qualified patients and caregivers; and certifies marijuana testing laboratories to ensure the health and safety of the public as it relates to marijuana.

Section 381.989(2), F.S.

(2) STATEWIDE CANNABIS AND MARIJUANA EDUCATION AND ILLICIT USE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN.

(a) The department shall implement a statewide cannabis and marijuana education and illicit use prevention campaign to publicize accurate information regarding:

1. The legal requirements for licit use and possession of marijuana in this state.
2. Safe use of marijuana, including preventing access by persons other than the qualified patients as defined in s. 381.986, F.S., particularly children.
3. The short- and long-term health effects of cannabis and marijuana use, particularly on minors and young adults.



EDUCATION AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

Section 381.989(2)(a)4., F.S.

4. Other cannabis-related and marijuana-related education determined by the department to be necessary to the public health and safety.

Pursuant to section 381.989, F.S., the OMMU is statutorily charged with implementing a statewide cannabis and marijuana education and illicit use prevention campaign to publicize accurate information regarding the legal, healthy and safe use of medical marijuana—particularly amongst children, and other related education determined necessary to protect public health and safety. The OMMU is also directed to provide educational materials regarding the eligibility for medical use of marijuana by individuals diagnosed with a terminal condition to individuals who provide palliative care or hospice services.

The Florida Department of Health and the OMMU continue to focus on the health and safety of Florida’s families and are dedicated to ensuring patients have safe access to low-THC cannabis and medical marijuana.

As Florida’s “Official Source for Medical Use,” the OMMU provides the most current and accurate information on medical marijuana in Florida to patients, caregivers, physicians, medical marijuana treatment centers (Treatment Centers), lawmakers, law enforcement and the general public.

To reach our stakeholders, the OMMU develops resources and conducts education activities across the state. Below are key activities used by the OMMU to keep stakeholders up to date on the latest happenings in the Florida Medical Marijuana Use Program.



Florida Behavioral Health Conference



24th Annual Family Café Conference



Florida Society of Ophthalmology

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

The OMMU Communications Team conducted education and outreach events throughout the state in 2022. These events helped to educate and inform key stakeholders about the Florida Medical Marijuana Use Program, as well as licit and safe use. The OMMU visited various groups, including patients, caregivers, physicians, patient organizations and law enforcement entities.

Events Conducted in 2022:

DATE	EVENT
1/12/2022	Florida Public Safety Institute Training (Presentation)
1/18/2022	Madison County Sheriff's Office Training (Presentation)
1/20/2022	Madison County Sheriff's Office Training (Presentation)
2/2/2022	Parkinson's Association of Southwest Florida (Presentation)
2/23/2022	Florida Impaired Driving Coalition 1 st Quarter Meeting (Presentation)
3/7/2022	Gadsden County Sheriff's Office Leadership Training (Presentation)
3/9/2022	Columbia County Sheriff's Department Leadership Training (Presentation)
3/16/2022	Santa Rosa County Family Services Counselors (Presentation)
3/22/2022	Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office – Countywide DUI Enforcement Squad, District 5 (Presentation)
4/8/2022 to 4/10/2022	Florida Academy of Family Physicians Spring Forum (Exhibit)
4/13/2022	Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicle's Legal Team (Presentation)
4/27/2022	Florida Impaired Driving Coalition 2 nd Quarter Meeting (Presentation)
5/17/2022	Gadsden County Sheriff's Office Leadership Meeting number 2 (Presentation)
5/18/2022	Multiple Sclerosis Center of Greater Orlando (Presentation)
5/19/2022	District Two and District Five Law Enforcement Liaison (Presentation)
5/19/2022 to 5/20/2022	Cannabis Clinical Outcomes Research Conference (Exhibit)
5/24/2022	Baptist Health Care Family and Children Counselors Welfare Training Conference (Presentation)
5/25/2022	Florida Society of Environmental Analysts (Presentation)
5/26/2022	Leon County Sheriff's Office Student Resource Officers Training (Presentation)
5/27/2022 to 5/29/2022	The 24 th Annual Family Café Conference (Presentation and Exhibit)
6/2/2022	Florida Hospice Association (Presentation)
6/3/2022 to 6/5/2022	Florida Medical Cannabis Conference & Exhibition (Presentation and Exhibit)

