



Name of Board/Commission:

NATALIE M. LaPRADE MEDICAL CANNABIS COMMISSION

Statute or E.O. Citation and Link

HEALTH GENERAL § 13-3301. - § 13-3316

<https://mmcc.maryland.gov/Documents/09.21.2018%20Health-General%20Article,%2013-3301-13-3316.pdf>

COMAR 10.62

https://health.maryland.gov/regs/_layouts/mobile/view.aspx?List=7b50665f-ee9e-41b1-a780-5113e67e3ffb&View=a97a0df5-7c7a-4d05-a11d-03ddef5d0a20&ViewMode=Detail

Role and Duties of the Board/Council:

The Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission is an independent commission that functions within the Maryland Department of Health.

The purpose of the Commission is to develop policies, procedures, guidelines, and regulations to implement programs to make medical cannabis available to qualifying patients in a safe and effective manner.

MEMBERSHIP COMPOSITION:

TOTAL NUMBER: 13

COMPOSITION:

The Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee.

Nine members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate:

- Two licensed noncertified providers who are physicians, dentists, podiatrist, nurse practitioners or nurse midwives.

- One nurse or other health care provider experience in hospice, nominated by a State hospice trade association.
- One pharmacist licensed in the State, nominated by a State research institution or trade association; and
- One scientist who has experience in the science of cannabis, nominated by a State research institution
- Four members with substantial experience:
 - As an executive with fiduciary responsibilities for a large organization or foundation;
 - In an academic field relating to health, agriculture, finance, or addiction treatment; or
 - As a professional in a profession relating to health, agriculture, finance, or addiction treatment.

Three members are appointed by the Governor:

- One member from a list of three individuals recommended by the President of the Senate;
- One member from a list of three individuals recommended by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; and
- One member from either of the lists from the President or the Speaker.

Per House Bill 2 (2018) - A member of the Commission may not: (i) Have a direct or indirect financial, ownership, or management interest, including ownership of any stocks, bonds, or other similar financial instruments, in any State licensed medical cannabis grower, processor, or dispensary; (ii) Have an official relationship to a person who holds a license under this subtitle; (iii) Be an elected official of State or local government; (iv) Receive or share in, directly or indirectly, the receipts or proceeds of any State licensed medical cannabis grower, processor, or dispensary; or (v) Have a beneficial interest in any contract for the manufacture or sale of medical cannabis or the provision of any independent consulting services in connection with any medical cannabis license. (3) To the extent practicable and consistent with federal and State law, the membership of the Commission shall reflect the racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of the State. (4) A member of the Commission shall file a financial disclosure statement with the State Ethics Commission in accordance with Title 5, Subtitle 6 of the General Provisions Article.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETINGS: The new Commission will establish a meeting schedule (day/time). Meetings will likely be every other month. Meeting venue depends on the need for public input.

COMPLIANCE DOCKET MEETING – requires the full Commission to meet and vote. Administrative meeting is not open to the public.

Currently scheduled from 12 Noon – 2 PM prior to the full commission meeting. Can be adjusted by the new Commission. Executive Director recommends a meeting schedule of no less than every other month.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS including frequency:

The new schedule will be determined by the Commissioners. All Commissioners are expected to serve on committees.

Executive Committee

Meets via conference call. Generally every other week.

Policy Committee

Monthly

Finance & Budget Committee

Meets quarterly

Research Committee

Bi-Monthly

Education and Outreach Committee

Bi-Monthly

Compliance Committee

Have been meeting monthly for Violation Reviews – not all members are needed each month.

Final Review Sub Committee

Have been meeting via Conference Call the week prior to each Commission meeting.

This committee reviews pre-approved applicants who are ready for licensing and reviews other requests.

Will need to continue to meet prior to Commission meetings until all licenses to pre-approved applicants have been issued.

DETAIL OF TIME COMMITMENT:

Required attendance at all full Commission meetings

Required attendance at all Compliance Docket meetings

Commissioners currently serve on 2 or 3 committees as appointed by the Chair.

May be asked to serve on workgroups or ad hoc committees as appointed by the Chair.

FUNCTION OF BOARD/COMMISSION/COUNCIL: (Brief Description)

The Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission is an independent commission that functions within the Maryland Department of Health.

The purpose of the Commission is to develop policies, procedures, guidelines, and regulations to implement programs to make medical cannabis available to qualifying patients in a safe and effective manner.

OTHER DUTIES OF MEMBERS: (Types of Committees, Exams, etc.)

May be asked to serve on workgroups or ad hoc committees as appointed by the Chair.

MEMBER COMPENSATION: (Stipend/Travel/Other)

Travel and other Expenses reimbursed

Currently no stipend. Statute allows a stipend as included in the budget.

New Commission has ability to address this matter.

OTHER DUTIES OF MEMBERS: (Types of Committees, Exams, etc.)

Commissioners may be included in tours of licensed facilities from time to time.

Commissioners are expected to attend assigned Committee meetings, full Commission meetings, and Compliance Docket meetings.

Additionally, active participation in discussions, offering thoughts and ideas, and verbal deliberation from all Commissioners is needed in order to achieve the best outcome to assure a high quality Medical Cannabis Program in Maryland.

For additional information on the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission, please visit our website at:

<https://mmcc.maryland.gov/Pages/home.aspx>

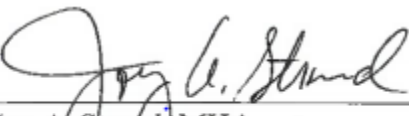
Additional Relevant information

As a new Commission that has experienced turnover in Commissioners and Executive Leadership prior to December 2017, good progress and momentum has been experienced in 2018. As the new Commission comes into place October 1, 2019 there is a need to focus on establishing norms and providing stability and routine. The Commission has the ability to establish processes as needed. Much work remains to be done to establish a stable and consistent medical cannabis program for Marylanders.

To formally apply for appointment consideration, please submit an online application via the Governor's Appointments Office at

<https://govappointments.maryland.gov/instructions-for-filling-out-the-general-application-form/> . Applications must be submitted no later than June 30, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



Joy A. Strand, MHA
Executive Director
Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission
April 2019