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

6/10/2022 to 6/11/2022	Florida Society of Ophthalmology Annual Meeting (Exhibit)
6/13/2022 to 6/16/2022	Symposium on Traffic Safety - Institute of Police Technology Management (Two Presentations)
6/23/2022 to 6/25/2022	2022 Aging Life Care Association Florida Chapter Annual Conference (Exhibit)
6/30/2022	Florida Association of DUI Programs (Presentation)
7/8/2022 to 7/10/2022	Florida Academy of Family Physicians Summer Forum (Exhibit)
7/22/2022	Collier County Sheriff's Office Training (Presentation)
7/26/2022 to 7/29/2022	Florida International Medical Expo (Presentation and Exhibit)
8/3/2022	Florida Environmental Health Association (Presentation)
8/4/2022 to 8/7/2022	Florida Medical Association Annual Meeting (Exhibit)
8/17/2022 to 8/19/2022	Florida Behavioral Health Conference (Exhibit)
9/13/2022 to 9/16/2022	Skin, Bones, Hearts and Private Parts Pensacola Medical Conference (Exhibit)
9/22/2022	Gadsden County Sheriff's Office Officer Training (Presentation)
9/24/2022	Cancer Chomp (Exhibit)
10/13/2022	Broward County Commission on Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Prevention (Presentation)
10/20/2022	Florida Department of Health, Division of Medical Quality Assurance ISU Annual Training (Two Presentations)
10/24/2022 to 10/27/2022	Skin, Bones, Hearts and Private Parts Orlando Medical Conference (Exhibit)
11/7/2022 to 11/8/2022	Florida Impaired Driving Coalition 3 rd Quarter Meeting (Presentation)
11/8/2022	Pensacola Police Department Training (Two Presentations)
12/7/2022 to 12/9/2022	Florida Academy of Family Physician's Family Medicine Winter Summit (Exhibit)



FMA Annual Meeting



Florida International Medical Expo



The Florida Impaired Driving Coalition (FIDC) was formed to identify and prioritize the state's most pressing impaired driving issues. The FIDC reviews proven strategies that can effectively address these issues as well as develops and oversees a strategic plan that will guide the implementation of programs, policy and funding strategies to maximize the state's ability to reduce impaired driving crashes, fatalities and injuries.

The OMMU has participated in the FIDC since 2021. The OMMU joined the FIDC to bring its knowledge and expertise of medical marijuana to the FIDC. The OMMU is working with the FIDC to incorporate messaging about the illicit use of medical marijuana while operating motor vehicles, boats or aircraft into the group's strategies and programs.

Coalition Members Include:

- Florida Safety Council
- Florida Highway Patrol
- Lake Alfred Police Department
- Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office
- SunCoast Safety Council
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Alcohol Testing Program
- Florida Police Chiefs Association
- Second Judicial Circuit, Felony Division C
- Florida Department of Transportation, State Safety Office
- Florida Department of Health, Office of Medical Marijuana Use
- Collier County Sheriff's Office
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Toxicology
- Tampa Alcohol Coalition
- Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office
- The Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association
- Regulatory Compliance Services Inc.
- DUI Counterattack, Hillsborough, Inc.
- Advocate Program, Inc./Florida Association of Community Corrections
- St. Johns County Sheriff's Office
- Miami Beach Police Department
- International Association of Chiefs of Police
- Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
- University of Miami, Division of Toxicology
- United States Probation/United States Coast Guard
- Orange County Sheriff's Office

FLORIDA IMPAIRED DRIVING COALITION

- Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
- Pasco County Sheriff's Office
- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
- Lake County Sheriff's Office
- Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
- Florida Association of State Prosecutors
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Law Enforcement, Boating and Waterways Section, Statewide Boating Safety Unit
- Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
- Broward County Sheriff's Office
- University of South Florida Police Department
- 7th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office
- Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office
- University of North Florida, Institute of Police Technology and Management
- Seminole Police Department (Seminole Tribe of Florida)
- Tallahassee Community College, Florida Public Safety Institute
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
- Orlando Police Department
- Orange County Sheriff's Office
- Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
- Pasco County Sheriff's Office
- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
- Lake County Sheriff's Office
- Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
- Florida Association of State Prosecutors
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Law Enforcement, Boating and Waterways Section, Statewide Boating Safety Unit
- Broward County Sheriff's Office
- University of South Florida Police Department
- Florida Department of Criminal Justice System, Alcohol Testing Program
- 7th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office
- Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Alcohol Testing Program
- University of North Florida, Institute of Police Technology and Management
- Indian River Shores Public Safety
- Seminole Police Department (Seminole Tribe of Florida)
- Tallahassee Community College, Florida Public Safety Institute
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
- Orlando Police Department

FLORIDA IMPAIRED DRIVING COALITION

Traffic Safety Partners

- Cambridge Systematics
- Center for Urban Transportation Research
- AAA
- SCRAM Systems
- United States Navy
- University of Miami Miller School of Medicine / Department of Surgery
- Great Bay Distributors



Family Medicine Summer Forum



Cannabis Clinical Outcomes Research



Aging Life Care Conference



Florida International Medical Expo



24th Annual Family Café Conference



Florida Behavioral Health Conference



KnowTheFactsMMJ.com

The Department’s website, **KnowTheFactsMMJ.com** fulfills a need to have a stand-alone website that serves as a central repository for medical marijuana information in Florida. This comprehensive site was designed with the objectives of establishing the Department as the authority on responsible medical use by qualified patients and making information available in one location for all interested stakeholders. **KnowTheFactsMMJ.com** officially launched in March 2019 and has been continuously updated to meet the needs of key stakeholders.

The website is dedicated to offering the most current and accurate information related to medical marijuana in Florida. It is the information hub for patients, physicians, Treatment Centers, certified marijuana testing laboratories, law enforcement and others interested stakeholders requiring up-to-date and accurate information.

The website features an updated Resources page that contains links to the “Know the Facts” campaign one-pagers, OMMU educational materials and previous Statewide Cannabis and Medical Marijuana Education and Illicit Use Prevention Campaign annual reports.

The website makes it easy to locate licensed Treatment Center dispensing locations that are in closest proximity to qualified patients. An updated list of Treatment Centers includes the business’s name, phone and email address, authorization status and license number, along with links to the Treatment Center’s website.

Additionally, the website provides a list of qualified physicians who have completed the required training to recommend medical marijuana to qualified patients. The site provides patients and caregivers with the Medical Marijuana Qualified Physician Search Tool, enabling them to find a qualified physician by location and specialty.

The website’s *About* section provides users with an overview of the OMMU and its responsibilities related to medical marijuana in Florida, as well as an archive of *OMMU Weekly Updates* by year going back to 2016. The site hosts an *FAQ* page with 16 of the most frequently asked questions that stakeholders may have. Several links are embedded within the *FAQ* page, which direct users to expanded information.

OMMU Weekly Updates

The OMMU provides a weekly update about Florida’s medical marijuana program that keeps stakeholders up to date on the latest program numbers. The OMMU Weekly Update is emailed to stakeholders every Friday and contains the following information:

- Number of qualified patients (Active ID Card)
- Number of qualified physicians
- Newly approved Treatment Center dispensing locations
- Weekly dispensations from the Treatment Centers

KnowTheFactsMMJ.com Updates

Below is a list of the major updates that happened in 2022.

DATE	EVENT
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Added the new Treatment Center guide for creating and editing Medical Marijuana Treatment Center users and transporters
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Added Emergency Rule 64ER22-1 (This emergency rule implements section 381.986(8)(b), Florida Statutes, by establishing procedures and requirements for financial assurances submitted by a Treatment Center to the Department of Health) and its incorporated forms to the Treatment Center Emergency Rules section• Added the Second Physician Concurrence instructional guide
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Added Emergency Rule 64ER22-2 (This emergency rule establishes requirements for trade names and logos used by Treatment Centers) to the Treatment Center Emergency Rules section
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Created a new page to house the applications from the 2022 Pigford/Black Farmers Litigation Treatment Center Application Process• Added language to the home page regarding the Pigford/Black Farmers Litigation application process• Uploaded and linked updated Law Enforcement Organization and Medical Marijuana Treatment Center instructional guides that changed all instances of “Master User” to “Executive User”
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Added a Notice of Rule Development for Rule 64-4.206• Began adding a weekly list of the Treatment Center medical directors to the Treatment Center page

<p>June</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added Emergency Rules 64ER22-5 (This emergency rule repeals and replaces emergency rule 64ER20-5, “Suspension and Revocation of Certified Medical Testing Laboratory (CMTL) Certification.” This emergency rule implements sections 381.986 and 381.988, Florida Statutes, by establishing guidelines related to fines, suspension, and revocation imposed upon a certified marijuana testing laboratory (CMTL) for violations of rule and statute. The effect is to establish comprehensive and consistent disciplinary penalties related to CMTLs) and 64ER22-6 (This emergency rule establishes the requirements and process for the renewal of CMTL certifications and the renewal application form incorporated therein) and the incorporated form to the CMTL Emergency Rules section.
<p>July</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed Emergency Rule 64ER20-5 from the CMTL Emergency Rules section • Added new/updated instructional guides for the July MMUR updates • Added a Notice of Rule Development for Rules 64-4.300-4.315
<p>August</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added Emergency Rule 64ER22-7 (This emergency rule establishes the requirements for websites and website purchasing used by Treatment Centers) and its incorporated forms to the Treatment Center Emergency Rules section • Added Emergency Rule 64ER22-8 (This emergency rule implements section 381.986(4)(f), Florida Statutes, by quantifying a daily dose amount with equivalent dose amounts for each allowable form of marijuana dispensed by a medical marijuana treatment center. This rule also establishes submission procedures of a request for an exception to the daily dose amount limit, the 35-day supply limit of marijuana in a form for smoking, and the 4-ounce possession limit of marijuana in a form for smoking) and its incorporated form to the MMUR Emergency Rules section. • Added/replaced nine patient, physician, and Treatment Center instructional guides reflecting the Daily Dose and Request for Exception update
<p>September</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added two new public meeting notices for upcoming workshops for Rules 64-4.300-4.315 and 64-4.206 • Added the cancellation notice for the two workshops due to Hurricane Ian

<p>October</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added language to the KnowTheFactsMMJ.com home page regarding Department of Health Emergency Order 22-005 (This emergency rule allows the use of telehealth, as defined in section 456.47(1)(a), Florida Statutes, by qualified physicians for recertifications of existing patients in Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Orange, Osceola, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, St. Johns, Sarasota, Seminole, and Volusia counties until November 30, 2022. Telehealth services can only substitute the requirement to “conduct a physical examination while physically present in the same room as the patient,” as required by section 381.986(4)(a)1., Florida Statutes).
<p>November</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added language to the KnowTheFactsMMJ.com home page regarding the expiration of Department of Health Emergency Order 22-005
<p>December</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added information to KnowTheFactsMMJ.com home page about Emergency Rule 64ER22-9 (This emergency rule repeals and replaces Emergency Rule 64ER17-2. This emergency rule establishes the medical marijuana treatment center application process for individuals or entities applying for licensure). Added information to KnowTheFactsMMJ.com home page about Emergency Rule 64ER22-10 (This emergency rule replaces and supersedes Emergency Rule 64ER19-8 and establishes the requirements and process for the renewal of medical marijuana treatment center licenses and the renewal application form incorporated therein)



Skin, Bones, Hearts & Private Parts - Pensacola Conference



Florida Medical Cannabis Exhibit



Florida Behavioral Health Conference



Cancer CHOMP

EDUCATION MATERIALS

In addition to online resources, educational materials continue to be developed and updated to provide qualifying patients and caregivers with information on how to access Florida's Medical Marijuana Use Program.

One-Pagers

The following one-pagers are in development:

- Know the Facts about Medical Marijuana and Pain Management
- Know the Facts about Medical Marijuana and HIV/AIDS
- Know the Facts about Medical Marijuana and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Know the Facts about Medical Marijuana and Cancer
- Know the Facts about Medical Marijuana and Multiple Sclerosis
- Know the Facts about Medical Marijuana and Legal Use
- Know the Facts about Medical Marijuana and Driving Impaired
- Know the Facts – What is Medical Marijuana?
- Know the Facts – How Marijuana Affects the Body
- Know the Facts – Cannabinoids: What Are They and What Do They Do?

Instructional Guides

The OMMU created or updated the following instructional guides for patients and caregivers:

- Certification Amount Available Calculations Page
- Understanding and Viewing Orders

OMMU created the following instructional guides for qualified physicians:

- Submitting a Request for Exception (RFE)
- Submitting a Second Physician's Concurrence (2PC)
- Submitting a Consent for Minor Patient (CMP)
- Creating New Certifications/Orders
- Editing/Cancelling Orders
- Adding an Existing Caregiver to a Patient's Profile
- Adding an Existing Patient Under My Care

The OMMU created or updated the following instructional guides for Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers:

- Certification Amount Available Calculations Page
- Creating and Editing Transporter Users
- Treatment Center User Dispensing – Delivery
- Treatment Center User Dispensing – In Person
- Understanding and Viewing Orders
- MMUR Guide for Treatment Center Managers
- MMUR Guide for Dispensers and Deliverers

The OMMU created or updated the following instructional guides for Law Enforcement Organizations:

- Patient and Caregiver Search



LAW ENFORCEMENT TIP CARDS

The OMMU created two 3"x5" tip cards as resources for law enforcement officers to reference while working in the field:

- Legal Use of Medical Marijuana
- Medical Marijuana Packaging

OMMU Office of MEDICAL MARIJUANA Use **MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN FLORIDA**

- Each qualified patient and caregiver is required to have a valid Medical Marijuana Use Registry (MMUR) identification (ID) card, which must be renewed annually. [§ 381.986(7)(a), Fla. Stat.]
- A qualified patient or caregiver in possession of marijuana or a marijuana delivery device who fails or refuses to present his or her MMUR ID card upon the request of a law enforcement officer commits a misdemeanor of the second degree. [§ 381.986(12)(e)1., Fla. Stat.]
- A person is prohibited from the operation of any vehicle, aircraft, train or boat while under the influence of medical marijuana. [Art. X, § 29(c)(4), Fla. Const.]
- Section 381.986, F.S., does not allow reciprocity agreements with other states. Bringing medical or recreational marijuana from another state into Florida violates s. 893.13, F.S.

Florida HEALTH

Back Side

Front Side

- A qualified patient or caregiver who uses or administers marijuana, not including low-THC cannabis, in plain view of or in a place open to the general public; in a school bus; a vehicle; an aircraft or a boat; or on the grounds of a school except as provided in s. 1006.062, F.S., commits a misdemeanor of the first degree. [§ 381.986(12)(c), Fla. Stat.]
- A Florida qualified patient and the qualified patient's caregiver:
 - ✓ May purchase from a Medical Marijuana Treatment Center (MMTC) for the patient's medical use a marijuana delivery device and up to the amount of marijuana authorized in the physician certification.
 - ✓ May not possess more than a 70-day supply of marijuana, or the greater of 4 ounces of marijuana in a form for smoking or 1.6 times the number of ounces of the amount ordered for marijuana in a form for smoking approved by the department pursuant to s. 381.986(4)(f), F.S. and Emergency Rule 64ER22-3., at any given time.
 - ✓ **Must** keep all medical marijuana purchased in its original MMTC packaging. [§ 381.986(14)(a), Fla. Stat.]

10/20/22

OMMU Office of MEDICAL MARIJUANA Use **MEDICAL MARIJUANA PACKAGING**

Section 381.986(8)(e)11.f., F.S., requires Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers (MMTCs) to package the marijuana in a receptacle that has a firmly affixed and legible label stating the following information:

- The marijuana or low-THC cannabis meets the requirements of sub-subparagraph d
- The name of the medical marijuana treatment center
- The batch number, harvest number and the date dispensed
- Issuing physician's name
- Patient's name
- The product name, if applicable, and dosage form
- Recommended dose
- A warning that it is illegal to transfer medical marijuana to another person
- The marijuana universal symbol

Florida HEALTH

Back Side

Front Side

- Qualified patients and the qualified patient's caregiver **must** keep all medical marijuana purchased in its original MMTC packaging.
- Packaging for marijuana in a form for smoking or edibles must be plain, opaque, and white. The universal symbol must be printed on the package and be no less than 10 percent of the overall surface area of the package.
- Receptacles for edibles must have a warning to keep away from children and pets, and a warning stating that the edible has not been produced or inspected pursuant to federal food safety laws.
- Receptacles for whole flower must have a warning to keep the product away from children and a warning stating that marijuana smoke contains carcinogens and may negatively affect health.

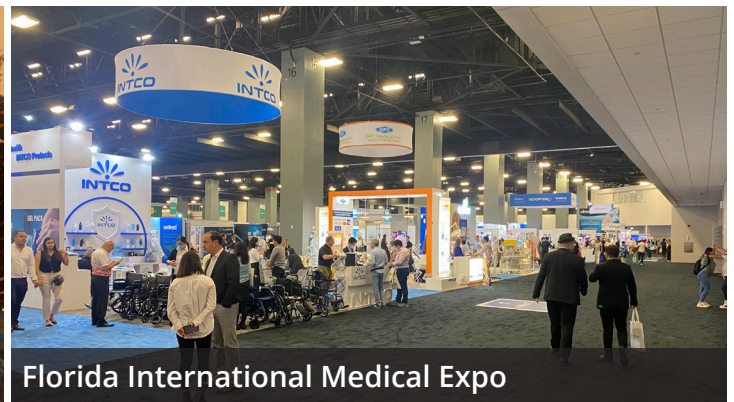
EDUCATION MATERIALS

PowerPoints

The OMMU developed a Master PowerPoint slide deck. Select slides from the Master slide deck were chosen to create all PowerPoint presentations the OMMU developed throughout the year.

PowerPoint presentations were developed for the following audiences:

- Patients and caregivers
- Physicians
- Patient groups
- Physician groups
- Not-for-profit organizations
- Community organizations
- State agencies
- Law enforcement entities



STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT



The OMMU conducts stakeholder support through its Stakeholder Support Team. This team includes members of the call center and email request support personnel. Members of the team assist key stakeholders (patients, caregivers, qualified physicians, Treatment Center personnel and law enforcement) with issues and questions about the program and the MMUR. Stakeholder support ranges from helping a patient apply for an MMUR identification card, to assisting a physician’s office with questions about patients’ profiles, to clarifying questions for Treatment Center personnel and law enforcement entities.

Below is a synopsis of the calls and emails received by the OMMU in 2022.

2022 Stakeholder Support Calls

Month	Calls Received
January	41,332
February	38,993
March	48,483
April	41,934
May	38,549
June	38,182
July	33,868
August	41,256
September	36,521
October	37,041
November	39,165
December	42,278
Total	477,602

2022 Stakeholder Support Emails

Month	Emails Received
January	4,722
February	4,245
March	5,203
April	3,603
May	3,288
June	3,467
July	3,081
August	4,405
September	5,505
October	3,589
November	2,169
December	2,094
Total	45,371



THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE REGISTRY

The MMUR is a secure, online database for:

- Registration of qualified patients and caregivers
- Registration of qualified physicians
- Qualified physicians (create orders for patients and create Request for Exception Forms)
- Treatment Center personnel (verify patients' certifications and track what has been dispensed to patients and caregivers)
- Law Enforcement (verify registered patients and caregivers, patient orders and dispensations, or if a person is an approved and valid medical marijuana transporter)
- Prescription drug prescribers (search and review certifications and orders to ensure proper care for patients before medications that may interact with the medical use of marijuana are prescribed)

The MMUR is only accessible to patients, qualified physicians, law enforcement, medical marijuana treatment center staff, Office of Medical Marijuana Use staff or practitioners licensed to prescribe prescription drugs.

Pursuant to section 381.987, F.S., the Florida Department of Health allows access to confidential and exempt information in the MMUR to law enforcement agencies that are investigating a violation of law regarding marijuana in which the subject of the investigation claims an exception established under section 381.986, F.S.

Medical Marijuana Use Registry Updates

January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treatment Center Transporter Onboarding Process• New Treatment Center User Profile and Transporter Fields• Editing Order Route Type Conditions• Application Auto-Approval in MMUR• Caregiver Background Verification Processing
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dispensable Amount - Look back logic updated• Second Physician Concurrence
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Request For Exception / Dispensable Amount – Phase II
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changed Role Names• Text Change on Payment Section of Application
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Added Caregiver Assist Statement to CRCE Qualifying Documents• Parent or Guardian Consent for Minor Patient (CMP)• Dispensation to Caregiver Logging

THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE REGISTRY

August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added Driver License Number to Patient/Caregiver Profile Page • New Application Restriction (This update prevents patients and/or caregivers from starting a change of address application while their renewal/initial application is being processed) • Request For Exception/Dispensable Amount - Phase III • Adjust Viewing Permissions for CMP Profile Message
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display Carry Limit for Smoking Type • Application Expiration Date Timestamp Adjustment • Certification Documentation Dashboard - Filtering and Performance Improvements • Request For Exception Content Updates
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request For Exception Process Update • Added Caregiver Identification Number
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient with Overlapping Orders update • "Save Order" - Processing Alterations - Cancelled, Expired, Completed update • MMUR Communication Efforts update • "Dispensable Amount" for Medical Marijuana Routes update • "Dispensable Amount" for Smoking Route update

The OMMU communicates MMUR updates to all user types that will be affected by the update, including patients, caregivers, qualified physicians and Treatment Centers. The OMMU uses multiple communication channels to inform stakeholders about these updates, including email and posting information on the MMUR home page and the KnowTheFactsMMJ.com website. Additionally, step-by-step instructional guides are created or updated to assist stakeholders in navigating these updates.

The OMMU posts the instructional guides and messaging about the upcoming update prior to the update being implemented. The OMMU Communications Team also sends an email with links to the new instructional guides to targeted stakeholders prior to the update and another email on the day the update is implemented.

Call center team staff is also informed and trained on the new updates prior to the update release to better help stakeholders who have questions.

THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE REGISTRY

Below is a list of MMUR communication efforts conducted in 2022:

Updates to New Treatment Center Staffs' MMUR Accounts	
Audience	Update Sent
Treatment Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/19/2022 • 1/25/2022 • 1/31/2022
35-Day Rolling Limit MMUR Update	
Audience	Update Sent
Physicians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/21/2022 • 3/1/2022
Patients/Caregivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/21/2022 • 3/1/2022
Treatment Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/21/2022 • 3/1/2022
Second Physician Concurrence Form MMUR Update	
Audience	Update Sent
Physicians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/24/2022 • 2/1/2022 • 2/18/2022 • 3/1/2022
Consent for Minor Patients MMUR Update	
Audience	Update Sent
Physicians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/12/2022 • 7/20/2022 • 7/26/2022
Caregiver Dispensation Logging	
Audience	Update Sent
Treatment Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/12/2022 • 7/20/2022 • 7/26/2022
Daily Dose and Supply Limits	
Audience	Update Sent
Patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8/26/2022
Physicians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8/26/2022
Treatment Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8/26/2022

BY THE NUMBERS – FLORIDA’S MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

Florida’s Medical Marijuana Use Program is one of the largest in the United States, and the program continues to grow at an accelerated rate. Below are program numbers from 2022 and a look at the growth of the program since 2017.

Application Numbers

Below is the 2022 month-by-month breakdown of the MMUR identification card applications that the OMMU received and approved. “FLHSMV Applications” are ones that used the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) database integration to gather photo and proof of residency information. The chart below shows the total number of applications reviewed, approved, FLHSMV applications (number is out of applications approved) and the percentage of approved applications where the patient/caregiver used the FLHSMV integration.

Month	Applications Reviewed	*Applications Approved	**Number of FLHSMV Applications	Percentage of FLHSMV Applications Received
January	62,424	62,306	56,071	90.8%
February	64,201	63,815	57,971	90.3%
March	76,838	76,655	69,633	90.6%
April	69,741	69,510	63,040	90.4%
May	70,362	69,822	63,065	89.6%
June	71,460	71,304	65,439	91.6%
July	67,478	67,357	62,511	92.6%
August	72,947	72,448	67,168	92.1%
September	63,539	63,381	58,142	91.5%
October	68,479	68,103	63,327	92.4%
November	61,767	61,536	57,706	93.4%
December	61,838	61,418	57,925	93.7%
Total	811,174	807,655	741,998	91.5%

*Approved Applications for active patients.

**Starting on January 25, 2021, the OMMU implemented an integration with the FLHSMV database and the MMUR that would allow patients to pull their proof of residency (POR) and photo for their MMUR identification card application. Using this trusted source of data helped decrease the approval time for MMUR identification cards applied for in this manner by 5 days.

BY THE NUMBERS – FLORIDA’S MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

Qualified Physician Numbers

Florida physicians who want to become qualified to recommend medical marijuana to their patients must:

- Have an active, unrestricted license as an allopathic physician under Chapter 458, F.S., or as an osteopathic physician under Chapter 459, F.S.
- Complete the required course and examination provided by the Florida Medical Association and Florida Osteopathic Medical Association.
- Not be employed by or have any direct or indirect economic interest in a medical marijuana treatment center or marijuana testing laboratory.

Number of Qualified Physicians in the MMUR by Month for 2022

Month	Qualified Physicians
January	2,530
February	2,552
March	2,567
April	2,601
May	2,632
June	2,652
July	2,667
August	2,700
September	2,727
October	2,754
November	2,767
December	2,783

Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers

Licensed Treatment Centers are vertically integrated and are the only businesses in Florida authorized to dispense medical marijuana and low-THC cannabis to qualified patients and caregivers.

Each Treatment Center must receive authorization from the OMMU at three stages, (1) cultivation authorization, (2) processing authorization and (3) dispensing authorization prior to dispensing low-THC cannabis or medical marijuana.

At the end of 2022, Florida had 22 licensed Treatment Centers in Florida, with these businesses having a total of 509 dispensing locations statewide.

GROWTH OF



2017

TOTAL ACTIVE PATIENTS

41,285



2018

TOTAL ACTIVE PATIENTS

167,758



2019

TOTAL ACTIVE PATIENTS

299,744



2019

MARCH

Smoking approved as a route of administration



2020

AUGUST

Edibles approved as a route of administration

THE PROGRAM



2020

TOTAL ACTIVE PATIENTS

461,559



2021

JANUARY

Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicle (FHSMV) database integration



2021

TOTAL ACTIVE PATIENTS

648,186



2022

JANUARY

Same day approval on MMUR identification cards that were created with the use of the FHSMV integration



2022

AUGUST

Implementation of Emergency Rule 64ER22-8, Dosing and Supply Limits for Medical Marijuana



2022

TOTAL ACTIVE PATIENTS

779,519

MARKETING PLAN

An integrated communications program will continue to be implemented to reach target audiences with OMMU’s key messages. This plan will include using digital media, social media, earned media and education/outreach efforts.

Education/outreach efforts will include attending key events for organizations across the state, including non-profits, community groups, law enforcement, nursing homes/retirement communities, patient groups and physician organizations. These events may include training sessions, conferences, workshops, annual meetings, chapter meetings, etc. OMMU’s goal is to participate in at least 26 outreach opportunities in 2023.

Additionally, the OMMU’s education/outreach contact database will continue to be developed from contacted groups to create a network of partners that can be used each year to help spread OMMU’s key messages.

Section 381.989(2)(c), F.S.

(c) The department may use television messaging, radio broadcasts, print media, digital strategies, social media, and any other form of messaging deemed necessary and appropriate by the department to implement the campaign. The department may work with school districts, community organizations, businesses and business organizations, and other entities to provide training and programming.

Section 381.989(2)(d), F.S.

(d) The department may contract with one or more vendors to implement the campaign.



YEAR SIX REPORTING

There is a continuous need for education on the proper procedures for obtaining a MMUR identification card, finding a qualified physician, understanding the qualifying medical conditions to obtain medical marijuana, as well as licit and safe use. The Department plans to continue to work with school districts, community organizations, business organizations, law enforcement, physician groups, disability non-profits, and other entities to provide education and training regarding Florida's Medical Marijuana Use Program.

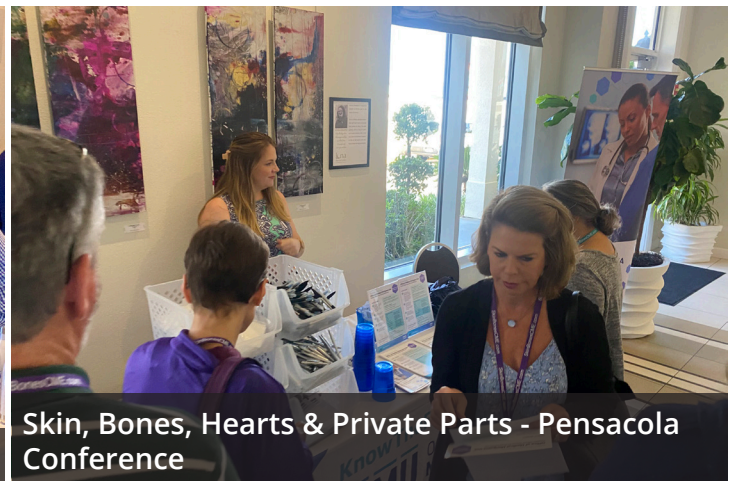
Educational outreach for any future legislative decisions and changes to the current or future statutes will also be a key component moving forward as keeping our stakeholders informed is of the utmost importance.

Continuing the development of a partner network is an important undertaking for 2023. Partners, such as physician groups, retirement associations, community groups and targeted non-profits will be an important resource in spreading the messages of the OMMU and keeping key stakeholders informed.

The Department plans to use an integrated communications approach to maximize the efficiency of appropriated funds for 2023. Department staff will continue to monitor other states' medical marijuana programs and their campaigns to gauge their effectiveness and to determine if similar programs could be successful in Florida.



Florida Society of Ophthalmology



Skin, Bones, Hearts & Private Parts - Pensacola Conference



Florida International Medical Expo



Family Medicine Winter Forum



Florida HEALTH

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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